

Office of Qualifications  
and Examinations Regulation  
Spring Place  
Coventry Business Park  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry CV5 6UB

Telephone 0300 303 3344  
Textphone 0300 303 3345  
public.enquiries@ofqual.gov.uk  
www.gov.uk/ofqual

24 June 2015

S Santhi

BY E-MAIL ONLY: request-272055-  
028d14e0@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref : F/445  
Your Ref :

Dear S Santhi

## Request for Information

I refer to your recent request for information received by Ofqual on 5 June 2015 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). You requested the following information:-

*Could you kindly provide the age of youngest person who took GCSE mathematics examination in 2014 and 2015 what was the result if available?*

Under the Act, public authorities have two duties to individuals requiring information: firstly to confirm whether or not they hold the information requested, and secondly to provide a copy of that information unless one of the exemptions under the Act applies.

I confirm that on this occasion Ofqual holds information of the type you have requested for 2014 but not for 2015.

However, the the number of candidates at the youngest end of the age range of those entered for GCSE mathematics examinations is small. Because of this the exemption at section 40(2) of the Act has been invoked in relation to this information. This exemption provides that information should be withheld where it constitutes personal data protected by the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). It is our view that, given the small number of candidates at the youngest end of the age range, there is a likelihood that individuals could be identified. It is our view that disclosure of this information would breach the fair processing requirements of the DPA, in that candidates would not have the expectation that their personal data would be disclosed in this way.

Please note that the exemption at section 40 is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test.

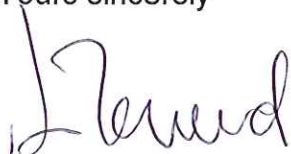
If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled you have the right to request an internal review. You can request an internal review by contacting:-

Alison Townsend  
Board Secretary  
Ofqual  
Spring Place  
Coventry Business Park  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry, CV5 6UB  
(alison.townsend@ofqual.gov.uk).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner. Complaints to the Information Commissioner should be sent to:-

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution  
Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alison Townsend', written in a cursive style.

**Alison Townsend**  
Board Secretary