

16 May 2024

Dear

ATISN 19498 – schools in special measures

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 22 April 2024. You asked for details relating to ‘How many primary and secondary schools in Wales, judged by Estyn, are currently in special measures or significant improvement; and how many suspensions from schools have been implemented in 2023’.

Regarding the latter part of the request, we have interpreted this as meaning ‘how many pupils have been excluded from school in 2023’.

We note that the first part of your request regarding schools in special measures and significant improvement is similar to information requested on 7 February 2023 (ATISN 17129) and on 28 September 2023 (ATISN 19086).

Our response

As previously stated, in relation to your question regarding the number of primary and secondary schools in Wales in special measures or significant improvement, this information is exempt under s21 of the Freedom of Information Act (information accessible to applicant by other means). Current and up to date information about schools in special measures and requiring significant improvement is publicly available on Estyn's website [Welcome to Estyn | Estyn \(gov.wales\)](https://www.estyn.gov.wales). As the Chief Inspector of Estyn is responsible for inspection activity, you may wish to address your request directly to the Inspectorate:

Owen Evans
His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales
Estyn
Anchor Court, Keen Road, Cardiff CF24 5JW
029 2044 6446
enquiries@estyn.gov.wales

Section 21 is an absolute exemption and not subject to the public interest test.

In relation to your request about how many pupils have been excluded from school in 2023, we do not hold this information. Once this data has been received and authenticated, it will be published at [Permanent and fixed-term exclusions from schools: September 2021 to August 2022 | GOV.WALES](#). It is expected the data will be published in the Autumn.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this

response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

You may also wish to contact Estyn with your response.

Yours sincerely