

Mr John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer

9 August 2018

Ref: FOI/July 2018/ Ewan Somerville

By email to ewansomerville@outlook.com

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Dear Mr Somerville

Your request for information received on 18 July 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

My request for information under the FOIA is as follows:

- I would like to know how many students each year from your university have deferred their studies/taken a leave of absence until the following academic year on mental health grounds. For example, a first year student deciding part way through second semester to take a leave of absence until the beginning of the next academic year on mental health grounds.

- I would like this data from the past 10 years if possible (if not possible, between 5 and 10 years), showing whether there has been an increase or decrease in the last decade.

University Response

The official reasons recorded for students who are taking a break from their studies (interruption of studies) are not recorded in the level of detail that would indicate *mental health problems*; the reason would be cited as *Health Reasons* which is obviously a much broader category. Therefore, we are not able to differentiate *mental health problems* from our data so we do not hold this information.

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 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
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