

## **Freedom of Information – Response – 26707**

*I would like to submit a freedom of information request about your statistics for children missing from education (CME).*

*The population we are asking about is 5-16 year olds in your local authority from the most recent academic year (or the most recent year of data available):*

We can confirm that Suffolk County Council holds information for the following questions, however, some of this information is readily accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain.

**Section 21** of the FOIA states that a public authority does not need to provide information under section 1 of the Act if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. Please use the links below to access the requested information.

### *1. Total number of children in your LA*

The population of Suffolk from GP registration data in October 2025, by age on 1 September 2025, was

Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15	Age 16
7151	7466	7736	8150	8442	8753	8763	8922	9115	9466	9464	9354	9313

### *2. Total number of children registered at school*

The DfE published data from the January 2025 school census can be found as below. The pupil numbers at maintained and independent schools are here. This will include non-Suffolk residents attending Suffolk schools.

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-catalogue/data-set/77d37133-ab0e-4428-aa62-9aae5bfdf73>

For the maintained schools only (not independent), the numbers of Suffolk children at non-Suffolk schools and the numbers of non-Suffolk children in Suffolk schools are here.

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-catalogue/data-set/1b55a035-cbb5-4528-9e43-8316b061a34c>

### *3. Number of children who are electively home educated (EHE)*

[Elective home education, Autumn term 2024/25 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

### *4. Number of children who are receiving 'Education otherwise than at school' (EOTAS)*

Under Section 19 of the Children and Families Act 2014 - 177

Under Section 61 of the Children and Families Act 2014 – 32

*5. Number of children awaiting a school placement*

Suffolk County Council does not record this information.

*6. Number of children missing from education (CME)*

[Children missing education, Autumn term 2024/25 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK](#)

The last Census data date was 02-10-2025, with a total of 326 CME Children.

*7. Whether you record reasons for why a child is missing from education*

*a. If so, the number of children under each reason*

Yes, this can be found on the DfE Census data.

*8. If possible, the number of CME by the following demographic characteristics*

*a. Gender*

*b. Age*

*c. NC year*

*d. Ethnicity*

*e. FSM eligibility*

*f. SEN status*

*g. ESL status*

*h. Known to social care*

Yes, all of the above, (although SCC refer to ESL as EAL – English as Additional Language).