

18 July 2019

Reference: FOI0109

Oxpens Road, Oxford,
OX1 1SA

0800 612 6008
activatelearning.ac.uk

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-

Dear Ms Damon,

FOI0109 – Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“FOIA”).

I write further to your correspondence, dated 03 July 2019, requesting the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

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?

Activate Learning has considered this request and can confirm under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that the following information is held in relation to your request.

1. Our counsellors are trained to deal with all types of disclosure. However, we work with external agencies often if bespoke bereavement support is required; for example, Daisy's Dream. The majority of student choose our internal services.
2. Yes – we have counsellors on every site. Guildford College is recruiting but we have a 2-3-day service and have volunteer counsellors across Activate Learning.



3. Yes, we have guidance that has been re-written this academic year.
4. This is embedded within our safeguarding policy, behaviour and disciplinary policy.
5. Bespoke arrangements are made by faculties at their discretion; examples of arrangements include extensions to deadlines, including extending coursework over summer where possible; applying for special consideration through the exam board.
6. We have not explicitly allocated any specific funds for bereavement. Our provision with the Student Support team is provided to meet universal needs and, on each site, includes four full time members of staff and a part time counsellor.
7. Activate Learning does not have a formal position on this issue.

I trust you are satisfied with this information has been provided to you within 20 days, however if you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled you have the right under Section 17 of the Act to ask for an internal review. This should be addressed to:

Clerk to the Corporation
Activate Learning
Oxpens Road
Oxford
OX1 1SA

If you are dissatisfied with the results of the internal review, you also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Lagden
Compliance Officer