



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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Ref 2018-11985

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[REDACTED]

19 October 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your email of 24 september 2018 in which you requested the following information:

Thank you very much for your reply. I wish however to have some more clarification on this marking scheme as I believe there has been some confusion.

You state that a minimum of 72 points is required for an officer. In this case, the student has gained 96 points just from Scottish Higher Qualifications alone, not even counting the Grade D of English. Counting the Higher English grade, which you say is 15 points, it brings the student to 111 points in total.

The Navy website states at least 5 GCSE's are required at Grades "A-C" (including Maths and English) to become a Naval Officer. Scottish Highers are well above the level of GCSE's and are more on par with English A levels. A grade "D" at Scottish Higher according to your table should, therefore, be accepted above the minimum requirement of a GCSE grade "A-C". From these documents, it shows a Scottish Higher grade "D" is equal in value to a GSCE level "B", or a "6" if counting as a new national numerical GCSE Grade.

Can you confirm then that a Scottish Higher grade "D" is indeed equal to a "B" at GSCE level, and hence above the minimum requirement of a GSCE A-C grade in English?

Your enquiry is being treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In response to your request I can confirm Scottish Higher Grade D is accepted as meeting the GCSE A* - C requirement as part of the Officer application process.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section