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If calling please ask for:
Kenny McKaig 01382 434577

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Request Reference No. 20190603005

I refer to your request of 03/06/2019

This is a Freedom of Information request regarding the total number of 4th year pupils who 'legally' leave School before completing formal Education.

For each year from academic year 2014-2015 to 2018-2019, I would like to know the total number of fourth year pupils who were due to complete National 3, 4 or 5 qualifications but who legally left school before finishing fourth year. I am only interested in those who were in the process of undertaking these qualifications and did not complete them, not those who would not have been presented for any of these even if they had completed fourth year.

To clarify, by "legally" I mean those children who were 16 years of age by the end of February in fourth year (in accordance with the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, section 33, sub-section 2a) who were entitled to leave due to having had their entry to primary school legally deferred (they started school at age five not four -in accordance with section 32, sub-section 3 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980).

I am trying to establish how many children who would have been presented for National 3,4 or 5 qualifications if they had continued S4, left before completing these.

The answers to your questions are as follows:

The number of S4 leavers identified who left before the end of S4 is:

Year	S4 CensusRoll	Left before31/May
2014/15	1,331	34
2015/16	1,254	63
2016/17	1,312	65
2017/18	1,282	31
2018/19	1,331	18

NB some of these pupils may still have completed awards, some of them may have moved to another school or gone onto college.

Your Right to Appeal

If you are unhappy with this reply you may require the Council to review its actions and decisions in relation to your request.

The requirement for review must:-

- be in writing or other permanent form (please address it to me);
- state your name and give an address for correspondence;
- specify the original request for information and the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction; and
- be made within 40 working days of the date of this response, although the Council may, if it considers it appropriate to do so, consider requirements for review after that time has passed.

Your requirement for review will be dealt with by the Chief Executive. He will reply to you in writing promptly and in any event within 20 working days. He may:-

- confirm my decision with or without modification;
- substitute a different decision for my decision;

and will give you his reasons for so doing. If you are unhappy with the Chief Executive's decision you may then appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. You must submit your appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months of receiving the Chief Executive's decision.

Further details on the Scottish Information Commissioner's appeal procedure can be found using the direct link www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal or email xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxx or telephone (01334) 464610 or write to Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Yours faithfully

Kenneth McKaig
Legal Manager