



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: **FOI 2015 00629**

[Redacted]

Date: **6 February 2015**

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 13 January 2015 requesting the following information:

“I am trying to establish the current number of Service children in UK and overseas (SCE) schools for my literature and wonder if you can direct me to any up to date information on current numbers.”

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. The information you have requested can be found below.

The number of children of Service personnel in Service Children's Education (SCE) schools overseas was 5,620 pupils as at January 2015.

In terms of determining the number of children of Service personnel in UK schools, we cannot accurately identify the total number for Service personnel centrally as the recording of this is not a mandatory detail required on the Joint Personnel Administration system.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note we can provide the number of children, aged under 18, Armed Forces personnel have recorded they have on the Joint Personnel Administration system.

At 1 September 2014 there were 86,320 children, aged under 18, recorded as children of UK Regular Service personnel. This figure is not necessarily the number of children of Service personnel in UK schools as we cannot guarantee that all children reported are of school age or attending a school in the UK.

Additionally, you may find it helpful to note we can provide the number of children, whose Service personnel parent(s) are in receipt of Continuity of Education Allowance, who are attending State and Independent boarding schools in the UK. This figure was 4,930 pupils as at September 2014.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering **Military Personnel** and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)