



Your reference: N/A

Our reference: FOI_25_0160

E-mail: FOI
@gloucestershire.police.uk

Direct dial: 01452 754304

Postal Address: As above

Date: 07/03/2025

Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request FOI_25_0160

On 07/02/2025 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. I would like to know how many reports were made of weapon possession in schools.
2. I would also like to know how many reports were made of attacks involving blades or sharp instruments in schools.

For each of these requests I would like a breakdown of the figures by the years 2014,2015,2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds some relevant information.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

Following receipt of your request, initial searches were conducted of the Crime Recording System for substantiated crimes between 01/01/2014 – 31/12/2024, where the offences were listed as the following:

008/28 - Possession of other offensive weapon on school/further education premises

008/63 - Threaten with an offensive weapon on school/further education premises
008/27 - Having an article with a blade or point on school/further education premises
008/62 - Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article on school/further education premises

008/11 - Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse
008/76 - Threaten a person with an offensive weapon/substance in a private place
008/26 - Having an article with a blade or point in a public place
008/64 - Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article in a public place
Filter has then been applied to identify records where a MO code of School is contained within the report.

A secondary search has been conducted of the Crime Recording System for all substantiated crimes recorded between 01/01/2014 – 31/12/2024. A filter has then been applied to identify records where a Knife Crime tag and the MO Code of School has been added to the crimes.

The results are as follows:

1. Reports of where a weapon was in possession in a school.

Year	Total
2014	2
2015	3
2016	4
2017	6
2018	8
2019	10
2020	7
2021	10
2022	10
2023	17
2024	11
Total	88

2. Reports of where attacks involving blades or sharp instruments

Year	Total
2015	2
2016	3
2017	2
2018	4
2019	3

2020	4
2021	7
2022	3
2023	3
2024	6
Total	37

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following means:

Website - <https://ico.org.uk/>

Call their helpline - 0303 123 1113

Email - casework@ico.org.uk

Post –

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary