

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXX
Sent via email: XXX



Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 01/10/25

Our ref: FOI 2025/787

Reply contact name: XXX

Dear XXX

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/08/25 concerning pupils in possession of an offensive weapon.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote (and our Response):

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide the following information broken down by the school academic years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

1 - The number of pupils aged 18 and under recorded as being in possession of an offensive weapon on a school premises (primary and secondary schools only) during the academic years outlined above.

(Additional information involving the type of offence added by applicant for search to be conducted):

008/27 - Having an article with a blade or point on school/further education premises

008/28 - Possession of other offensive weapon on school/further education premises

008/62 - Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article on school/further education premises

008/63 - Threaten with an offensive weapon on school/further education premises

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Please note- We have no occurrences for 8/63 within this timeframe

1

	Count of Person Id
2022-2023	13
2023-2024	12
2024-2025	7
Grand Total	32

2 – Please provide a breakdown of the number of offences which took place in a primary school setting and the number of offences which took place in a secondary school setting

2

Count of Occ No	Primary	Secondary	Grand Total
2022-2023	1	12	13
2023-2024	1	11	12
2024-2025		7	7
Grand Total	2	30	32

3- A list of the type of weapons involved - i.e – knife, machete, knuckle duster, firearm, hammer etc

3

Count of OccNo	Imitation	Knife/blade	Sharp instrument	Grand Total
2022-2023		12	1	13
2023-2024	1	9	2	12
2024-2025	2	5		7

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Grand Total	3	26	3	32
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4 – A breakdown of the ages of pupils involved provided in the following two age categories:

Age 4-11 and Age 12-18

4

Count of OccNo	12-18	4-11	Grand Total
2022-2023	12	1	13
2023-2024	11	1	12
2024-2025	7		7
Grand Total	30	2	32

5 – The age of the youngest pupil recorded as being in possession of an offensive weapon on school premises (primary and secondary schools only) for the academic years outlined above (this does not need to be broken down by academic year) and the type of weapon involved.

5

Age 10 with Knife / Blade and Sharp Instrument.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed on to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely

Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN



Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing to the:

Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk.

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original FoI request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

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On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following the review they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the ICO's offices will be closed for the foreseeable future and are therefore unable to receive correspondence via post.

If you should wish you contact them, please visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>