| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0972Responded to: 11th May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## In relation to a specific incident I would like to request specifically any information possible with regards to any discussions around any efforts that should be made or were made to inform the parents of these children that this questioning had/has taken place. Either within the Police Force or between the Police Force and any departments within South Ayrshire Council that were involved in this situation. I'm looking specifically for information regarding informing the childrens parents and not any information with regards to the details of the case.

## I would also like to request all Policy's/Procedures/Acts that were followed and that apply to questioning children at school as potential witnesses/victims.

In regards to your two questions, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether the information sought exists or is held by Police Scotland in terms of section 18 of the Act.

Section 18 applies where the following two conditions are met:

- It would be contrary to the public interest to reveal whether the information is held

- If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure in terms of one or more of the exemptions set out in sections 28 to 35, 38, 39(1) or 41 of the Act

The following exemptions are considered relevant:

Section 34 – Investigations by a Scottish Public Authority

Section 35(1) (a) & (b) - Law Enforcement

Disclosure of the requested information, if held, would substantially prejudice the ability of Police Scotland with regards the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

This explanation should not be taken as indicative or conclusive evidence that the information you have requested does or does not exist.

If you do require a copy of policy/procedures followed when interviewing children generally rather than specific to the incident you have noted, please let me know.

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by email or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by email or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.