

**Mr John Gilchrist**  
Freedom of Information Officer

14 February 2018

Ref: FOI/January 2018/ Mali Lewis

By email to mali@ricemedia.co.uk

The Burroughs  
Hendon  
London  
NW4 4BT  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 8411 4061  
e-mail:  
[j.gilchrist@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:j.gilchrist@mdx.ac.uk)  
[www.mdx.ac.uk](http://www.mdx.ac.uk)

Dear Ms Lewis

Your request for information received on 30 January 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

In the academic year 2016 to 2017 (spanning roughly from September 2016 until July 2017), how many full-time undergraduate first year students dropped out during the year from your university?

This includes any student considered to be in their first year of any particular course, no matter how old the student is. 'Dropping out' is defined as any full-time first year undergraduate student who leaves your university, whether it is to pursue a course at a different university or to leave education entirely.

I would also like to know which term these students dropped out in; specifically, whether it is the First Term, Second Term or Third Term.

Please provide the information in this form:

1. "During the academic year 16/17, there were 400 full-time first year undergraduate students who dropped out of this university"
2. "Of the 400 students that dropped out, 50 dropped out in the first term, 50 from the second term and 300 from the final term"

### **University Response**

Details of the number of students who left the university before completion of the first year of their course in 2016/17 is exempt as S22. of the Freedom of Information Act when the information sought is intended for future publication. The information is made publically on the website of Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) (2015/16 can be seen here

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/performance-indicators/non-continuation>) and the statement for 2016/17 is due to be published in March 2019.

I trust this satisfies your request sufficiently. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you have the right to complain about the University's response to your request for information. If you have such a complaint, you may contact Mrs Teresa Kelly, Clerk to the Board of Governors, Middlesex University, Hendon campus, London NW4 4BT, tel: 020 8411 6018, [t.kelly@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:t.kelly@mdx.ac.uk) within 40 days of the date of this letter for a review of the University's decision. If you remain unsatisfied with the outcome of that complaint, you may seek further recourse by lodging an appeal with the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

**John Gilchrist**  
Freedom of Information Officer