

DE/2026-053– Freedom of Information Request

Request:

I am requesting data on free school meal eligibility and uptake in Northern Ireland.

Please provide the following for each academic year from 2018/19 to the most recent available:

1. The number of pupils eligible for free school meals
2. The number of pupils registered to receive free school meals

Please break this data down by:

- School
- Local government district (or postcode area, if available)

If possible, please also include:

- Total enrolment per school (to allow calculation of proportions)

Department Response:

Thank you for your request for information relating to expulsion, suspension and admission in the last ten years at City of Armagh High School. The request was received on 9 March 2026 as part of correspondence ref: COR-0265-2026.

Your initial FoI Request was directed to the school, however as this was also sent to the department and the Minister's constituency office, the department has provided a response on the basis that the Department holds some the information requested and has provided the information it holds as below:

- **The intake for the past 10 academic years to include ethnic background** – attached at Annex A below. Please note that that this data is based on pupils enrolled on Census Day i.e. The Friday of the first full week in October (In 2025/26 this was the 10 October 2025)
- **Clarification Regarding Home-Schooled Pupils and Readmission** – the department does not hold this information
- **The number of suspensions in the same 10-year academic years, the general reason of the suspension and the length of suspension served** – attached as a separate pdf
- **Expulsions over the last 10 Academic Years** - The department does not hold any information on expulsions at the school as per your request.