ACT Government
Education

File Ref: FILE2026/15943

[redacted]

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the FOI Act), received by the Education Directorate (the Directorate) on 24 August 2026, in which you sought access to:

> *Records identifying:*
>
> 1. *The number of gifted and talented programs currently operating in ACT public schools*
> 2. *The gender split for participants in those programs*
> 3. *The gender split for staff working in those programs*

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General under section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the FOI Act.

In accordance with section 40 of the FOI Act, the Directorate was required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 working days of receipt, being 6 October 2026.

Decision

A search of Directorate records has failed to identify any records relevant to your request. Following enquiries with the relevant business areas, it was confirmed that the information sought is not held centrally by the Directorate. It would be impractical for the FOI team to contact all ACT public schools to obtain relevant information currently held by them and any information gathered would not provide the complete dataset you are seeking.

I am satisfied that appropriate searches have been undertaken and, in accordance with section 35(1)(b) of the FOI Act, my decision is that the information sought is not held by the Directorate.

Charges
Processing charges are not applicable for this request because no information has been located.

Online publishing – disclosure log
Under section 28 of the FOI Act, the Directorate maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Information about your request, my decision and records released to you in response to your access application will be published in the Directorate's disclosure log between three and 10 working days after a decision on access has been provided to you. Your personal information will not be published.

You may view the Directorate's disclosure log at www.act.gov.au/open/foi-disclosure-logs/education-foi-disclosure-logs.

Review of decision
Ombudsman review
My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the FOI Act within 20 working days from the day my decision is provided to you, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review
Under section 84 of the FOI Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision.

Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Allara House, 15 Constitution Ave
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
http://www.acat.act.gov.au/

If you have any questions concerning the Directorate's processing of your request, please contact the Directorate's FOI team on 02 6205 0720 or email EducationFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Paula Murray
Information Officer

4 September 2026