

## 22-01 – Law interview and CLT scores (2021 entry)

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am making this request regarding the assessment of applicants for undergraduate studies at Downing College, Cambridge.

Would it be possible to know:

- a) Average interview and CLT scores of successful applicants and
- b) The average interview and CLT scores of all candidates for law for 2021 entry?

### Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning average interview and CLT scores for applicants for Law 2021 entry. Please find these as follows.

- a) Average interview and CLT scores of successful applicants for Law, 2021 entry
  - Interview: 8.8 average
  - CLT: 7.4 average
- b) Average interview and CLT scores of all candidates for Law, 2021 entry
  - Interview: 6.9 average
  - CLT: 6.8 average

## 22-02 – British Muslim employees recruited since 2010

1. How many British Muslim employees have you recruited? Please provide figures for every year since 2010.
2. What is the average length of service?
3. How many British Muslims have you employed in communications/media roles since 2010?

### Initial Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning our staff recruitment and retention of British Muslims. Unfortunately, we do not have answers to your three questions as even where the question has been asked of applicants/staff, many people choose not to disclose their religion/belief. So we do not hold records to give you accurate figures.

### Further Response

Having discussed the relevant record keeping processes with our Head of HR, I can confirm that our original response, based on the view that the College does not hold the data in sufficient detail to answer your questions in a meaningful way, is correct. Please also be aware that Downing is a small community and where numbers of staff are fewer than five, we follow the ICO guidelines and do not provide an exact number in order to respect the personal data and privacy rights of our staff (section 40(2) exemption, personal information).

1. How many British Muslim employees have you recruited? Please provide figures for every year since 2010.  
[ANS: We do not hold data for the full time period that you specify. For the periods where we do hold applicant data \(2018-2021\) the answers to question related to religious background are mostly incomplete and so any answer would be inaccurate.](#)

2. What is the average length of service?

ANS: We cannot answer this question for reasons of insufficient/incomplete data as specified above.

3. How many British Muslims have you employed in communications/media roles since 2010?

ANS: Fewer than five people have been employed in communications/media roles since 2010 and due to small numbers we cannot confirm the religious background/beliefs of this group.

## 22-03 – Law admission statistics for 2022

I hereby submit a freedom of information request. I request answers to the following questions:

- (1) How many applicants were there for admission to Downing to read Law?
- (2) Of the applicants detailed in (1), how many were UK candidates?
- (3) Of these applicants detailed in (1), how many were international candidates?
- (4) How many applicants for admission to Downing to read Law were interviewed?
- (5) Of these applicants detailed in (4), how many were UK candidates?
- (6) Of these applicants detailed in (4), how many were international candidates?
- (7) How many applicants for admission to Downing to read Law were given offers?
- (8) How many applicants for admission to Downing to read Law from the UK were given offers?
- (9) How many applicants for admission to Downing to read Law from outside of the UK were given offers?
- (10) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law were conducted between 8.00 am (GMT) and 6.00 pm (GMT)?
- (11) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law of UK candidates were conducted between 8.00 am (GMT) and 6.00 pm (GMT)?
- (12) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law of international candidates were conducted between 8.00 am (GMT) and 6.00 pm (GMT)?
- (13) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law were conducted between 11.30 pm (GMT) and 4 am (GMT)?
- (14) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law of UK candidates were conducted between 11.00 pm (GMT) and 4.00 am (GMT)?
- (15) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law of international applicants conducted between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm in their home country?
- (16) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law of UK candidates were conducted between 11.00 pm and 4.00 am in their home country?
- (17) How many interviews for admission to Downing to read Law were delayed more than 45 minutes past their scheduled commencement time?

## Response

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request to Downing College concerning 2022 Law admissions.

Concerning your Fol request, please be advised that we would not be able to release this detailed information to you at this time as it is still part of the ongoing admissions cycle that is not expected to finish before August at the earliest. Downing considers that the disclosure of statistics, such as interview data, made within the current cycle would be likely to prejudice the notion of a fair and confidential admissions process which form a fundamental part of our mission as an educational institution. Therefore, we believe this information is currently exempt under section 36(2c) of the Act (prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs).

## 22-04 – Students admitted 2019-2021 by institution name and type

I would be grateful if you are able to provide me the following data under the Freedom of Information Act: The number of students admitted to your college, broken down by institution name that they applied from, as well as institution type (e.g. whether it was a secondary comprehensive, selective, Independent/private, sixth form/FE/tertiary, academy etc) for the 2022-2023, 2021-2022, 2020-2021, and 2019-2020 academic years.

### Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning UG admissions by institution name and institution type since 2019.

I can provide you with the following figures for institution type since 2019:

School type	2019	2020	2021
Comprehensive / Academy	30	25	28
EU	8	2	2
Grammar	24	27	33
Independent	37	50	35
Overseas	12	24	19
Tertiary /FE	3	1	4
Sixth Form College	13	13	5
Other	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>127</b>

Unfortunately, I cannot provide you with figures for 2022-23 admissions, as the current admissions cycle will not be completed before August at the earliest. I also cannot provide you with a list of the institutions as Downing is a small community and there is a risk that an individual could be identified from a list of school names (section 40(2) exemption, personal information). Please note, you can find additional statistical information for Cambridge University applications at [Application statistics | Undergraduate Study \(cam.ac.uk\)](https://www.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/admissions/statistics)

## 22-05 – Russian donations and grants

Please can you provide me with any information you have about donations (financial or in kind), research grants/funding and loans to your institution from the companies and individuals listed below, from the start of the 2016-17 academic year until your most recent records:

**Companies:** Gazprom; Gazprom Neft; Rossiya; Jenn Bank; General Bank; Promsvyazbank; the Black Sea Bank; Sberbank; Aquind; Rosneft; Lukoil; Novatek; Nornickel; Yandex; Polyus; Surgutneftegas.

**Individuals:** Boris Rotenberg; Igor Rotenberg; Gennady Timchenko; Lubov Chernukhin; Alexander Temerko; Dmitry Leus; Lev Mikheev.

Please provide this data in a spreadsheet detailing: the name of the donor; the amount of money/in kind benefit involved; the date of the transaction; and what the money/in kind benefit will be used for.

### Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning donations and grants. I can confirm that we have not received any donations (financial or in kind), research grants/funding or loans from the companies or individuals on the list you have provided.

## 22-06 – Russian donations and funding

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. I would like to request the following information:

(1) For the years 2017 - 2022, I would like to be provided with details on accepted donations (worth over £10,000), gifts (worth over £10,000), grants (worth over £10,000) and funding (worth over £10,000) that have come from Russian individuals, Russian companies, Russian charities, Russian government departments/agencies, and other Russian organisations.

For each donation, gift, grant and funding, I would like the following information:

- Provide the name of the Russian individual/company/charity/government department/agency/organisation that gave the donation/gift/grant/ funding
- The date the university accepted such donation, gift, grant and funding
- The sum and description of the accepted donation, gift, grant and funding
- A description of what the donation, gift, grant and funding was used for

(2) For the years 2017 - 2022, I would like to be provided with details on accepted donations (worth over £10,000), gifts (worth over £10,000), grants (worth over £10,000) and funding (worth over £10,000) that have come from Azerbaijan individuals, Azerbaijan companies, Azerbaijan charities, Azerbaijan government departments/agencies, and other Azerbaijan organisations.

For each donation, gift, grant and funding, I would like the following information:

- Provide the name of the Azerbaijan individual/company/charity/government department/agency/organisation that gave the donation/gift/grant/ funding
- The date the university accepted such donation, gift, grant and funding
- The sum and description of the accepted donation, gift, grant and funding
- A description of what the donation, gift, grant and funding was used for

(3) For the years 2017 - 2022, I would like to be provided with details on accepted donations (worth over £10,000), gifts (worth over £10,000), grants (worth over £10,000) and funding (worth over £10,000) that have come from Kazakhstan individuals, Kazakhstan companies, Kazakhstan charities, Kazakhstan government departments/agencies, and other Kazakhstan organisations.

For each donation, gift, grant and funding, I would like the following information:

- Provide the name of the Kazakhstan individual/company/charity/government department/agency/organisation that gave the donation/gift/grant/ funding
- The date the university accepted such donation, gift, grant and funding
- The sum and description of the accepted donation, gift, grant and funding
- A description of what the donation, gift, grant and funding was used for

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning donations, grants and funding from Russia, Kazakhstan or Azerbaijan. I can confirm that we have not received any donations, gifts, research grants or funding from these countries, or from any individuals from these countries for the years in question.

## 22-07 – High Table costs to the College since 2010

How much does High Table cost, i.e., the amount the College has spent on High Table each year? Please provide annual figures since 2010.

## Response

Further to your FoI request to Downing College, I can confirm the following costs for High Table based on attendance figures. Please note, we only hold records for the past five academic years.

High Table is broadly covered by Downing College Statute XXXVIII [Statutes and ordinances | Downing College Cambridge](#) which entitles Fellows “to eat in College free of charge for one meal on each day during Term and on days falling outside Term when the kitchens are open for the provision of meals to others”. One caveat when reading these attendance figures, they will include some social guests and Fellows have to pay for their own guests. Regretfully we do not have figures for social guests (just total attendance) so the actual costs borne by the College are somewhat lower than these data might suggest.

Academic year	Dinner charge	High Table attendance	Total
2016/17	£16.40	1148	£18,827.20
2017/18	£17.40	953	£16,582.20
2018/19	£17.90	736	£13,174.40
2019/20	£18.40	581	£10,690.40
2020/21	£18.90	34	£642.60

## 22-08 – Sponsorship or funding from Chinese organisations

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

1. The amount of money in sponsorship or funding given to your institution from universities, institutions, organisations or companies based in China per year
2. Ideally, I would like a breakdown of the information for each academic year over the last five years (from 2016/2017 to 2020/21)
3. I would also like a breakdown of the funding or sponsorship sources for each academic year
4. If you have data for the 2021/22 academic year you can provide this would also be helpful
5. I would prefer to receive all the information electronically.

## Response

Concerning your first question, I can confirm that we cannot find any records of receiving sponsorship or funding from any Chinese companies or organisations over the past five years. We do host the Beihang Summer School in collaboration with Beihang University where they pay for commercial services. On the course undergraduates from

Beihang visit Downing for two weeks and attend English language classes followed by a taught academic course for one week on a range of topics.

## 22-09 – Number of UK Black students admitted over the past 10 years

During the 10-year period 2008/2017 how many black UK undergraduates were admitted to Downing College?  
In the 3years ending November 2021 how many black UK undergraduates were admitted?

### Response

Further to your request, which we are answering under the Freedom of Information Act, I can advise figures as follows for students who identify as Black or Black British (African or Caribbean):

Black or Black British students admitted to Downing 2008-2017: 8

Black or Black British students admitted to Downing 2018-2021: 15

## 22-10 – Employment Practices 2022

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information relating to your employment practices. I would like to know the following:

1. As of April 2022, the exact lowest hourly wage paid by the college to permanent or temporary employees, over the age of 18, who are not trainees or apprentices, not including holiday pay.

ANS: £9.90 per hour

2. As of April 2022, the exact lowest hourly wage paid by the college to casual workers (including those on zero-hour contracts, if applicable), over the age of 18, who are not trainees or apprentices, not including holiday pay.

ANS: £9.50 per hour

3. As of April 2022, the number of workers (employees or casual workers), if any, in the college who are over the age of 18 and paid below £9.50 per hour.

ANS: Zero

4. As of April 2022, the percentage of workers (employees or casual workers) in the college in non-academic/administrative positions who are over the age of 18 and paid below £9.50 per hour.

ANS: 0%

5. The name(s) of any external employment agencies used to provide staff in the two years prior to April 2022.

ANS: We have used the following external employment agencies in the past two years

- Interaction Recruitment
- Select Hospitality
- Nurse Plus

6. If the college uses any external employment agencies to provide staff, the number of contracted staff who worked 2 or more hours a day, in any day of the week, for 12 or more consecutive weeks, in the year prior to April 2022, who were paid below £9.50 per hour.

ANS: We do not hold this information as contracted staff are paid by an agency.

## 22-11 – UG Economics application stats 2018-2021

My child is currently in year 12 and is planning to apply for Undergraduate economics degree course at Cambridge university. We have also visited Downing college and have been very impressed.

We would be highly grateful if you can share below information for Undergraduate economics degree applications (only) and offers for last 4 years (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021) preferably in an excel format.

1. Total number of applications and offers for UG Economics, by year
2. Total number of male v/s female applications and offers for UG Economics, by year
3. Total number of Home and Overseas applications and offers in UG Economics course, by year
4. Total number of 'Home' applications and offers split between Independent and Maintained students in UG Economics, by year.

I would be grateful if this information can be shared as soon as possible.

## Response

Thank you for your enquiry to Downing College which we are answering under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see the following table which I hope answers all your questions.

	2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Applications	Offers	Applications	Offers	Applications	Offers	Applications	Offers
<b>UG Economics Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>4</b>
Male	24	4	29	5	56	5	44	3
Female	9	2	13	2	23	0	19	1
Home*	14	4	21	7	58	3	46	4
Overseas	16	2	15	0	19	2	16	0
EU	3	0	6	0	2	0	1	0
*Independent schools	8	2	8	2	20	0	12	0
*Maintained schools	6	2	13	5	38	3	34	4

## 22-12 – Land Economy application stats 2018-2021

Good evening. I am interested in applying to the Land Economy Course at Downing. I will be an A-level applicant studying Maths and Sciences.

For the application cycles 2019, 2020 and 2021, may I know for each year,

- (1) how many applicants applied to the course and how many students studied A-levels?
- (2) For those students who received an offer for the course, how many of them studied A-levels?

## Response

Thank you for your enquiry to Downing College which we are answering under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Concerning your question about studying Land Economy, I can provide the answers as follows:

Land Economy	2019	2020	2021
<b>Applied:</b> total number	15	24	24
Number taking A Levels	11	17	15
<b>Offers:</b> total number	2	3	2
Number taking A Levels	1	2	2

## 22-13 – British Muslim employees recruited since 2010

1. How many British Muslims have you recruited since 2010?
2. How many have worked in events or communications roles?
3. How many have been paid Grade 5 or above?
4. How many of them were women?
5. How many were disabled?
6. How many were Pakistani?
7. How many were LGBTQ+?

### Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College which I note is similar in nature to your request in February 2022. Our internal processes have not changed in the interim period and so I find that our response from February remains pertinent to this latest request: we do not hold the data to answer questions 1 and 2 in sufficient detail and, subsequently, neither do we hold data to answer the associated questions 3-7.

Please refer to our FoI 2022 Disclosure Log (Ref 22-02) for our responses to this FoI request:  
[disclosure\\_log\\_2022\\_jan\\_april.pdf \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)

## 22-14 – Wine and port annual budgets 2017-2021

This is a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Could you please provide:

- 1) the college's annual budget for wine for the years 2017,2018,2019,2020, and 2021.
- 2) the college's annual budget for port for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021

### Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning money spent by the College on wine and port since 2017.

Please be advised that we purchase our alcohol from a wide range of suppliers and sometimes together with our non-alcoholic drinks. We also do not collect invoice figures broken down by specific beverages, so I am unable to provide you with answers to your questions. However, I can point you to some already published figures to give you a broad idea of the total money the College spent on alcohol each year since 2011.



Please refer to our published FoI Disclosure Log 2021, p.36-37 (Ref 21-48) for the details: [disclosure\\_log\\_jan\\_dec\\_2021.pdf\(cam.ac.uk\)](#). The equivalent figure for 2021 is £25,152.

## 22-15 – A100 Medicine BMAT scores 2022

I am a University Advisor based in Hong Kong, and I would like to inquire about the Medicine undergraduate course at Downing College, Cambridge for overseas/international students.

- 1) For 2022 entry, what is the minimum / average BMAT score for overseas applicants who were shortlisted for interviews?
- 2) For 2022 entry, what is the minimum / average BMAT score for overseas applicants who were made a conditional offer?

## Response

Thank you for your enquiry to Downing College concerning A100 Medicine, which we are answering under the Freedom of Information Act.

We are still finalising the admissions round for 2022, so I cannot provide you with any statistics about applications made within the current cycle (the Downing admissions round is completed by September) as it would be likely to prejudice the notion of a fair and confidential admissions process which form a fundamental part of our mission as an educational institution. Therefore, we believe this information is exempt under section 36(2c) (prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs). However, I am able to provide you with some admissions information for 2021 entry which I hope will be of interest.

1. Minimum BMAT scores (12 applicants) for overseas applicants listed for interviews:  
BMAT 1 = 5    BMAT 2 = 6    BMAT 3 = 3

Average BMAT scores (12 applicants) for overseas applicants listed for interviews:  
BMAT 1 = 6.5    BMAT 2 = 6.5    BMAT 3 = 3.4

2. As only one offer was made to an overseas candidate, I cannot provide you with their BMAT scores as it is their personal data.

## 22-16 – Employment practices in line with the Living Wage

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information relating to your employment practices. I would like to know the following:

[Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College. I have provided the answers to your questions below.](#)

1. As of August 2022, the exact lowest hourly wage paid by the college to permanent or temporary employees, over the age of 18, who are not trainees or apprentices, not including holiday pay or benefits.

[ANS: £9.90](#)

2. As of August 2022, the exact lowest hourly wage paid by the college to casual workers (including those on zero-hour contracts, if applicable), over the age of 18, who are not trainees or apprentices, not including holiday pay or benefits.

[ANS: £9.90](#)

3. As of August 2022, the number of workers (employees or casual workers), if any, in the college who are over the age of 18 and paid below £9.90 per hour.

ANS: Zero

4. As of August 2022, the number of workers (employees or casual workers), if any, in the college who are over the age of 18 and paid over £80,000 annually.

ANS: Fewer than five. For published details on trustees' salaries please see our latest Annual Report & Accounts p.90: [accounts\\_2021.pdf \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)

5. As of August 2022, the percentage of workers (employees or casual workers) in the college in non-academic/administrative positions who are over the age of 18 and paid below £9.90 per hour.

ANS: Zero percent

6. As of August 2022, is the college currently in the process of gaining accreditation from the Living Wage Foundation?

ANS: No

7. The Real Living Wage for 2022, set by the Living Wage Foundation, is set to be announced in September. What plans or timeline does the college have for increasing pay in line with this?

ANS: We intend to consider the new rate during our next pay review in 2023.

8. If the college uses any external employment agencies to provide staff, the number of contracted staff who worked 2 or more hours a day, in any day of the week, for 12 or more consecutive weeks, in the year prior to August 2022, who were paid below £9.90 per hour.

ANS: We do not hold this information as contracted staff are paid by an agency.

## 22-17 – Oil and gas company sponsorships and donations

This is a request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. I would like to request the following information:

For the calendar years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, I would like to be provided with details on accepted donations, gifts, grants, sponsorships, scholarships and funding (including research funding and teaching funding, as well as funding for staff and professorships) that have come from oil and gas companies. For each, I would like the following information:

- The name of the oil/gas company that gave the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship or funding
- The start and end date of the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship or funding if available
- The sum and description of the accepted donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship and funding
- A description of what the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship and funding was used for

If your records are held in such a way where it is difficult to search by sector (e.g. oil and gas), then I am happy to narrow the request to the following companies:

- BP
- Shell
- Saudi Aramco
- Gazprom
- Total

- Chevron
- Equinor / Statoil
- China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (SINOPEC)
- Eni
- Exxon
- ConocoPhillips
- PetroChina
- Rosneft
- Lukoil
- China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC)

## Response

Thank you for your FoI enquiry to Downing College concerning donations, gifts, grants, sponsorships, scholarships and any funding from oil and gas companies since 2017. I can confirm that we have not received any such monies from the list of oil and gas companies you have provided.

## 22-18 – G100 Admissions Information 2017-2021

I would like to request the following information for the G100 Mathematics/Maths with Physics course:

1. The number of applicants who were invited to interview at Downing during the 2022 application cycle. (Applicants applying in 2021 for entry in 2022 or deferred entry in 2023).
2. For the application cycles of 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 (following the above definition of application cycle), please can I find out:
  - a. The total number of conditional offer holders (applicants who had received an offer for G100 at Downing and had STEP as a condition of their offer) who took STEP.
  - b. The number of conditional offer holders (as defined above) who met the STEP condition of their offer.
  - c. The number of conditional offer holders (as defined above) who missed their STEP condition but were still admitted to Downing, or another college, for G100.
  - d. The number, if any, of students who were admitted to Downing for G100 through the August Reconsideration Pool.

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning G100 Admissions statistics for 2017 to 2021. I can provide answers to your questions as follows.

1. 18 applicants were invited to interview at Downing during the 2022 application cycle
2. For your questions a-d please see the following table. Please note, for question c) we can only provide statistics for students admitted to Downing College.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
a.	15	16	10	11	10
b.	3	2	5	3*	4
c.	1	2	1	1	0
d.	2	1	0	0	2

\*1 withdrew

## 22-19 – White male undergraduate stats for 2021 entry

Please provide the following information relating to undergraduate entry to the 2021/22 academic year (or the most recent year for which figures exist - please indicate the year).

1. The number (and percentage) of white male POLAR quintile 1 students admitted to the college.
2. A breakdown showing the undergraduate courses that these students were admitted to.
3. The number (and percentage) of white male IMD quintile 1 students admitted to the college.
4. A breakdown showing which undergraduate courses that these students were admitted to.
5. The number (and percentage) of white male students eligible for Free School Meals admitted to the college
6. A breakdown showing the undergraduate courses that these students were admitted on to.

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning white male undergraduates for 2021 entry. I can answer your questions as follows, but please note we don't hold records specifically for quintile 1, so answers for IMD quintile are for quintiles 1 and/or 2.

1. 0
2. N/A
3. 2
4. 1 Engineering, 1 Law
5. 0
6. N/A

## 22-20 – Student demographics and academic misconduct 2020-21

I would like to request the following information please. Where possible could this be provided in a spreadsheet:

Questions about student demographics:

1.1 In the final semester of the academic year 2020/2021 how many students in total (across all levels and modes of study) studied at your institution?

Of this total, please provide a breakdown by:

1.2 Nationality

1.3 Ethnicity

1.4 The number that were required to provide evidence of English Language competence to commence study due to international status.

1.5 Disability, as a total figure and where possible a breakdown of type, for example in the following format:

A No disability

B social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder

C Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses

D Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment

E Long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy

F Mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder

G Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D

H Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches

I Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

J Two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions

**Academic misconduct questions:**

Total number of referrals:

2.1 In the final semester of the academic year 2020/2021 how many students were referred for academic misconduct (institution wide)? If a student was referred more than once, please only count them once.

Of that number, please provide a breakdown (in numbers) by:

2.2 Nationality

2.3 Ethnicity

2.4 The number that were required to provide evidence of English Language competence to commence study due to international status.

2.5 Disability, as a total figure and where possible a breakdown of type, for example in the following format:

A No disability

B social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder

C Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses

D Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment

E Long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy

F Mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder

G Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D

H Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches

I Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

J Two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions

**Total cases proved / substantiated**

3.1. In the final semester of the academic year 2020/2021 how many student cases of academic misconduct (institution wide) were found proven/ substantiated? If a student was referred more than once, please only count them once.

Of that number, please provide a breakdown (in numbers) by:

3.2 Nationality

3.3 Ethnicity

3.4 The number that were required to provide evidence of English Language competence to commence study due to international status.

3.5 Disability, as a total figure and where possible a breakdown of type, for example in the following format:

A No disability

B Social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder

C Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses

D Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment

E Long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy

F Mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder

G Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D

H Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches

I Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

J Two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions

4. Does your institution use Turnitin to help staff identify cases of academic misconduct?

5. Does your institution give students access to Turnitin to help students understand academic misconduct prior to submission of work?

## Response

Thank you for your request to Downing College concerning student demographics and academic misconduct. Unfortunately, we are not able to provide the answers to your questions as Downing does not hold the full details you have requested of all students registered in the last term of any academic year, and only details are held for the first term of each academic year as these are reported to the College Education Committee. Therefore, concerning your questions, we only have information from the Michaelmas (first) Term about the nationality and ethnicity of our first-year undergraduates, but no answers to your other related questions. Concerning your questions 4 & 5, Turnitin is used by the University but not by the College.

## 22-21 – HSPS statistics for students applying in 2021

I would like to know how many people applied to Downing college for HSPS in 2021. I would then like to know how many of these were interviewed and offered a place. Lastly I would appreciate knowing the average grades of those who gained offers. Hope to hear from you soon.

## Response

Thank you for your request to Downing College concerning admission statistics for HSPS in 2021, including average grades for offer holders.

I can confirm that we had 71 applicants in 2021 for entry in 2022, and of those applicants 68 were interviewed and five offers were made. I cannot provide individual grades due to the low number of candidates, but I can confirm that for the four candidates who completed A-levels the average mode and median grade was A\*.

## 22-22 – Cost of student accommodation 2018-2023

I would like to make the following Freedom of Information request:

Please can you supply me with figures for the latest five academic years on the average cost of accommodation for undergraduates provided by the college.

Please provide figures for the academic years 2022/23, 2021/22, 2020/21, 2019/20, 2018/19.

Please provide the figures in terms of weekly rent. Please provide me with both the median and mean cost of accommodation, but if only one figure is available then please specify which you have used.

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning the weekly rental charge for our undergraduate students since 2018-19. Please note, we charge a fixed, all-inclusive Residence Charge with 'no hidden extras'. All electricity, heating, water, cleaning, maintenance, insurance, and network services are included in the Residence Charge. We do not charge a termly catering facilities charge.

I can provide you with the weekly average **mean** cost since 2018 as follows.

2018-19: £157.00

2019-20: £160.42  
2020-21: £164.25  
2021-22: £166.25  
2022-23: £170.58

The average current median weekly rent is £170. For further information concerning our fees and charges, and details about accommodation charges across the College, please visit our website at: [Fees and charges | Downing College Cambridge](#)

## 22-23 – Expenditure and fee income on the PGCE course

This is a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Could you please provide the following pieces of information:

- (1) The total amount of fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (2) The average amount of fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (3) The total amount of fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (4) The average amount of fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (5) The total amount of fee income received at the graduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (6) The average amount of fee income received at the graduate rate for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (7) The total amount of expenditure on teaching for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (8) The average amount of expenditure on teaching for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (9) The total amount of expenditure on tutorial for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (10) The average amount of expenditure on tutorial for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- (11) The total amount of expenditure within any other budget (including research, bursaries, and scholarships) for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022

(12) The average amount of expenditure within any other budget including (research, bursaries, and scholarships) for students taking a Postgraduate Certificate in Education for each of the academic years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning expenditure and fee income on the PGCE course. Unfortunately, the College does not hold the information for any of your questions.

Concerning fee information, Colleges do not receive fee income directly for PGCE students. Colleges receive tuition fee income for PGCE students through the “postgraduate fee agreement” with the University and do not receive such fees for individual students but as part of the overall postgraduate population of the University and the College. We suspect that you are instead after the total fee income to the University and the College (combined), and you should therefore approach the University of Cambridge for this information.

Concerning expenditure on teaching, we have interpreted the term “teaching” to mean direct teaching, placements and assessments for the PGCE course, which is provided by the University of Cambridge and its Faculty of Education, and not by the College. Please therefore approach the University of Cambridge for this information.

Concerning your questions 9-12, please be advised the College does not disaggregate expenditure on such advice to a level of individual students or courses, so there is no credible basis on which we can answer these questions.

## 22-24 – Public access to the College

This is a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Could you please provide the following:

1) A list of all college sites and facilities which are freely accessible to the general public (non-college members) without cost, keycard or permission from porters, and, for each of these facilities, the hours in which they are accessible.

ANS: The College grounds open daily between 6am – 8pm daily. The Heong Art Gallery opens Wednesday – Sunday 12-5pm.

2) A list of college sites and facilities which are accessible to the general public at a cost.

ANS: None.

And answer the following questions:

3) Have the conditions of access for members of the public for the Downing College site, changed since 2019? If so, when did they change?

ANS: The College was closed during the Covid-19 pandemic, otherwise access hasn't changed.

4) Does the college run events to which the general public are invited? If so, how are these events promoted?

