From: Freedom of Information  
Sent: 06 January 2021 16:00  
To:  
Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/496)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/496)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 27 November 2020, reference K/20/496. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

Your request read:

“I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request statistics about university drop outs and intercalations in each of the past 10 academic terms (from the first term of the academic year 2017-2018, up to and including the first term of the academic year 2020-2021, which ends December 2020).

For each term, please could you express this as two totals - one for the number of intercalations and another for the number of dropouts in that term. Please could you also break each of these totals down by cohort (number of dropouts/ intercalations for that term per year group).

In the interests of fairness, please could you also give these figures as a percentage of the total number of students who were attending your university for each cohort that year. This is so that, if the university had a higher number of students attending in 2020 than 2019 and a higher number of dropouts, we know this is proportional rather than an increase in the dropout rate.”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

Approximately one third of intercalating students in any one year intercalate at Leeds from other universities; the remaining two thirds are Leeds medical students intercalating at Leeds. Intercalating students are recorded as being in their intercalation year, rather than their third/fourth/fifth etc. year of study. As such, we cannot provide intercalation data broken down by year of study.

Please find the information we hold set out in the attached spreadsheet. Please note that where the total number in a particular group is less than or equal to five, we are withholding the total figure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act.

Section 40(2) sets out that information is exempt from disclosure if it is the personal data of someone other than the person making the request, and disclosure would; contravene the data protection principles; contravene an objection to processing; or if the data is exempt from the right of subject access. We consider that the release of this information would be likely to lead to the identification of individuals and would therefore be unfair and would breach their data protection rights.
We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on foi@leeds.ac.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle
      Deputy Secretary
      The University of Leeds
      Leeds
      LS2 9JT

Email: foi@leeds.ac.uk

Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University’s response to your request. Further information about how the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website (www.leeds.ac.uk).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Kind regards

Chloe Wilkins
Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat
University of Leeds