

Request

Sent: 27 April 2026 16:05

Subject: Navigating Neurodivergence Research: FOI requests

Please provide the following anonymised data for the past 10 academic years (2015/16 to 2024/25), or as far back as records allow:

1. Enrolment Data

Application and enrolment numbers for students with Autism, ADHD, and Dyslexia. Separated into these three main categories of need.

- Data for each need disaggregated by:
 - ❖ Subject discipline (e.g., course or department)
 - ❖ UCAS tariff (entry points)
 - ❖ Level of study
 - ❖ Age of student

2. Support Provision

- Types of academic and pastoral support offered to neurodivergent students and if they are utilising the support. (e.g., mentoring, assistive technology, study skills support) by category of need.

3. Retention and Outcomes

- Dropout/withdrawal rates for students (by category of need) disclosing Autism, ADHD, or Dyslexia etc, compared to overall student population.
- Student satisfaction scores and complaints related to disability or SEND services.

If possible, please supply the data in an electronic format (Excel or CSV preferred). Where data is not available for the full period, please indicate the years for which data is provided. If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please advise on how it can be refined.

Our Ref: FOIA274

Your Ref: N/A

Date: 15th May 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST (FOI): “Neurodivergent Students in Higher Education”

Thank you for your request for information, which we have handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Any further correspondence regarding this should be addressed to FOI@rnngroup.ac.uk.

Please note that we will be providing a response on behalf of the RNN Group as a whole, rather than any individual college or organisation within the Group.

The RNN Group main centres of operations are located at the following sites:

Site Name	Address
Rotherham College	Eastwood Lane, Rotherham. S65 1EG
North Nottinghamshire College	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Dinnington Campus	SITE NO LONGER IN OPERATION*
Dearne Valley College	Wath upon Dearne, Swinton. S63 7EW
University Centre Rotherham	Doncaster Gate, Rotherham. S65 1DJ
RNN Training	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Idle Valley Rural Centre	North Road, Retford. DN22 8SG
Construction Centre Rotherham	Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham. S60 1RU
Skills Centre Shireoaks	SITE NO LONGER IN OPERATION*
National Fluid Power Centre	Carlton Road, Worksop. S81 7HP
Create Skills Ltd	SUBSIDIARY COMPANY CEASED TRADING*
Charnwood Training	SUBSIDIARY COMPANY CEASED TRADING*
Aston Recruitment & Training	NO LONGER OWNED BY THE RNN GROUP*
Rotherham Education Services	Eastwood Lane, Rotherham. S65 1EG
Retford Post 16 Centre	Old Hall Drive, Retford. DN22 7EA
Nottinghamshire Children & Family Partnership	PARTNERSHIP HAS CEASED*

*Data from these sites have been re-located to other centres within the RNN Group, and if applicable, have formed part of the search for the information requested.



Attached and below is the information you requested.

Data disclosure and small numbers (Section 40 – Personal Data)

Where figures on the attached spreadsheet are reported as “<5”, this is to prevent the identification of individual students. Due to the relatively small cohort sizes within certain categories, providing exact figures below this threshold could risk individuals being identifiable when combined with other data.

We have therefore applied an exemption under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Personal Data). Disclosure of this information would contravene the data protection principles set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, specifically the requirement to ensure personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and transparently.

Terminology recorded

Please note that we do not record all of the categories specified in your request. Our systems currently capture data for Autism Spectrum Disorder and Dyslexia, but do not separately record ADHD as a distinct category. As such, we are unable to provide data for ADHD.

Support provision (Question 2)

Support for students is not recorded or reported by individual category of need (e.g. Autism, Dyslexia). Instead, our Additional Learning Support (ALS) team assesses each student on an individual basis, and support is tailored to meet their specific requirements.

In general, the support available includes:

In-class support (e.g. note taking, reading, scribing, organisation, and comprehension support)

Support outside of class (e.g. transitions, breaks, movement around site, and personal care)

Assistive technology and equipment (e.g. specialist software, laptops, and reading pens)

Mentoring and wellbeing support, including referrals to external services

Exam access arrangements, where required

Additional English and Maths support

Risk assessments and medical support planning (including PEEPs where applicable)

Access to specialist external services (e.g. Educational Psychologists and sensory impairment teams)

This support is provided based on individual assessed need rather than diagnostic category, and therefore cannot be broken down as requested.

Please also note that support provision is subject to available funding and external agency input where applicable.

Please note, whilst you have exercised your right to information under FOI, the RNN Group may not release some data it has on record. For example, if it contains personal details of individuals or if other exemptions apply, as detailed within the FOI legislation. See the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) website for further details as to what this means to you and the request you have made:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/what-to-expect-after-making-an-information-request/>

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA, and in keeping with the RNN Group's transparency agenda, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. Therefore, the information released to you may now be published on the Group's website at www.rnngroup.co.uk/IG together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. Please note that this will not include your personal data.

Attached is Appendix A, giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received from the RNN Group in regards to this FOI request.

If you have any queries about this letter then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

The RNN Group Information Governance and Assurance Team

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Appendix A

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under chapter 36, part 1, section 17 (7) of the Freedom of Information Act or under chapter 12, part 6, section 165 of the Data Protection Act (Article 57(1)(f) and (2) and 77 of the General Data Protection Regulations), within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

A copy of our complaints process can be found on the RNN Group website by following the link below and selecting the Feedback and Complaints section:
<https://www.rnngroup.co.uk/IG>

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review of your complaint, the DPA gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted the RNN Group's own complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Enrolments		Year					Applications		Year					Withdrawals HE Only		Year				
Curriculum Area		21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	Curriculum Area		21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	Category	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	
Art & Design						Art & Design						Autism spectrum disorder		<5	7	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder						Dyslexia		9	7	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	8	<5	<5		
Performing Arts & Music						Performing Arts & Music								<5	<5	6	<5	<5	<5	
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								8	12	12	10			
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	5	8	12		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Digital Media & Photography						Digital Media & Photography								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								6	<5	11	13			
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	8	5	15	16		
Computing						Computing								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	8	9			
<21						<21								5	6	18	22	33		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	6	12	17		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	17		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Hair & Beauty Therapy						Hair & Beauty Therapy								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								7	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Engineering						Engineering								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Health						Health								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	9	12			
<21						<21								<5	11	8	5	15		
21-24						21-24								<5	10	8	10	8		
30+						30+								5	10	12	5			
Childcare						Childcare								21	14	31	29	5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								5	<5	5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								5	<5	5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Business						Business								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Teacher Education						Teacher Education								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	5	<5	6			
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	12	<5	<5		
30+						30+								5	<5	12	<5	<5		
Futures/Progression Routes						Futures/Progression Routes								9	8	<5	9	12		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								11	6	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	6	<5	<5		
Sport & Public Services						Sport & Public Services								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Travel & Retail						Travel & Retail								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
C21 - RNN Training						C21 - RNN Training								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
<21						<21								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
21-24						21-24								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
30+						30+								<5	<5	<5	<5	<5		
Grand Total						Grand Total								95	107	96	140	154	592	
Autism spectrum disorder						Autism spectrum disorder								258	284	281	307	208	1338	
Dyslexia						Dyslexia								353	391	377	447	362	1930	