

8 May 2025

Chris Bell  
Senior Journalist  
BBC News  
Via email: [Chris.Bell@bbc.co.uk](mailto:Chris.Bell@bbc.co.uk)

Dear Mr Bell

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – CMA Harmful Sexual Behaviour**

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request sent via email and received by Cedar Mount Academy on 10 April 2025.

Your request was in the form of the following questions:

BBC News is conducting research into the challenges of handling harmful sexual behaviour in schools. We have received anecdotal evidence of schools facing multiple allegations with little external support – and having to design solutions to safeguard different parties. We hope to better understand the national picture and collate data on trends in this area. Please complete the attached survey, detailing the total number and nature of HSB incidents recorded for each of the last five academic years, including 2024/25 to date. Individual schools will not be named in respect of the information supplied in response to this request - unless this is directly agreed with the BBC, following a response - and students will not be identified.

How many incidents of harmful sexual behaviour where the alleged perpetrator was a pupil on roll at the time of the incident are recorded for the following academic years?

Please specify the following information in relation to each specific incident recorded in the table below

- a) Academic Year
- b) Please state the nature of the HSB incident, where possible using the categories outlined in KCSIE 2024 (see paras 458-461)
- c) Please state if the alleged incident took place on or off school grounds
- d) Please provide a description of the alleged behaviour, if known
- e) Please state whether the incident was reported to police
- f) Please state whether the police arrested the alleged perpetrator

- g) Please state whether the alleged perpetrator was charged with an offence, if known
- h) Please state whether the alleged perpetrator was excluded
- i) Please state sex of alleged perpetrator
- j) Please state whether the alleged perpetrator was isolated from the alleged victim (i.e. alleged perpetrator is placed in a classroom away from other pupils or in isolation booths)
- k) Please state sex of alleged victim
- l) Please state whether the alleged victim was isolated from the alleged perpetrator (i.e. alleged victim is placed in a classroom away from other pupils or in isolation booths)

Please find our response in the attached document.

I hope that this answers your request satisfactorily.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should e-mail [admin@bright-futures.co.uk](mailto:admin@bright-futures.co.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints' procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**On behalf of Bright Futures Educational Trust**