

**Chief Constable**  
Chief Constable Robert Carden  
Police Headquarters  
Carleton Hall Penrith,  
Cumbria  
CA10 2AU



10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI 217/25 Crimes in schools**

I refer to your request for information received by Cumbria Constabulary on 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2025. I note you seek access to the following information:

*1. The number of crimes reports where a child under the age of 18 was in possession of a weapon on school/further education premises?*

*Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024*

*Within this - please provide:*

- a) Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)*
- b) Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)*
- c) Breakdown of gender (male and female)*

*2. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 has committed the following offences on school/further education premises?*

- a) Please provide data for each offence for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024*

- a) Common Assault & Battery*
- b) ABH (s47)*
- b) GBH (s20)*
- c) Wounding with or without a weapon (s18)*

*Within this - please provide*

- b) Breakdown of the number of victims who was a pupil*
- c) Breakdown of the number of victims who was a member of staff*
- d) Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)*
- e) Breakdown of gender (male and female)*

*3. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 was threatening someone with a weapon on school/further education premises?*

*Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024*



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Within this - please provide:

- a) Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)
- b) Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)
- c) Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Your request for information has now been considered and I can confirm Cumbria Constabulary does hold some information relevant to your request and where this is the case I have today decided to disclose this to you.

The information provided in response to your request has been extracted from the Constabulary's crime recording system. A key word search has been conducted using the following terms, 'school' 'primary' 'infant' 'junior' 'secondary' 'grammar' 'QEGS' 'academy' 'CofE' 'C of E' 'pupil referral' 'learning hub' 'learning centre' 'PRU'.

Please note: A keyword search may not accurately identify all information held by the Constabulary. If, for example, the terms used were recorded in a different field, or if another name or term was used to describe these, any such records would not be identified by the keyword search which has been undertaken.

It should also be noted that for the information regarding victims being pupils or staff, I have provided all victim age groups (rather than just the children age groups) as it will be likely that victims under the age of 18 are pupils and victims over the age of 18 are staff at the schools. To manually review this would exceed the time limit.

As the suggested age groups overlapped, I have provided similar age groups without the overlap so for example 13-15 includes anyone aged 13, 14 and 15 at the time of the crime.

Question 1a) –

Number of recorded crimes for possession of a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing weapon type

| Weapon Type        | Year     |           |           |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019      | 2023      | 2024     |             |
| Bladed article     |          |           | 2         | 3        | 5           |
| Knife              | 2        | 9         | 6         | 3        | 20          |
| Multi tool         |          | 1         |           |          | 1           |
| Nail scissors      |          | 1         |           |          | 1           |
| Needle             |          |           |           | 1        | 1           |
| Razor blade        |          | 1         |           |          | 1           |
| Scissors           |          |           |           | 1        | 1           |
| Screwdriver        |          |           | 1         | 1        | 2           |
| Wooden baton       |          |           | 1         |          | 1           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>33</b>   |

Question 1b) –



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Number of recorded crimes for possession of a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing suspect/ offender age group

| Age Group          | Year     |           |           |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019      | 2023      | 2024     |             |
| 7-9                |          | 1         | 1         | 1        | 3           |
| 10-12              | 1        | 4         | 2         | 3        | 10          |
| 13-15              |          | 4         | 5         | 4        | 13          |
| 16-17              | 1        | 3         | 2         | 1        | 7           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>33</b>   |

Question 1c) –

Number of recorded crimes for possession of a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing suspect/ offender gender

| Gender             | Year     |           |           |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019      | 2023      | 2024     |             |
| Female             |          | 3         |           | 4        | 7           |
| Male               | 2        | 9         | 10        | 5        | 26          |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>33</b>   |

Question 2a) –

Overview of crimes recorded for each calendar year:

| Offence                                                          | Year       |            |            |            | Grand Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                                                                  | 2014       | 2019       | 2023       | 2024       |             |
| Common Assault And Battery                                       | 61         | 73         | 103        | 95         | 332         |
| Assaults Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm                          | 55         | 88         | 111        | 89         | 343         |
| Malicious Wounding - Wounding Or Inflicting Grievous Bodily Harm | 2          | 2          | 2          | 3          | 9           |
| Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm                  |            | 2          |            | 1          | 3           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                               | <b>118</b> | <b>165</b> | <b>216</b> | <b>188</b> | <b>687</b>  |

Question 2b) –

Common Assault & Battery

### Breakdown of the ages of *all victims*

All victims age group for Common Assault & Battery offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024



