

FOI (2) Statistics re: Age of DSA Recipients

- statistical details for all subsequent years showing whether (for each year) those receiving DSA were more likely to be older than non-DSA students, and whether (broken-down year-by-year) the older age groups continued to show the largest increases.

Response

Table 1: Number of supported students and mean age for DSA recipients, non-DSA recipients and all supported students from 2007/08 to 2016/17

Academic Year		DSA	Excluding DSA	All students
2007/08	Number	3,625	118,880	122,505
	Mean age	25	22	22
2008/09	Number	4,065	120,775	124,845
	Mean age	25	22	22
2009/10	Number	4,275	126,405	130,680
	Mean age	25	22	22
2010/11	Number	4,435	128,740	133,175
	Mean age	25	22	22
2011/12	Number	4,495	129,495	133,990
	Mean age	25	22	22
2012/13	Number	4,045	131,330	135,375
	Mean age	25	21	22
2013/14	Number	4,265	133,010	137,270
	Mean age	24	23	22
2014/15	Number	4,270	135,100	139,370
	Mean age	24	22	22
2015/16	Number	4,355	136,645	141,000
	Mean age	24	22	22
2016/17	Number	4,415	138,700	143,110

	Mean age	24	22	22
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Information on disability is only captured for those students claiming DSA support from SAAS. The nature and severity of the disability is Based on an assessment of needs by a relevant qualified person, and may not reflect the disability type the student submits as part of their Original application. There are many students in Higher Education who may be sufficiently supported through their college or university and therefore, Do not need to claim DSA. There are others who, for a variety of reasons, chosen not to disclose their disability. There may also be students Who are not eligible to claim DSA from SAAS but who are being supported through another funding body and/ or their college or university. Therefore, The number of students with disabilities in Higher Education may be higher than the number recorded in the tables.

Table 2: Percentage composition of DSA recipients by age band from 2007/08 to 2016/17

Academic Year	Under 18	18-21	21-25	25+
2007/08	6%	39%	22%	32%
2008/09	6%	38%	24%	32%
2009/10	6%	39%	24%	31%
2010/11	5%	38%	24%	33%
2011/12	5%	37%	24%	33%
2012/13	5%	39%	24%	32%
2013/14	6%	41%	24%	28%
2014/15	5%	43%	26%	26%
2015/16	6%	43%	26%	25%
2016/17	6%	43%	26%	26%