

From: Foi Enquiries

Sent: 17 September 2019 10:01

Subject: FOI-19-0926 - Primary 1 Placements

Thank you for your clarified information request of 8 July 2019 and please accept our apologies for delay in providing the response to you. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Our response is now detailed below.

1. The total number of applications in the past 5 years for primary 1 placement request at the following schools:

- **Ashley road**
- **st Joseph's**
- **Mile End**
- **Airyhall**

	Ashley Road	St Joseph's	Mile End	Airyhall
2019	113	109	154	98
2018	30	26	22	27
2017	25	46	30	17
2016	34	47	30	26
2015	37	43	28	38
2014	55	83	29	50

Our application processes were updated in 2019 so that all applications were completed online. Prior to this, applications could be made to the central placing requests team or directly to the school. Data provided for 2014 to 2018 includes only those applications made to the central team and not those made directly to schools.

We do not hold details of applications made directly to schools and to gather this information would require a manual search of all school application documents within pupil records. This would be over

1200 pupil records at an average of 10 minutes per record. therefore we are refusing this element of the request on the basis of cost.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **applications made directly to schools for 2014 – 2018** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). This has been calculated as 1200 pupils x 10 minutes = 200 hours x £15 per hour = £3,000.00 Cost in total.

In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance - of the FOISA.

2. The number of applications made for primary 1 at the above schools whereby the child was out with the catchment area.

	Ashley Road	St Joseph's	Mile End	Airyhall
2019	41	47	57	45
2018	25	23	10	23
2017	18	42	19	14
2016	25	41	19	25
2015	26	40	20	35
2014	44	74	22	48

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Cost in total.

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3. The number of non-catchment applications granted/refused at the above schools

	Ashley Road Out of Zone Granted	Ashley Road Out of Zone Refused	St Joseph's Out of Zone Granted	St Joseph's Out of Zone Refused	Mile End Out of Zone Granted	Mile End Out of Zone Refused	Airyhall Out of Zone Granted	Airyhall Out of Zone Refused
2018	12	13	23	0	0	10	**	21
2017	7	11	23	19	0	19	6	8
2016	**	21	27	14	**	16	15	10
2015	8	18	21	19	**	18	19	16
2014	12	32	31	43	**	21	10	38

The figures replaced with ** cannot be provided as the number is greater than 0 but less than or equal to 5; this could be misleading or lead to identification of an individual.

ACC is unable to provide you with the exact figures where ** has been used, as it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 38(1)(b) in conjunction with Section 38(2)(A)(a) – Personal Information - of the FOISA.

In making this decision ACC considered the following points:

ACC is of the opinion that Section 38(1)(b) applies to the information specified above as the information in question is personal information relating to living individuals, of which the applicant is not the data subject.

ACC is of the opinion that Section 38(2A)(a) applies, as we consider that disclosure of this information would be a breach of the 'lawfulness, fairness and transparency' principle. As releasing these details

would enable other people to identify these individuals. These individuals have not consented to the disclosure of their information, and ACC does not consider that they would expect ACC to release this information about them into the public domain under the FOISA.

4. The number of non-catchment applications granted at the above schools whereby the child had additional support needs (ASD and/or ADHD)

ACC is unable to provide the information as we do not record it centrally. We would have to check each pupil's application for the information.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **the number of non-catchment applications granted at the above schools whereby the child had additional support needs** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). The process of examining the applications of each pupil in primary 1, would take an ACC officer 10 minutes per application to find the information requested. Using the 474 applications made to the four schools in 2019 as a sample, this has been calculated at 79 hours, at the cost of £1,185 in total. There are applications for 2014 – 2018 to go through as well, which will add to the cost.

In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance - of the FOISA.

5. The total number of children currently enrolled at the above schools with ASD and/or ADHD and the number of additional support teachers employed to support those children

Autistic Spectrum Disorder	Number
Airyhall School	**
Ashley Road School	5
Mile End School	54
St Josephs School	13

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ADHD	Number
Airyhall School	9
Ashley Road School	**
Mile End School	27

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Schools use staffing flexibly to meet the needs of pupils and all teaching staff have a role to support pupils with additional support needs. The total teaching FTE for these schools is currently:

School	FTE
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Airyhall School	13.4
Ashley Road School	24.39
St Joseph's School	22.51
Mile End School	46.76

- 6. The total number of deferred entry to primary 1 applications made and how many were granted. (I.e. an extra year at nursery) - how many of those children had ASD and/or ADHD?**
ACC is unable to provide the information as we do not record it centrally. We would have to check each pupil's application for the information.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **the total number of deferred entry to primary 1 applications made and how many were granted. (I.e. an extra year at nursery) - how many of those children had ASD and/or ADHD** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). The process of examining the applications of each pupil in primary 1, would take an ACC officer 10 minutes per application to find the information requested. Using the 474 applications made to the four schools in 2019 as a sample, this has been calculated at 79 hours, at the cost of £1,185 in total. There are applications for 2014 – 2018 to go through as well, which will add to the cost.

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INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,



Tomina Egbuson | Access to Information Officer

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