



**Information Governance Team**

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20 March 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI801457868**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Penalty notices issued for school attendance.

You have requested the following information:

**Please provide data for the three most recent full academic year for which you hold records, relating to school attendance enforcement.**

**1. Penalty notices (fines)**

**Please provide:**

**a) The total number of penalty notices issued for school attendance offences.**

4,090 for 2022/2023

4,229 for 2023/2024

3,097 for 2024/2025

**b) The number of individual parents who received:**

**exactly one penalty notice, exactly two penalty notices, three or more penalty notices.**

We hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

This is not held in a summary/reportable format and would exceed 18 hours to compile and

answer. This part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

## **2. Escalation to prosecution**

**Please provide:**

**a) The number of parents whose case was escalated to prosecution under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996.**

205 for 2022/2023

317 for 2023/2024

30 for 2024/2025

Please note a new penalty notice framework was introduced in August 2024.

**b) The number of parents who were eligible for prosecution (e.g., unpaid penalty notice or continued unauthorised absence) but whose case did not proceed, and the reasons recorded.**

590 for 2022/2023

572 for 2023/2024

419 for 2024/2025

For cases that did not proceed, we hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

This is not held in a summary/reportable format and would exceed 18 hours to compile and answer. This part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

Examples of the reasons recorded include:

- The Local Authority did not wish to bring legal proceedings
- Contains material errors
- Issued to the wrong person
- It should not have been issued
- Issued outside of the code of conduct

**c) The number of parents who were pending prosecution at the end of each academic year.**

35 for 2022/2023

25 for 2023/2024

50 for 2024/2025

**Please confirm:**

**a) Whether the local authority maintains an internal record of repeat penalty notice recipients.**

Yes.

**b) Whether you hold any internal guidance or policy documents on escalation thresholds (e.g., when a second or third fine triggers legal action). If so, please provide these documents.**

The information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/attendance-inclusion/attendance/4>

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**