

# Telegraph Newspaper

“date of birth to track progress of different age groups within a class, and postcode to track how different datasets based on address affect results”

Please select the suitable Tier which will cover all the information you are applying for.			
Information Tier	Information Type	Description	Tier Requested
1	Individual pupil level data - Identifying and / or Identifiable and Highly Sensitive	<p>Individual pupil level extracts that include identifying and highly sensitive information about pupils and their characteristics including items described as 'sensitive personal data' within the UK Data Protection Act 1998.</p> <p>Examples of identifying data items include Names, Address and Date of Birth.</p> <p>Examples of highly sensitive data items include Looked After Status, In Need Status, Full Ethnicity, Full Language and Primary and Secondary SEN Type, reasons for exclusions and absence.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Individual pupil level data - Identifiable and Sensitive	<p>Individual pupil level extracts that include sensitive information about pupils and their characteristics including items described as 'sensitive personal data' within the UK Data Protection Act 1998 which have been recoded to become less sensitive.</p> <p>Examples of sensitive data items include ethnic group major, ethnic group minor, language group major, language group minor, Special Educational Needs and eligibility for Free School Meals.</p>	

## The Daily Telegraph

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 16:01  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** REQUESTS, NPD  
**Subject:** DMAP: Daily Telegraph Request

### For info:

I have now spoken with [REDACTED] at the Daily Telegraph about their data request, which was discussed at last month's DMAP meeting. They have clarified that their aim is compare the performance of schools at the level of individual subject factoring in variations in the type of student enrolled at each school. They are not looking to compare the performance of individual teachers and have offered "cast iron assurances that no children will be identified through our use of this data".

Following this discussion they are content to receive tier 2 level data comprising the KS2, KS4 and KS5 datasets matched to the school census. We are planning on supplying them 5 years of data which they will be able to use for up to 12 months. This contrasts with their original request for all datasets for all years at tier 1 level.

It appears the Daily Telegraph did not understand exactly what the datasets contained, which is why their original request was so broad. The data we are planning to supply will include prior attainment, aggregated ethnic group, aggregated language group, eligibility for Free School Meals and a SEN flag. These fields are to differentiate between the different intakes that schools have.

Based on the feedback received at the last DMAP meeting we are intending to proceed with issuing data outlined above. The request met the security requirements at both tier 1 and tier 2 level.

5 years' worth of data (2008-2012) from the NPD were released including children's sensitive personal data, SEN and FSM indicators, ethnicity and language.

These identifying and sensitive items, or identifying data items were matched at individual pupil level with census data for KS2, KS4 and KS5 attainment datasets before individual level release.

**There is no clear legal basis for passing journalists individual level, sensitive data:**

*"At the time of this request (February 2013) we did not require the requestor to inform us of the conditions for processing that they relied on."*  
[Department for Education \(click to view original FOI\)](#)

**Tier 2:** pupil level, identifying and sensitive ("downgraded" from original Tier 1 request)

**From: February 2013 "for as long as possible"**

**Risk: No small numbers suppression**

*"There is no suppression applied to data extracts from the NPD before release These include that no individual will be identified in published data. The Daily Telegraph requested pupil-level data and so suppression was not applicable."* ([click to view FOI](#))

**Download original requests :**

1. [Data application February 2013 .pdf \[download\]](#)
2. [Letter : assurance that the Telegraph will not \\*publish\\* identifying data .pdf \[download\]](#) but the onus is given to them because the data they \*receive\* is identifying