



Ministry  
of Defence

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Ref: Army/Sec/FOI2019/04535

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12 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 13 April in which you requested the following information:

*My Freedom of Information request concerns cadets and international students at RMA Sandhurst.*

*Could you please tell me how many cadets and students have been expelled since 2015 and provide me with the reason for expulsion in each case?*

*I understand the need to protect personal information but if you could provide me with the date, reason, rank and course on which the individual is studying I would be most grateful.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. The MOD requires further information in order to determine whether it holds any information within the scope of your request because the term "expelled" is not a recognised searchable term. Cadets are discharged for a number of reasons, non of which are recorded as being expelled. Please can you confirm what discharge reasons you are looking for in particular.

For further information about Administrative Action, the Army General Administration Instruction 67 (AGAI 67), can be accessed using this link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/492532/AGAI\\_067.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/492532/AGAI_067.pdf)

You may also find it useful to take a look at a previous FOI that was answered by the MOD in 2019 regarding a similar topic, see Annex A for details of the question.

Once you have clarified your request, I will be pleased to consider it again.

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](mailto: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,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Army Secretariat

*Could you please provide the number of personnel removed from training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst including, where the information exists, a breakdown of the reasons for their removal from training.*

*There is no requirement to include personnel who voluntarily withdrew from training, or those who were medically discharged, as my enquiry purely concerns personnel subject to disciplinary or administrative action.*

*In response to your request for my FOI request to be bound by time, could you please provide information for the period spanning 1 January 2009 to 1 January 2019.*

Discharge Reason	Calendar Year									
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Admin or Discipline	20	50	40	50	40	40	20	30	30	40

Notes/Caveats:

- Data has been provided by Defence Statistics (Army) but is estimated and recognised to be of poor quality, taken from the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) System. There may be more than one reason for discharge, and only the first reason recorded will come up on the search criteria. Some individuals had no discharge reason recorded on their JPA entry;
- The majority of reasons will be administrative action rather than discipline, but data quality is too poor to break down to a further level of granularity;
- Figures would not include any individuals who started and left within the same month, as this would not appear on searches. Data would include any individuals who have started and left on multiple occasions;
- Figures have been rounded to 10 for presentational purposes; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Under section 16 (Advice and Assistance), please be advised that further information about Administrative Action can be found in the Army General Administration Instruction 67 (AGAI 67), which can be accessed using this link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/492532/AGAI\\_067.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/492532/AGAI_067.pdf)