



Information Rights
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30th January 2020

Our Ref: FOI2020/00033

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2020/00033

I write in connection with your request for information received on 2nd January. I note you seek access to the following information:

The number of knife crime offences at colleges or further education establishments, or from their staff, under the force's jurisdiction in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

If possible, could you also detail the types of offences, including the number of people reported to be in possession of a knife, the number of knives seized on campuses and the number of assaults or injuries reported on college grounds related to knives, in each of the years.

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

RESPONSE - Following enquiries conducted by Bedfordshire Police and their crime recording systems within the Force please see our response in the tables below: -

Recorded KNIFE Crime; Dates between: 1.1.2015 - 22.5.2018					
Premises Type / Offence	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
0002 - SCHOOL	5	1	4	2	12
00806 ASSAULT WITH INJURY	5	1	3	2	11
00810 ASSAULT WITH INJURY			1		1
0003 - COLLEGE		1			1
00501 ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO CAUSE SERIOUS HARM		1			1
8605 - UNIVERSITY		1		1	2
00806 ASSAULT WITH INJURY		1			1
03404 ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY				1	1
Grand Total	5	3	4	3	15

*Source data: CMS / BedsReports / Knife Crime

**Premises Type: School / College / University

Recorded KNIFE Crime; Dates between: 23.5.2018 - 31.12.2019			
Tertiary Description / Offence	2018	2019	Grand Total
College	1	6	7
008/06 - Assault with Injury - Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	1	1	2
008/27 - Having an article with a blade or point on school premises		1	1
125/11 - Fear or provocation of violence		4	4

Preparatory / First / Primary / Infant / Junior / Middle School		1	1
008/06 - Assault with Injury - Assault occasioning actual bodily harm		1	1
School		1	1
008/11 - Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse		1	1
Secondary / High School	5	6	11
003/01 - Threats to kill	1	1	2
008/06 - Assault with Injury - Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	2	3	5
008/27 - Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	2	1	3
034/01 - Robbery (of Personal Property)		1	1
Grand Total	6	14	20

*Source data: Athena / BedsReports

Bedfordshire Police made a significant investment in a new ICT system, Athena, in May 2018, when fully implemented, will help keep Bedfordshire safe, bring more offenders to justice and improve outcomes for victims. Updating our ICT was absolutely necessary to ensure Bedfordshire Police remains as effective and efficient as possible. The public should be reassured crime continues to be reported and investigated as normal but whilst colleagues become more comfortable and familiar with how Athena works Bedfordshire Police has some concerns around data quality for which reason some of the data provided concerning events recorded after 23 May 2018, may include some inaccuracies. We apologise for the situation and are working to resolve it as soon as possible.

The data provided has been linked to the location of a school however, this does not necessarily mean that the offence took place within the school or during school time.

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

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Bedfordshire Police provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Bedfordshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.