

21 August 2024

FOI Ref 17011

Request - You asked us the following:

Violent and possession of weapons offences in Schools 2024/2023

1. How many alleged violent offences, and those of possession of weapons (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2024/2023?
2. How many alleged violent offences and those of possession of weapons (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2024/2023?
3. How many of those alleged violent offences and those of possession of weapons (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2024/2023?

Violent Offences and possession of weapons offences in Schools 2023/2022

4. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2023/2022?
5. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2023/2022?
6. How many of those alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2023/2022?

Violent Offences and possession of weapons offences in Schools 2022/2021

7. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2022/2021?
8. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2022/2021?
9. How many of those alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2022/2021?

We received your request on 03/07/2024 and have processed this under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Please find below our response.

In accordance with Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

Staffordshire Police discloses/withholds the following information.

1. How many alleged violent offences, and those of possession of weapons (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2024/2023? – **Withheld.**
2. How many alleged violent offences and those of possession of weapons (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2024/2023? – **Withheld.**
3. How many of those alleged violent offences and those of possession of weapons (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2024/2023? – **Withheld.**

Violent Offences and possession of weapons offences in Schools 2023/2022

4. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2023/2022? – **Withheld.**
5. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2023/2022? – **Withheld.**
6. How many of those alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2023/2022? – **Withheld.**

Violent Offences and possession of weapons offences in Schools 2022/2021

7. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in 2022/2021? – **Withheld.**
8. How many alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the victim was aged 18 and under 2022/2021? – **Withheld.**
9. How many of those alleged violent offences and possession of weapons offences (Including breakdown) have been recorded as crimes, on school premises in which the perpetrator was aged 18 and under 2022/2021? – **Withheld.**



The above information has been withheld for the following reasons:

There is no method by which we can readily retrieve information from our systems to answer this request. Within our crime/occurrence recording system there exists no mandatory field within which a location type is routinely recorded and for the time period requested, there have been in excess of 470 occurrences whereby the location type/subtype has not been recorded within the field provided. In these instances, the information may be recorded within the main body of the occurrence log and therefore, in order to extract and collate this information, a manual review of each of the aforementioned logs would be required.

From dip sampling, it has been estimated that it would take approximately 3 minutes to review each record to answer this request, this would equate to upwards of 23 hours. To achieve this task would therefore exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold of the Freedom of Information Act by some considerable margin.

The following exemptions have been applied:

- Section 12(1) where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.
Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the prescribed limit'.

Advice and assistance

Section 16 of the Act places an obligation upon the Authority to provide advice and assistance, in order to comply with this obligation please see below.

Staffordshire Police cannot definitively provide data on all potential violent offences occurring within a school environment. However, if your request was refined, it would be possible to provide data relating to the following specific offences recorded:

- Having an article with a blade or point on school/further education premises
- Possession of other offensive weapon on school/further education premises
- Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article on school/further education premises
- Threaten with an offensive weapon on school/further education premises.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response.

If you would like us to carry out a review of our response, please let us know within two months of the date of receipt of this email, review requests should be addressed to:

foi@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit