

Our Reference: FOI.2020.09.420

UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

Legal Services

**Director (Interim)**  
**Mrs N Cárdenas Blanco**  
**Solicitor**

S Mohammed  
What Do They Know

(By Email)

25 January 2021

Dear S Mohammed

**Re: request for information under The Freedom of Information Act.**

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request for information dated 20 September 2020. If you have any queries with regard to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please note our statement in respect of Copyright, which is also attached.

If you are dissatisfied with the manner in which your request has been dealt with, you may ask for an internal review. The University's Complaints and Appeals procedure is available at

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/governance/policies-regs/information/index.aspx>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team  
University of Birmingham

Encs

**Your request for information reads:**

*I would like to request the predicted grades of Psychology in Education applicants in the last intake for which there is data, as well as the type of offer given for each one (unconditional or conditional).*

**The University of Birmingham responds:**

The University of Birmingham is required to respond to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”) if it holds the information being requested, unless it is appropriate to apply one of the limited exemptions set out in the Act.

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic The University of Birmingham is adapting its usual approach to processing Freedom of Information requests in order to meet the unprecedented challenges we are all facing. Whilst some staff are able to work remotely, since 23 March 2020 they are concentrating on supporting teaching and learning for our students who have returned for the new academic year under challenging circumstances. We are mindful that information requests place some degree of demand on a public authority’s resources in terms of costs and staff time and that for the foreseeable future the University must prioritise resources to other areas.

The full offer conditions for courses in Psychology in Education are available on the website at: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/study/index.aspx> and individuals can also find out if they are likely to get an offer by using our offer calculator at <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/personal-page/index.aspx>. Refusal Notice 1 below explains why you are being referred to the University’s website.

Unconditional offers are only made to those who already have their A level or other qualifications and not to those with predictions.

The total number of offers made to candidates with particular predicted grades is available from the UCAS EXACT data service, please see Refusal Notice 2 below.

## **Refusal Notice 1**

Reasons for non-disclosure

### **Section 21 – Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information reasonably accessible by other means**

The information you have requested is available to the public on the University’s website. Therefore, under Section 21 of the Act, the University has not provided this information. More information about this exemption is available on the Information Commissioner’s Office’s website. <https://ico.org.uk/>.

## **Refusal Notice 2**

### **Section 21 – Freedom of Information Act 2000 –Information reasonably accessible by other means**

Under Section 21 of the Act information is exempt from disclosure if it is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. This is an absolute exemption and the

University is therefore not required to consider the public interest as the information is already available to the applicant in the public domain.

The University and UCAS (The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) <http://www.ucas.com/> hold the data being requested. UCAS makes this information available to the public. It should be noted that some of these data are published in headline form, with more detailed breakdowns available for a charge.

The information requested is available through UCAS at <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/data-and-analysis/analytical-data-services/exact> & <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/data-and-analysis> and the University has provided you with links to their website. Under section 21 the public authority is not required to provide the enquirer with the information being sought even if there may be a charge for obtaining that information from another source.

More information about the exemption in this section of the Act is available on the Information Commissioner's Office's website <https://ico.org.uk/>.

## **The University of Birmingham**

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