

Mr John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer

25 July 2019

Ref: FOI/July 2019/ Poppy Damon

By email to request-586702-ff3d382f@whatdotheyknow.com

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Dear Ms Damon

Your request for information received on 3 July 2019 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

I'm looking for information regarding the bereavement services which are available in your university or college. Please could you answer the following:

1. Do you offer special provisions for counselling services for students specific to bereavement?
Y/N
2. Do you offer any support or counselling services for students? Y/N
3. Do you have an institution wide policy/guidance regarding caring for students following a bereavement? Y/N
4. Do your policies or practices exclusively relate to support for students who have lost parents or does your support factor in other forms of bereavement, such as losing a sibling?
5. Can you tell me what special provision you have for offering extensions and academic breaks in study after a bereavement?
6. How much money did you allocate to counselling and support services for bereavement per year (Jan 2016-Jan 2019)?
7. If you feel you would like to offer an opinion, would you say your institution feels you are offered enough from the Government in order to support students who have experienced bereavement while studying?

University Response

The University has a Counselling and Mental Health Team made up of Counsellors, Psychological Therapists and Mental Health Advisors. We offer one-to-one counselling/psychological therapy, mental health support and casework, a daily drop-in service and referral to other services where appropriate.

1. No, beyond referral to external specialists.
2. Yes
3. No
4. No
5. This is detailed in our [Extenuating Circumstances Policy](#)
6. Funds are not specifically set aside within the counselling and mental health budget for support for bereavement.

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 Mr David Maplas, Director of Student Affairs, Middlesex University, Hendon campus, London NW4 4BT, tel: 020 8411 5830, d.malpas@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