



15 January 2020

RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

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Robyn Schaffer

Sent by email: request-627108-551dcfb3@whatdotheyknow.com

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Dear Ms Schaffer

Freedom of information request

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2019 requesting admissions statistics.

The University of Edinburgh is a global university, rooted in Scotland. We are globally recognised for our research, development and innovation and we have provided world-class teaching to our students for more than 425 years. We are the largest university in Scotland and in 2017/18 our annual revenue was £984 million, of which over £279 million was research income. We have over 41,000 students and more than 15,000 staff. We are a founding member of the UK's Russell Group of leading research universities and a member of the League of European Research Universities.

Classics has been taught at Edinburgh for more than 400 years. Students will learn from world-leading academics who are at the forefront of their disciplines. We offer a particularly wide range of areas of study within classics, with specialisms across ancient history, Greek and Latin, and classical archaeology, and a chronological range extending from archaic Greece through to Late Antiquity and Byzantium. [More information on our Classics degree programmes](#) can be found on our website.

Admissions statistics

In each academic year from 2010/11 to 2019/20, you asked for the number of students who matriculated onto the MA Classics and MA Classical Studies programmes. Of this total, you asked for the number of students educated at both private and state schools.

The University holds the previous institution categories supplied to us by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). These categorisations are defined by UCAS and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). Independent and private schools are categorised as 'independent'. We do not hold this data for some entrants. This is usually because they used the UCAS 'Apply Online' service, which obscures the previous institution information in the data we receive from UCAS. In other cases the categorisation is recorded as 'not applicable' because the student previously attended or transferred from another university. The remaining students are categorised by HESA in general terms as 'state', which includes comprehensive schools, grammar schools, and

sixth form and technical colleges. While we hold this information, it has no bearing on our student recruitment or selection decisions.

Tables 1 and 2 within the enclosure hold some of the information you requested. You will see that I have provided aggregated yearly data within table 2. This is because disclosing low numbers within separate years could enable individuals to be identified. This would breach the data protection principles set out in data protection legislation. The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 does not require us to provide this sort of information as it is exempt under section 38(1)(b).

Right to review

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the University to conduct a review of this decision by contacting the University's Records Management Section in writing (e.g. by letter or email) or in some other recorded form (e.g. audio or video tape). You should describe the original request, explain your grounds for dissatisfaction, and include an address for correspondence. You have 40 working days from receipt of this letter to submit a review request. The contact details for the Records Management Section are at the top of this letter. When the review process has been completed, if you are still dissatisfied, you may use the [Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance on making an appeal](#) to make an appeal to the Commissioner. If you do not have access to the Internet, please let me know and I will provide a copy of the relevant web pages.

Privacy notice for information request applicants

[The University of Edinburgh's request privacy notice](#), which describes how we use the information you have supplied about yourself and your request, is published on the University website.

Yours sincerely

Dean McAdam

Information Compliance Officer

Enclosure: Table 1: Table 1: All entrants to MA Classics and MA Classical Studies, 2010/11-2019/20

Table 2: Entrants to MA Classics and MA Classical Studies by school type, 2010/11-2019/20

If you require this letter in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact the Records Management Section on 0131 651 4099 or email recordsmanagement@ed.ac.uk