

31<sup>st</sup> July 2019

Poppy Damon and Georgia Coan

Via email at: [request-586706-862923cb@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-586706-862923cb@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Poppy and Georgia

**Freedom of Information - Request for Information**

I refer to your request for information which was received on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019. The information you requested is as follows:

1. **Do you offer special provisions for counselling services for students specific to bereavement? Y/N**

No

2. **Do you offer any support or counselling services for students? Y/N**

Yes

3. **Do you have an institution wide policy/guidance regarding caring for students following a bereavement? Y/N**

No

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?**

We support students who require counselling for a variety of reasons including bereavement.

5. **Can you tell me what special provision you have for offering extensions and academic breaks in study after a bereavement?**

We are a very inclusive and supportive college and put support in where necessary according to individual needs. This can be an arrangement between academic and support staff. We have support meetings on a monthly basis where any mitigating circumstances are discussed and extensions granted accordingly.

**6. How much money did you allocate to counselling and support services for bereavement per year (Jan 2016-Jan 2019)?**

We allocate 80 hours per academic year to all counselling services from a fully qualified counsellor (there is no specific service for bereavement as previously mentioned). In addition we allocate sessions to our final year counselling students as required which incurs no cost. Providing support is also part of the remit of all Student Services staff.

**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?**

This information is supplied for your use. The College has no objection if you wish to share this information, including making copies for others, provided that the information is not used in an inappropriate context.

Please note that if you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request a formal review of the decision I have made. If you wish to request a formal review you should do so by writing to this office by **25<sup>th</sup> September 2019**.

You also have the right of appeal. This can be done via the online appeal service, [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal).

Alternatively you can contact the Scottish Information Commissioner as follows:

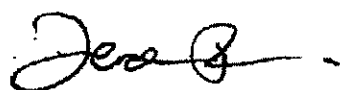
Call: 01334 464610

Email: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

Web: [itspublicknowledge.info](http://itspublicknowledge.info)

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely



**Derek Duncan**  
**Freedom of Information Office**