# Teacher Permanently Banned from Profession for Shaking Infant



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Jonathan Sinfield, a former teacher at Wellsway School in Keynsham, Bristol, has been permanently barred from teaching after causing severe brain damage to a 43-day-old baby. The incident occurred while Sinfield was babysitting the infant in Bath. Initially, he claimed the baby had fallen and hit its head against a sofa. Later, he revised his statement, saying he accidentally dropped the baby from a height of one meter.

Medical experts concluded that the injuries, including bleeding behind the eyes and brain damage, were consistent with forceful shaking rather than a fall. Following a trial, Jonathan Sinfield, now 31, was sentenced to three years in jail by Bristol Crown Court in June 2022 for grievous bodily harm and actual bodily harm.

The Teaching Regulation Agency has now imposed a lifetime ban on Sinfield from the teaching profession, despite the offense not occurring within a school setting or involving students or staff. Sinfield maintains that he was wrongly convicted.

In court, Judge William Hart criticized Sinfield for delaying providing the hospital with accurate information about the injury, which hindered timely diagnosis and treatment. Sinfield’s defense maintained that the incident was a moment of lost control rather than premeditated action.

Detective Constable Mark Wilkes acknowledged the family's patience and courage throughout the investigation, criticizing Sinfield's lack of remorse and the lies that complicated medical care.

This case marks a significant measure by authorities to ensure such conduct is met with strict professional consequences.