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Dear

Thank you for your email of 24 May in which you requested the following information:

In each of the past three full recruiting years for which information is available, how many junior soldiers started training at AFC Harrogate and how many of those were Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME)?

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and is shown in the following table:

Figures have been rounded to 10 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

"-" denotes zero, or rounded to zero.

p = Provisional

	Financial Year 14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18 ⁴
Total who started training	1,330	1,370	1,430	1,300 ^p
of which were BAME ²	50	30	30	40°
of which were No Value ³	10	40	-	90°

Source: Defence Statistics (Army)

Notes/Caveats:

1. The figures are for the Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves, but includes those personnel that have transferred from Gurkha Trained Adult Manpower to UK Trained Adult Population.

2. The ethnic breakdown is as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administrative system. BAME consists of personnel declaring themselves to be from the following ethnic groups: Any Chinese Background; Asian Bangladeshi; Asian Indian; Asian Pakistani; Black African; Black Caribbean; Mixed Asian & White; Mixed Black African & White; Mixed Black

Caribbean & White; Other Asian Background; Other Black Background; Other Ethnic Background; Other Mixed Ethnic Background.

3. The 'No Value' category consists of personnel who did not provide a response to the ethnicity question, therefore it is not possible to determine ethnicity of these personnel. Due to the implementation of DRS the 'no value' category has seen increasing numbers since 2017.

4. Due to the implementation of the Defence Recruitment System (DRS) all figures should be considered provisional and subject to review.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely,

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