

13 September 2019

Our ref: 5586276

Thank you for your request received on 29 August 2019, for the following information:

Dear FOI Officer,

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act, working with the Education Desk of the Times newspaper, to request the following information from the London Borough of Barnet:

- 1. Please state if there were any occasions in which students of your local authority schools were entered as private or external candidates in GCSE examinations in any subjects, when they are already students of a school in your local authority, in the summer 2019, summer 2018 and summer 2017 exam seasons.**
- 2. If so, please state the number of students of schools in your LEA that have been entered as private or external candidates for GCSE examinations in the above manner, breaking down results by school and by the summer 2019, summer 2018 and summer 2017 exam seasons. Please provide a breakdown of the reasons why they were entered in this manner, if held, for the exam seasons mentioned previously.**
- 3. Please provide any guidance held on the practice of entering students of your local authority schools as external candidates for examinations.**

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

- 1. Please state if there were any occasions in which students of your local authority schools were entered as private or external candidates in GCSE examinations in any subjects, when they are already students of a school in your local authority, in the summer 2019, summer 2018 and summer 2017 exam seasons.***
- 2. If so, please state the number of students of schools in your LEA that have been entered as private or external candidates for GCSE examinations in the above manner, breaking down results by school and by the summer 2019, summer 2018 and summer 2017 exam seasons. Please provide a breakdown of the reasons why they were entered in this manner, if held, for the exam seasons mentioned previously.***
- 3. Please provide any guidance held on the practice of entering students of your local authority schools as external candidates for examinations.***

We do not hold this information. You will need to contact schools directly.

Please see the link below:

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/directories/schools>

Schools (including academies) are considered under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to be public authorities in their own rights, and are subject to the FOIA in the same way as the council (albeit with different timescales to meet). It is therefore correct that the council does not hold this information, and that individual schools would need to be contacted.

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Information Management Team (FOI) London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.

