

# **PE2181/A: Remove teachers' ability to backdate and alter school records**

## **Scottish Government written submission, 8 October 2025**

**Does the Scottish Government consider the specific ask[s] of the petition to be practical or achievable? If not, please explain why.**

The Scottish Government expects local authorities and schools to keep factually accurate and timely records on school management information systems, that complies with local authorities' legal obligations including data protection law, and guidance issued by the Scottish Government.

This involves ensuring that staff and teachers understand when information should be being recorded, and that they only have access to parts of any management information system to which they require access, and where required, are enabled to add new or additional information to records, or to make changes to information to existing records that is shown to be inaccurate.

The Scottish Government expects there to be clear audit processes and procedures in place that track who has accessed such systems, what changes were made to pre-existing information, and the reasons for these changes.

Local authorities are responsible for ensuring data protection laws are adhered to, and taking any action on advice given to them by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

The Scottish Government also expects local authorities to work with their school management information system provider to ensure that systems are fit for purpose, and staff and teachers are provided with clear guidance and instructions on how to use the system.

With regards to the recording of bullying incidents, the Scottish Government updated its national anti-bullying guidance, Respect for All, in November 2024, which included updated guidance on recording and monitoring.

**What, if any, action the Scottish Government is currently taking to address the issues raised by this petition and is any further action being considered that will achieve the ask[s] of this petition?**

SEEMiS Group LLP is an Education Management Information System (MIS) provider set up and funded by all 32 local authorities in Scotland. It works closely with its members and other strategic bodies responsible for the education direction in Scotland, and looks to continually improve its product set and support local authorities and their associated schools to deliver their statutory and discretionary responsibilities.

The Scottish Government does not have any contract with SEEMiS Group LLP, but works with local authorities (either directly or via strategic bodies such as ADES, CoSLA and SOLACE) in relation to matters related to their provision of education services, and any associated gathering and recording of information.

**Is there any further information the Scottish Government wish to bring to the Committee's attention, which would assist it in considering this petition?**

The Scottish Government works with local authorities and strategic bodies to ensure quality and consistency standards are achieved for information being gathered by schools and local authorities in light of any guidance issued by the Scottish Government, particularly for information which is then shared with the Scottish Government for its own statistical and research purposes.

The Scottish Government does not collect information on bullying incidents that are recorded on SEEMiS, but it does support any actions undertaken by local authorities that helps them better support the wellbeing of children and young people.

**Education Analytical Services  
Information Management, Improvement and Evidence Unit**