



HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE

Response Date:26/02/2025

2025/227 - Flintshire schools

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

During the years 2023 and 2024 how many incidents were reported to North Wales Police as having happened in Flintshire schools? For each of these incidents please can you specify the nature of the incident/allegation and the name of the school, as well as the outcome of any investigation.

Incidents where Location Subtype = "School" and Occ. County matches FFLINTSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE or DEESIDE FLINTSHIRE, for the years 2023 and 2024

Calendar Year	Occ. County	Offence HO Group1	HO Code	HO Description	Location Subtype	Outcomes
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	16. Victim Declines / Withdraws Support - Named Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	13. Public Order Offences	125/09	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4A)	School	16. Victim Declines / Withdraws Support - Named Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/56	Racially or religiously aggravated harassment or stalking without violence	School	14. Victim Declines / Unable to Support Action to Identify Offender
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/77	Non-fatal strangulation and suffocation	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/72	Malicious Comms - Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	School	16. Victim Declines / Withdraws Support - Named Suspect Identified

2023	FLINTSHIRE	10. Arson & Criminal Damage	149/00B	Other criminal damage to a building - business and community (Under £5000.00 damage)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	02. Sexual Offences	017/16	Sexual assault on a male child under 13	School	21. Police Named Suspect, Investigation Not in the Public Interest
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	13. Public Order Offences	125/09	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4A)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2023	FLINTSHIRE	10. Arson & Criminal Damage	149/00D	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5000.00 damage)	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2023	FLINTSHIRE	10. Arson & Criminal Damage	149/00B	Other criminal damage to a building - business and community (Under £5000.00 damage)	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	11. Named Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	11. Named Suspect Below Age of Criminal Responsibility
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	195/94	Harassment	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2023	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	20. Other Body / Agency has Investigation Primacy
2023	FLINTSHIRE	02. Sexual Offences	020/06	Sexual assault of a female child under 13	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2023	FLINTSHIRE	02. Sexual Offences	020/06	Sexual assault of a female child under 13	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/30	Putting people in fear of violence	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential

						Difficulties
2024	FLINTSHIRE	10. Arson & Criminal Damage	149/00B	Other criminal damage to a building - business and community (Under £5000.00 damage)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	20. Other Body / Agency has Investigation Primacy
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	005/01E	Sec 18. Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2024	FLINTSHIRE	13. Public Order Offences	125/09	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Sec 4A)	School	01. Charged / Summoned / Postal Requisition
2024	FLINTSHIRE	10. Arson & Criminal Damage	149/00B	Other criminal damage to a building - business and community (Under £5000.00 damage)	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/30	Putting people in fear of violence	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	195/94	Harassment	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	15. Police Named Suspect, Victim Supports but Evidential Difficulties
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	08. Community Resolution / Youth Restorative Disposal
2024	FLINTSHIRE	02. Sexual Offences	020/04	Assault of a female child under 13 by penetration	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	005/28	Send communication threatening death or serious harm	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	05. Burglary - Business and Community	030/02A	Burglary Business and Community	School	18. Investigation Complete No Suspect Identified

2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	008/06A	Sec 47. Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	Under Investigation
2024	FLINTSHIRE	01. VAP	105/01	Common assault and battery (Violence without injury)	School	Under Investigation

Due to the low number of cases (and lack of details in the public domain), coupled with the fact there are still a number still under investigation harm has been identified in providing you with the name of the school. Therefore, a Public Interest Test has been carried out to weigh up the reasons for and against disclosure of information to ensure the release is in the interest of the public as a whole and not just the applicant.

The Public Interest Test has considered the following exemptions;

Section 31 (1) (a)(b) Law Enforcement
Section 40(2) Personal Information

Section 31 (1) is a prejudice based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to articulate the harm test as well as carrying out a public interest test.

Section 40(2) is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in this case.

Overall Harm

Disclosure the school name/details not in the public domain in relation to ongoing matters would undermine the process of preventing or detecting crime, it could also lead to the identification of individuals.

A release of the information requested could expose policing activity and intelligence. To provide very specific details in relation to the an occurrence would impact on the effectiveness of that police investigation, which would in turn undermine the role of the police in the prevention and detection of crime and apprehension of offenders.

Factors favouring disclosure of information for Section 31

Disclosure could lead to better public awareness of its activities and its resources, which in itself would lead to better public debate and participation and might increase confidence in its approach to crime prevention and detection.

There is also a clear interest in the public being reassured that information which it provides to the police which may point towards the existence of criminal activity is taken seriously and that the police investigate any such matters effectively.

Factors against disclosure of information for Section 31

If North Wales Police released details of ongoing investigations that could lead to the identification of individuals it could prejudice law enforcement or potentially damage the criminal justice system. This is because complying with such requests would enable individuals to become aware of the particular lines of enquiry the police have been investigating (or indeed not investigating) and this could enable individuals engaged in criminal activity to take action to minimise the risk of being detected. Any individuals currently under investigation could also use the information released to attempt to influence the outcome of the investigation, through intimidate or harassment of the witnesses etc.

Therefore, by applying an exemption to providing further information would prevent law enforcement resources from being compromised and would retain the Police force's ability to prevent and detect crimes.

Law enforcement tactics may be compromised which would hinder the prevention and detection of crime.

Balance Test

The issues of accountability and transparency are noted. We cannot release further information that would compromise law enforcement role of the force or identify individuals. It is recognised that transparency is the fundamental objective of the Freedom of information Act and this leads itself to a presumption of disclosure. However, this has to be balanced against the harm that would be caused to the ongoing investigation and individuals by providing more/specific investigation details.

Taking into account all the circumstances of this case it is determined that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.

Consequently, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (1) of the legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 21/02/2025