

Request

From: RNN Group <noreply@rnngroup.ac.uk>

Sent: 10 June 2026 18:03

To: RNN FOI <foi@rnngroup.co.uk>

Subject: New submission from Request for Information under the FOI Act 2000

Hello,

Please could you provide me with the following information below.

How many Core/RES Learning Support Assistants do you have at each of your 3 college campuses.

Has this number changed in the last 2 years? For example, has the number of RES LSA's decreased or increased or has the number of Core LSA's increased/decreased? What are the reasons for this if so?

How is it decided where to deploy each LSA? Is it down to each person's skill set/qualifications/experience? Or are they randomly assigned to subject areas - according to who ever allocates each one to particular subject areas?

Can they (the LSA) state a preference of where they'd like to be or do they go where they are allocated and have no say where they are deployed in terms of subject areas?

Our Ref: FOIA276

Your Ref: N/A

Date: 24th June 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST (FOI): Information relating to CORE/RES Learning Support Assistants

Thank you for your request for information, which we have handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Any further correspondence regarding this should be addressed to FOI@rnngroup.ac.uk.

The RNN Group main centres of operations are located at the following sites:

Site Name	Address
Rotherham College	Eastwood Lane, Rotherham. S65 1EG
North Nottinghamshire College	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Dinnington Campus	SITE NO LONGER IN OPERATION*
Dearne Valley College	Wath upon Dearne, Swinton. S63 7EW
University Centre Rotherham	Doncaster Gate, Rotherham. S65 1DJ
RNN Training	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Idle Valley Rural Centre	North Road, Retford. DN22 8SG
Construction Centre Rotherham	Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham. S60 1RU
Skills Centre Shireoaks	SITE NO LONGER IN OPERATION*
National Fluid Power Centre	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Create Skills Ltd	SUBSIDIARY COMPANY CEASED TRADING*
Charnwood Training	SUBSIDIARY COMPANY CEASED TRADING*
Aston Recruitment & Training	NO LONGER OWNED BY THE RNN GROUP*
Rotherham Education Services	Eastwood Lane, Rotherham. S65 1EG
Retford Post 16 Centre	Old Hall Drive, Retford. DN22 7EA
Nottinghamshire Children & Family Partnership	PARTNERSHIP HAS CEASED*

*Data from these sites have been re-located to other centres within the RNN Group, and if applicable, have formed part of the search for the information requested.

Below is the information you requested.

How many Core/RES Learning Support Assistants do you have at each of your 3 college campuses?



Campus	Core	RES
DVC	28	Fewer than 5*
NNC	27	Fewer than 5*
RC	45	16
TOTAL	100	22

***Exemption Notice:** Where the number of staff members in a specific category is fewer than 5, this information has been withheld under Section 40(2) (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Because the teams at these specific campuses are very small, disclosing the exact low figures creates a significant risk that individual staff members could be identified. This constitutes third-party personal data, and disclosing it would breach the Data Protection Act 2018 principles.

Has this number changed in the last 2 years? For example, has the number of RES LSA's decreased or increased or has the number of Core LSA's increased/decreased?

- Yes, this number has changed in the last 2 years.
- The number of RES LSAs has decreased in the last two years
- The number of Core LSAs has increased in the last two years

What are the reasons for this if so?

Historically, strategic management decisions resulted in a decrease in the overall number of RES LSA positions. Concurrently, a higher volume of permanent Core contracts were made available, which existing RES staff successfully applied for.

Staffing numbers naturally fluctuate throughout the academic year due to general staff turnover, retirements, and operational adjustments in contractual working patterns. Each year, our staffing layout is mapped against strict curriculum planning and is heavily dependent on student enrolment numbers.

How is it decided where to deploy each LSA? Is it down to each person's skill set/qualifications/experience? Or are they randomly assigned to subject areas - according to whoever allocates each one to particular subject areas?

LSA Managers deploy staff strategically based on each individual's skill set, qualifications, and prior experience. The management team always aims to place LSAs within specific curriculum areas where they possess particular expertise or subject-specific knowledge.

The primary consideration when making these decisions is the immediate business and operational need of the Group. Following this, managers carefully evaluate individual working patterns, contracted hours, and specific learner requirements to ensure the best possible support fit.

Can they (the LSA) state a preference of where they'd like to be or do they go where they are allocated and have no say where they are deployed in terms of subject areas?

As noted in the response above, formal allocations are ultimately determined and managed by the LSA Managers to ensure core business and student needs are met. However, individual skill sets and areas of expertise are heavily factored into that decision-making process.

Please note, whilst you have exercised your right to information under FOI, the RNN Group may not release some data it has on record. For example, if it contains personal details of individuals or if other exemptions apply, as detailed within the FOI legislation. See the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) website for further details as to what this means to you and the request you have made:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/what-to-expect-after-making-an-information-request/>

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, and in keeping with the RNN Group's transparency agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you may now be published on the Group's website at www.rnngroup.co.uk/IG together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

Attached is Appendix A, giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received from the RNN Group in regards to this FOI request.

If you have any queries about this letter then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

The RNN Group Information Governance and Assurance Team

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Appendix A

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under chapter 36, part 1, section 17 (7) of the Freedom of Information Act or under chapter 12, part 6, section 165 of the Data Protection Act (Article 57(1)(f) and (2) and 77 of the General Data Protection Regulations), within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

A copy of our complaints process can be found on the RNN Group website by following the link below and selecting the Feedback and Complaints section:
<https://www.rnngroup.co.uk/IG>

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review of your complaint, the DPA gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted the RNN Group's own complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF