

Freedom of Information – Response – 27291

Hope you are well. Under the Freedom of Information 2000 Act, I would like to request the following information:

1. The number of bailiff referrals made by your council for unpaid fines / penalties issued to parents for unauthorised school absences in each of the following academic years:

- o 2021/2
- o 2022/3
- o 2023/4
- o 2024/5

Suffolk County Council do not refer to bailiffs in relation to unpaid school absence fines, this would be made by the Court.

2. The number of fines / penalty notices your council issued to parents for unauthorised school absences in each of the following academic years, specifically where the absent child in question also had an EHCP with your council at the time the fine / penalty notice was issued:

- o 2021/2
- o 2022/3
- o 2023/4
- o 2024/5

The DfE do not consider having an EHCP as a reason for unauthorised absence and therefore this is not reported on in terms of penalty notices. The table below is the total numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by Suffolk Local Authority during the years shown.

	FPNs Issued
1 September 2021–31 August 2022	4255
1 September 2022–31 August 2023	9875
1 September 2023–31 August 2024	11784
1 September 2024–31 August 2025	8289

