



**Directorate for Deputy Chief Executive
Legal and Democratic Services**

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FOI Reference: 1620021
25 May 2022

Dear Mr Bell

Thank you for your request for information regarding blind and partially sighted learners.

This request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please refer to our response below:

Response:

1. How many blind and partially sighted learners does your service support in the following post 16 education settings, during 2021/22?

30 total

- a. Mainstream sixth form **6 in county**
- b. Mainstream FE college **8 in county**
- c. Specialist school 12 in county; **2 out of county (Uxbridge)**
- d. Specialist FE college (placed in or out of LA area) **0**
- e. Specialist residential college (placed in or out of LA area) **1 (Gloucester; independent specialist FE residential college)**
- f. Other (please specify) **1 out of county (Berkshire) independent mainstream sixth form**

2. Please specify how your post 16 offer is contracted:

- a. Sixth form college
 - **Statutory provision (by this we mean that the service is provided to the setting free of charge).**
 - The college is required to buy in the support.
 - Other (please specify)

b. Mainstream college

- Statutory provision (by this we mean that the service is provided to the setting free of charge).
- **The college is required to buy in the support. A SLA is required for support to be extended.**
- Other (please specify)

3. If your service is traded, please tell us how many further education providers purchased your service in

a) 2021/22 1 – Buckinghamshire College Group (3 campuses)

b) 2020/21 1 – Buckinghamshire College Group (3 campuses)

c) 2019/20 1 – Buckinghamshire College Group (3 campuses)

4. What eligibility criteria is in place for blind and partially sighted students to access post-16 education (please indicate all that apply)

a. Sixth form setting

- Must have an Education and Health Care Plan
- Must be severe sight impairment
- Must be partially sighted
- **Other (please state) Must have a diagnosis of vision impairment with a medical report required as evidence; We use the NatSIP Eligibility Criteria to determine the level of support;**

b. Mainstream setting

- Must have an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- must be severe sight impaired
- Must be partially sighted
- **Other (please state) Must have a diagnosis of vision impairment with a medical report required as evidence; We use the NatSIP Eligibility Criteria to determine the level of support;**

Please quote reference number 1620021 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request and should be addressed to:

access2information@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or by writing to us at Information Management, Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF.

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 0330 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

We will now close your request as of this date.

With kind regards
Freedom of Information Team

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