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| Age Group            | Year      |           |            |           | Grand Total |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
|                      | 2014      | 2019      | 2023       | 2024      |             |
| 7-9                  |           | 3         | 4          | 3         | 10          |
| 10-12                | 10        | 15        | 23         | 15        | 63          |
| 13-15                | 15        | 20        | 22         | 20        | 77          |
| 16-17                |           |           | 4          | 2         | 6           |
| 18+                  | 35        | 34        | 49         | 55        | 173         |
| Unknown/Not Recorded | 1         | 1         | 1          |           | 3           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>61</b> | <b>73</b> | <b>103</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>332</b>  |

### Breakdown of the gender of *all victims*

All victims gender for Common Assault & Battery offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender             | Year      |           |            |           | Grand Total |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014      | 2019      | 2023       | 2024      |             |
| Female             | 25        | 36        | 53         | 45        | 159         |
| Male               | 33        | 37        | 49         | 47        | 166         |
| Not Specified      |           |           | 1          | 2         | 3           |
| Unknown            | 3         |           |            | 1         | 4           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>61</b> | <b>73</b> | <b>103</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>332</b>  |

### Breakdown of the ages of the children

Suspect / offender age group for Common Assault & Battery using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group          | Year |      |           |           | Grand Total |
|--------------------|------|------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014 | 2019 | 2023      | 2024      |             |
| Under 4            |      |      |           | 1         | 1           |
| 4-6                |      |      |           |           | 1           |
| 7-9                |      |      | 2         | 6         | 8           |
| 10-12              |      |      | 12        | 30        | 22          |
| 13-15              |      |      | 46        | 35        | 62          |
| 16-17              |      |      | 3         | 4         | 5           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> |      |      | <b>63</b> | <b>76</b> | <b>114</b>  |

### Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Suspect / offender gender for Common Assault & Battery using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender | Year |      |      |      | Grand Total |
|--------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
|        | 2014 | 2019 | 2023 | 2024 |             |
| Female |      | 18   | 20   | 30   | 31          |



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|                    |           |           |            |           |            |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Male               | 45        | 56        | 84         | 64        | 249        |
| Not Specified      |           |           |            | 3         | 3          |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>63</b> | <b>76</b> | <b>114</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>351</b> |

ABH

### Breakdown of the ages of *all victims*

All victims age group for ABH offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group            | Year      |           |            |           | Grand Total |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
|                      | 2014      | 2019      | 2023       | 2024      |             |
| 4-6                  |           | 1         |            | 1         | 2           |
| 7-9                  |           | 2         | 3          | 2         | 7           |
| 10-12                | 3         | 22        | 27         | 22        | 74          |
| 13-15                | 18        | 32        | 37         | 42        | 129         |
| 16-17                | 3         | 4         | 4          | 3         | 14          |
| 18+                  | 31        | 27        | 40         | 17        | 115         |
| Unknown/Not Recorded |           |           |            | 2         | 2           |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>55</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>111</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>343</b>  |

### Breakdown of the gender of *all victims*

All victims gender for ABH offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender             | Year      |           |            |           | Grand Total |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014      | 2019      | 2023       | 2024      |             |
| Female             | 22        | 33        | 58         | 38        | 151         |
| Male               | 32        | 55        | 50         | 50        | 187         |
| Not Specified      |           |           | 3          |           | 3           |
| Unknown            | 1         |           |            | 1         | 2           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>111</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>343</b>  |

### Breakdown of the ages of the children

Suspect / offender age group for ABH offences using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group | Year |      |      |      | Grand Total |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
|           | 2014 | 2019 | 2023 | 2024 |             |
| 4-6       |      | 1    |      | 3    | 4           |
| 7-9       |      | 2    | 9    | 3    | 14          |
| 10-12     | 4    | 36   | 29   | 25   | 94          |



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|                    |           |           |            |            |            |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 13-15              | 49        | 48        | 78         | 61         | 236        |
| 16-17              | 6         | 8         | 3          | 8          | 25         |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>119</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>373</b> |

### Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Suspect / offender gender for ABH using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender             | Year      |           |            |            | Grand Total |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                    | 2014      | 2019      | 2023       | 2024       |             |
| Female             | 21        | 18        | 32         | 33         | 104         |
| Male               | 38        | 77        | 87         | 65         | 267         |
| Not Specified      |           |           |            | 2          | 2           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>95</b> | <b>119</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>373</b>  |

## GBH (s20)

### Breakdown of the ages of *all victims*

All victims age group for GBH (s20 Offences against the person act 1861) offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group          | Year     |          |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| 10-12              |          | 1        |          | 1        | 2           |
| 13-15              | 1        |          | 2        | 1        | 4           |
| 16-17              |          | 1        |          |          | 1           |
| 18+                | 1        |          |          | 1        | 2           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>9</b>    |

### Breakdown of the gender of *all victims*

All victims gender for GBH (s20 Offences against the person act 1861) offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender             | Year     |          |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| Female             | 2        |          |          | 2        | 4           |
| Male               |          | 2        | 2        | 1        | 5           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>9</b>    |



