



Reference Number: FOI/104888

Mr. Alastair David
Senior Associate
HSM Chambers
Grand Cayman
Cayman Islands

VIA Email: adavid@hsmoffice.com

22 September 2023

Dear Mr. David,

Thank you for your application dated 24 August 2023, received by us on 24 August 2023.

The Department of Education Services is pleased to grant you access to the records(s) and information you have requested:

1. How many children are in education in government schools
Response: Please see attached document titled: *Govt. School Enrolment Stats at 19 Sept 2023*
2. How many non Caymanian children are currently education in Government schools.
Response: Please see attached document titled: *Govt. School Enrolment Stats at 19 Sept 2023*
3. How the Department ascertains the immigration status of the relevant children.
Response: The necessary documents confirming immigration status of the relevant children are required as part of the Government School registration application process. On the Department of Education Services' Website, it details the evidence that parents/guardians have to submit with the application form: [Registration Forms – Department of Education Services – Cayman Islands Government \(schools.edu.ky\)](https://schools.edu.ky).

The Department determines the immigration status of the children through the necessary evidence as detailed in the document titled: *DES Categories of Students Approved for Entry to Government Schools - Updated 2023*.

4. If the Department has guide/ policies on how to ascertain whether someone is Caymanian we would like disclosure of this document.
Response: Please see attached document titled: *DES Categories of Students Approved for Entry to Government Schools – Updated 2023*.
5. I understand that many non Caymanian children are educated on the basis of their parents status so if you could break the statistics down into the following grounds.
 - i. The number of expatriate children who the children of Caymanian, i.e. the child is yet to become Caymanian themselves.



- ii. The number of children who are Caymanian by entitlement and who will lose their right to be Caymanian on their 18th birthday.
- iii. The number of expatriate children who are the children of Permanent Residents.
- iv. The number of expatriate children who are the children of civil servants.
- v. The number of expatriate children who are the children of work permit holders or any other immigration permission.

Response: The Student Information Management System (SIMS) used for Government School Enrolment does not break down the student immigration statistics in the categories as listed. Once students are uploaded into SIMS, they are categorised as Caymanian or Non-Caymanian for general statistics and billing purposes as non-Caymanian children pay a school fee.

The categories as listed, are captured in the Registration process, except for description 5.ii. As a result, we have provided the registration statistics based on immigration status, of the children who were accepted into the system since April 2020. Please see document titled: *Govt. School Registration Stats based on Immigration Status at 19 Sept 2023*.

6. The number of Caymanian children who currently waiting to attend a government school and if possible their ages, i.e. there are 15 Caymanian children aged between 5-8 who are currently waiting on a government school place.

Response: Please see document titled: *Govt. School Registration Stats_Caymanians Waiting Placement at 19 Sept 2023*. Please note that Government does not keep waiting lists of students. Applications are processed as received, pending space availability. If space cannot be provided, the application is declined and parents/guardians are encouraged to apply during the next standard registration period for the following academic year.

If you have any queries about this letter and the responses, please contact me. Remember to quote your reference number above in any future correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

KMKirkconnell

Kimberly Kirkconnell
Information Manager