| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1594  Responded to: 11th July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## To request information contained in reports of incidents (eg. recorded STORM incidents) which contain the words “end of term” and/or “final day” and “school” from June 1, 2021, to date, June 17, 2023, please.

## The information I am looking to obtain is details relating to Police Scotland attendance at end of term events at schools in relation to student behaviour incidents/pranks linked to these events.

## My request is for any information on the nature of each incident and outcome (eg. advice given), and the date and location (ie school name) please.

In response to your request, I must first of all clarify that there is no relevant incident classification code which specifically relates to the subject matter of your request.

It is not possible for us to conduct searches of our system based on what callers may have mentioned in their account.

We can however base searches on the presence of particular words/ phrases in the notes taken by the call handlers and input on to our STORM incident recording system.

We have therefore progressed your request on that basis, searching for the words and phrases included in your request.

I must stress that Police Scotland do not consider keyword searches for specific words/ phrases to be an accurate means of analysis.

There may have been incidents of relevance to your request which do not include the specific phrases that you have listed.

It would however be nigh on impossible to come up with a list of comprehensive search terms – hence why we would not recommend the approach – but to illustrate, incidents may say ‘on school leave’, ‘school caretaker’, ‘end of term disco’, ‘final day’ of a specific event etc.

Similarly, although the phrase appears in an incident log, it cannot be assumed on that basis that the incident was directly related to the subject matter of the final day of school as per the context of your request.

For the reasons above, we would therefore take the view that the data below does not accurately reflect reports of matters that could be described as pranks or incidents at schools on students’ final day.

The table below provides the number of incidents traced where the word ‘school’ was recorded from 1st June 2021 to 17th June 2023.

| **2021** | **2022** | **2023** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 16,317 | 58,589 | 30,690 |

The table below provides the number of incidents traced where the phrase ‘final day’ was recorded from 1st June 2021 to 17th June 2023.

| **2021** | **2022** | **2023** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 14 | 23 | 25 |

The table below provides the number of incidents traced where the phrase ‘end of term’ was recorded from 1st June 2021 to 17th June 2023.

| **2021** | **2022** | **2023** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 13 | 14 | 3 |

From 1st January 2023 to 17th June 2023, one incident was reported to Police Scotland where ‘school’ and ‘end of term’ were recorded. On further review of this incident however, is not considered potentially relevant to your request.

From 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022, two incidents were reported to Police Scotland where ‘school’ and ‘final day’ were recorded. Neither of these incidents were assessed as being potentially relevant to your request. Two further incidents were reported to Police Scotland where ‘school’ and ‘end of term’ were recorded however neither of these incidents were assessed as being potentially relevant to your request.

From the 1st June 2021 to 31st December 2021, two incidents were reported to Police Scotland where ‘school’ and ‘end of term’ were recorded. Neither of these incidents were assessed as being potentially relevant to your request.

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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) 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](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.