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### Breakdown of the ages of the children

Suspect / offender age group for GBH(s20 Offences against the person act 1861) offences using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group          | Year     |          |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| 10-12              |          | 1        |          | 1        | 2           |
| 13-15              | 2        |          | 2        | 2        | 6           |
| 16-17              |          | 1        |          |          | 1           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>9</b>    |

### Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Suspect / offender gender for GBH(s20 Offences against the person act 1861) using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Gender             | Year     |          |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2014     | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| Female             | 1        |          |          | 1        | 2           |
| Male               | 1        | 2        | 2        | 1        | 6           |
| Not Specified      |          |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>9</b>    |

Wounding with or without a weapon (s18)

### Breakdown of the ages of *all victims*

All victims age group for GBH with intent (s18 Offences against the person act 1861) offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

| Age Group | Year |      | Grand Total |
|-----------|------|------|-------------|
|           | 2019 | 2024 |             |
| 10-12     |      | 1    | 1           |
| 13-15     | 1    |      | 1           |
| 18+       | 1    |      | 1           |



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|                    |          |          |          |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|

### Breakdown of the gender of *all victims*

All victims gender for GBH with intent (s18 Offences against the person act 1861) offences committed by a child under 18 using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

|                    | Ye<br>ar         |                  | Gra<br>nd<br>Tota<br>l |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Gender</b>      | <b>20<br/>19</b> | <b>202<br/>4</b> |                        |
| Male               | 2                | 1                | 3                      |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>3</b>               |

### Breakdown of the ages of the children

Suspect / offender age group for GBH with intent(s18 Offences against the person act 1861) offences using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

|                    | Year        |             |                    |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <b>Age Group</b>   | <b>2019</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>Grand Total</b> |
| 10-12              |             | 1           | 1                  |
| 13-15              | 1           |             | 1                  |
| 16-17              | 1           |             | 1                  |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b>    | <b>1</b>    | <b>3</b>           |

### Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Suspect / offender gender for GBH with intent(s18 Offences against the person act 1861) offences using keyword search for schools in 'place of offence entered premise name' for 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024

|                    | Year        |             |                    |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <b>Gender</b>      | <b>2019</b> | <b>2024</b> | <b>Grand Total</b> |
| Male               | 2           | 1           | 3                  |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>2</b>    | <b>1</b>    | <b>3</b>           |

Question 3a) –

### Breakdown of type of weapons used



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Number of recorded crimes for threatening with a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing weapon type

| Weapon Type        | Year     |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| Bladed article     | 1        |          |          | 1           |
| Knife              |          | 2        |          | 2           |
| Pencil             |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| Plastic shard      |          | 1        |          | 1           |
| Scissors           |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| Wooden baton       |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>7</b>    |

Question 3b) –

### Breakdown of the ages of the children

Number of recorded crimes for threatening with a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing suspect/ offender age group

*Please note that one of these crimes listed below has no victim recorded in the year highlighted in red*

| Age Group          | Year     |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| 10-12              |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| 13-15              |          | 1        | 2        | 5           |
| 16-17              |          |          | 1        | 1           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>7</b>    |

### Breakdown of the ages of the victims

Number of recorded crimes for threatening with a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing victim age group

| Age Group          | Year     |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| 10-12              | 1        |          | 1           |
| 13-15              | 1        | 1        | 2           |
| 16-17              |          | 1        | 1           |
| 18+                | 1        | 1        | 2           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>6</b>    |



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Question 3c) –

### Breakdown of gender (male and female)

Number of recorded crimes for threatening with a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing suspect/ offender gender

| Gender             | Year     |          |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2019     | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| Female             | 1        |          |          | 1           |
| Male               |          | 3        | 3        | 6           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>7</b>    |

### Breakdown of gender of the victims

Number of recorded crimes for threatening with a weapon on school premises offence for calendar years 2014, 2019, 2023 & 2024 showing victim gender

| Age Group          | Year     |          | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
|                    | 2023     | 2024     |             |
| Female             | 1        |          | 1           |
| Male               | 2        | 3        | 5           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>6</b>    |

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

Whilst every care has been taken in the retrieval of the information provided, please do not hesitate to contact us for clarification, if you do have any issues or queries relating to this data.

### Complaint Rights

If you believe your request has not been properly handled, or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to request an internal review.

In the first instance, please email [freedomofinformation@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@cumbria.police.uk) quoting the FOI reference number and explain why you are dissatisfied. Your complaint will be considered and a response will be provided to you after your complaint has been investigated.

If you remain dissatisfied following conclusion of the internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner.

The address for the Information Commissioner can be found below:

The Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House



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Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Cumbria Constabulary.



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