



Ref: 202405/466

24 June 2024

<b>Reply to request for information under the Freedom of Information Act</b>	
Your ref	Email of 26 May 2024
Request	<p>I would like to request the following in regards to the Material Science FJ22 Course for the years 2018-2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of international applicants (excluding EU students) to each College</li><li>- Number of international applicants (excluding EU students) who were invited to interview by each College</li><li>- Number of international applicants (excluding EU students) who were made an offer by each College</li><li>- Number of home applicants to each College</li><li>- Number of home applicants who were invited to interview by each College</li><li>- Number of home applicants who were made an offer by each College</li></ul> <p>Please separate the data by the various Oxford Colleges, not the University as a whole.</p>

Dear Nicolas

I write in reply to your email requesting the information detailed above. The information is attached in the data set.

Your request is for detailed individual level data. We consider that disclosure of this information in the exact form requested might enable those with access to other information or knowledge to identify individuals and learn new information about those individuals e.g. those on the same course or at the same college. For this reason, we have taken a number of measures to reduce the risk of identification, including redaction of data, removing data of 3 or less students, including 0 and replacing with <3.

In taking these measures, we are applying the exemption in section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Section 40(2) provides an exemption from disclosure for information that is the personal data of an individual other than the requester, where disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We consider that disclosure of the information requested in the exact form requested would breach the first data protection principle, which requires that personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would be unfair to the individuals concerned, as it would be contrary to their reasonable and legitimate expectations. They would not reasonably expect that information relating to their application to Oxford would be made public under the FOIA without their consent.



For the disclosure of personal data to be lawful, it must have a lawful basis under Article 6 of the GDPR. There are six possible lawful bases in Article 6; we do not consider that any of them would be satisfied in respect of the disclosure.

The exemption in section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test provided for in section 2(2)(b) of the FOIA. To the extent that the public interest is relevant in this case, the University considers it is satisfied by the information provided.

### **INTERNAL REVIEW**

If you are dissatisfied with this reply, you may ask the University to review it by e-mailing [foi@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:foi@admin.ox.ac.uk). A request for internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days from the date of this letter.

### **THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**

If, after the internal review, you are still dissatisfied, you have the right under FOIA to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether your request has been dealt with in accordance with the FOIA. You can do this online using the [Information Commissioner's complaints portal](#).

Yours sincerely

**FOI Oxford**  
**Information Compliance Team**