East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/543187

Using the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act, I would like to know how many children the council is aware of that are currently being home-schooled on either a full-time or part-time basis. If possible, please provide figures for each of the past five school years. How many of the children are categorised as having Additional Support Needs (ASNs). Please redact any information which could lead to the identification of individual pupils.

2018/19 - 11 full time 2017/18 - 14 full time 2016/17 - 15 full time 2015/16 - 13 full time 2014/15 - 13 full time 2013/14 - 6 full time

Although East Lothian Council (ELC) holds further information about these pupils, it is exempt from disclosure under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This exemption relates to personal information. When information is released as the result of a freedom of information request it is technically released to the general public, and not just to the person or organisation making the information request. East Lothian Council is a small, rural authority with few schools. The number of pupils being home schooled is so low that we fear releasing details of whether any pupil is identified as having Additional Support Needs would lead to pupil identification. In view of this, ELC has withheld this detail.