ANS: Downing College is part of the University of Cambridge, and our focus is giving our students the very best educational opportunities with the facilities and the teaching to help them reach their goals. We do occasionally offer musical or dramatic performances in the Howard Theatre which are offered on a ticketed basis to members of the public. These events are promoted via the College social media channels and via posters in the local areas.



## 22-25 – Pest infestations in students' rooms since 2018

I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act. The information I request is regarding student accommodation provided by your college to students.

Q1) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), how many reports of bed bug infestations have been made to your College?

ANS: None in the last three academic years.

Q1b) What is the life cycle of mattresses given to students?

ANS: On average about five years.

Q2) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), how many mattresses were treated and how many were discarded as a result of bed bug infestations?

ANS: None in the last three academic years.

Q3) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), how many reports did the College receive of cockroach infestations?

ANS: None in the last three academic years.

Q4) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), how many reports did the College receive of rodents being seen/found in student accommodation?

ANS: In 2018-19 we had one report of a mouse, in 2019-20 we had one report of a rat, and in 2020-21 we had one report of a rat.

Q5) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), please provide details of any other pest infestations reported to the College such as ants?

ANS: In 2018-19 there were three reports of ants in College accommodation, seven reports of wasps, two reports of cockroaches and one report of moth. In 2019-20 there were four reports of ants in College accommodation. In 2020-21 we had six reports of wasps, one report of ants, five reports of moth, and one report of flies.

Q6) For each of the last three academic years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21), how many reports of damp in student accommodation were made?

ANS: We have no record of damp in student accommodation during the past three academic years.

Q7) What other pests were reported in accommodation you provide to students?

ANS: None

## 22-26 – Donations from Mining Companies since 2017

This is a request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. I would like to request the following information:

For the calendar years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, I would like to be provided with details on accepted donations, gifts, grants, sponsorships, scholarships and funding (including research funding and teaching funding, as well as funding for university staff and professorships) that have come from mining companies. For each, I would like the following information:

- The name of the mining company that gave the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship or funding

- The start and end date of the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship or funding if available
- The sum and description of the accepted donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship and funding
- A description of what the donation, gift, grant, sponsorship, scholarship and funding was used for

If your records are held in such a way where it is difficult to search by sector (e.g. mining), then I am happy to narrow the request to the following companies:

BHP / BHP Billiton  
Rio Tinto  
Anglo American  
Glencore

## Response

Thank you for your EiR enquiry to Downing College concerning donations, gifts, grants, sponsorships, scholarships and any funding from mining companies since 2017. I can confirm that we have not received any such monies from the list of companies you have provided.

## 22-27 – Personal statements when applying for A100 Medicine

Please could you respond (by email) to the below freedom of information requests:

1. Please specify the weighting given to UCAS Personal Statements in admissions decisions for:

Course name: MB Standard Course in Medicine  
Course code: A100

2. Please state the criteria that admissions staff use when assessing UCAS Personal Statements of candidates applying for:

Course name: MB Standard Course in Medicine  
Course code: A100

## Response

Thank you for your FoI request to Downing College concerning UCAS personal statement when applying for A100 Medicine. I am pleased to provide the following information.

Firstly, please look at the YouTube channel for Downing College and for Discover Downing where we have uploaded a range of resources which address these questions. These include a detailed workshop on how to prepare your personal statement and what to expect at interviews. We also have uploaded a range of videos from interviewers which provide information about what they are looking for, as well as examples of mock interviews: [Downing College - YouTube](#) and <https://www.youtube.com/@discoverdowning8595>. Furthermore, general information concerning personal statement can be found on our website at [Personal statements | Downing College Cambridge](#).

Concerning your two questions, please be advised we look at a number of factors when reviewing applications. These include the personal statement, school reference, test scores, academic achievements to date, extenuating circumstances, and other factors such as performance at interview. All of these are given careful consideration and no one aspect is given more weighting than any other; each application is considered on an individual basis taking into consideration all aspects of the applicant's information. The key things we look for in a personal statement are

evidence of motivation and suitability for the course. This would include any extra-curricular activities they have done to help develop their broader understanding of the subject area, and how this has led to their decision to want to study Medicine at Downing. I hope this helps answer your questions.