

DE/2026-051– Freedom of Information Request

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I wish to request the following information held by the Department of Education:

1. Any formal review, evaluation, or assessment of the *Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs* (commenced 1 September 1998) conducted or commissioned by the Department since **1 January 2020**.
2. Any correspondence between the Department and the Education Authority since **1 January 2020** regarding the revision, replacement, or continued operation of the Code of Practice.
3. Any recorded decision or submission to the Minister since **1 January 2020** regarding whether the Code of Practice should be revised or replaced.

Department Response:

Thank you for your request for information relating to the 'SEN Code of Practice'. The request was received on 23 March 2026.

1. Formal review of the Code of Practice

The Department has not conducted or commissioned any formal review, evaluation, or assessment of the '*Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs* (commenced 1 September 1998) since **01 January 2020**.

2. Correspondence with the Education Authority (EA)

I can confirm the Department holds the information on correspondence with the Education Authority since **1 January 2020** relating to the revision, replacement, or continued operation of the Code of Practice and a copy of this information is being provided.

3. Recorded decisions or submissions to the Minister

The Department does not hold any recorded decision or submission to the Minister since **1 January 2020** regarding whether the Code of Practice should be revised or replaced.

Information has been redacted under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as it constitutes the personal data of junior civil servants or third parties and disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This is an absolute exemption and is not subject to a public interest test.

A copy of the requested information that the Department holds, with appropriate redactions applied, is enclosed in PDF format.