



Freedom of Information Request FOI1932

Request:

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please send me:

1. The number of primary and secondary school pupils in maintained schools within your authority.
2. What estimate do you have of persons leaving maintained secondary school in your authority who have a literacy level of entry level three, as defined by the 2011 Skills for Life Survey. Or, if not possible, what other estimates you use for measuring levels of literacy?

I would like the above information to be provided to me through email. If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs if necessary. If the release of any of this information is prohibited on the grounds of breach of confidence, I ask that you supply me with copies of the confidentiality agreement and remind you that information should not be treated as confidential if such an agreement has not been signed. I can be contacted back on this email address. I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this letter. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request. I look forward to hearing from you. Yours faithfully, George Lawley

Submitted on 06/11/19.

Response:

Please send me:

The number of primary and secondary school pupils in maintained schools within your authority.

Pupils in North Tyneside in the Primary Phase: 16789

Pupils in North Tyneside in the Secondary Phase: 13421

The current published information can be found in the Main Tables spreadsheet in Table 1c via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2019>

What estimate do you have of persons leaving maintained secondary school in your authority who have a literacy level of entry level three, as defined by the 2011 Skills for Life Survey. Or, if not possible, what other estimates you use for measuring levels of literacy?

We do not have an estimate of the numbers of school leavers at entry level three. Although Entry Level 3 qualifications remain important as a gateway to Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications we expect all pupils, except those with the more severe learning difficulties, to be able access the GCSE or equivalent Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications. Accessing any such qualification requires literacy at level 1. Rates by school can be found in the DfE compare schools website: <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/> and search for schools in North Tyneside. The best indicator for this level of functional literacy would be pupils achieving "at least 1 qualification". Those pupils unable to access these qualifications will be receiving individual support post 16, many could have been assessed to have entry level 1 to 3 literacy skills but many will not have been formally assessed under that scale.