Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/084)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 20 February 2021, reference K/21/084.

Your request read:

“1) The admissions statistics for all foreign languages courses offered by your university, including combined courses (e.g. English and Spanish, History and French etc.). Please provide the data organised by years, for the last 5 years including the most recent round of applications for the 2021-22 academic year. For an example of how I request to receive the data, see the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Number of students who have applied for a place on a modern languages course 2018-19 academic year</th>
<th>Number of students who have applied for a place on a modern languages course 2019-20 academic year</th>
<th>Number of students who have applied for a place on a modern languages course 2020-21 academic year</th>
<th>Number of students who have applied for a place on a modern languages course 2021-22 academic year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
<td>Number of applicants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all of the above requests, please provide data from every single modern languages course offered by the university. This requests applies to courses at undergraduate, postgraduate, and foundation levels. It also applies to courses where modern languages are included/combined e.g. History and French.”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

We are not able to isolate the number of people studying postgraduate research (PGR) courses (e.g. PhDs) into modern languages. This is because our records regarding PGR courses are organised by School, rather than research topic. However, we do hold information regarding applications to other programmes of study.

The information we hold is set out in the attached spreadsheet. Please note that 2021/22 applications are still ongoing and as such these numbers are not final.
Some programmes of study were created or discontinued across the timeframe of your request, which impacts on the numbers of applicants.

Please note that, where the total number of people in a group is less than or equal to five, we are withholding the exact figure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act. We have also withheld totals where these could be used to calculate small numbers which have been withheld.

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. To release information which either directly or indirectly allows students to be identified would be unfair, and would therefore breach the data protection rights of the individuals.

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.

Yours sincerely

Chloe Wilkins  
Freedom of Information Officer  

Secretariat  
University of Leeds