



Educate  
Together  
Academy  
Trust

# Data Protection and Freedom of Information Policy

<b>Approval by:</b>	Finance and Resources Committee
<b>Date of approval:</b>	June 2026
<b>Review date:</b>	June 2028

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of changes</b>	<b>Author</b>
22.1	Sept 22		HR
23.1	January 2023		Data & Systems Officer
25.1	March 2025	Addition of appropriate policy document for special category data processing, all appendices reconfigured to bring them up to date with current processes, some rewording of section to aid clarity.	Data and Systems Officer
26.1	June 2026	Added Section 12: Data protection complaints to comply with the requirements of the Data Use and Access Act 2025	Data and Systems Officer

# Educate Together Academy Trust – DATA PROTECTION

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Everyone has rights with regard to the way in which their personal data is handled. During the course of our activities as a [Trust/Academy/School] we will collect, store and process personal data about our students, workforce, parents and others. This makes us a data controller in relation to that personal data.

We are committed to the protection of all personal data and special category personal data for which we are the data controller.

The law imposes significant fines and reputational penalties for failing to lawfully process and safeguard personal data and failure to comply with this policy may result in penalties being applied.

All members of our workforce must comply with this policy when processing personal data on our behalf. Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary or other action.

## 2. ABOUT THIS POLICY

The types of personal data that we may be required to handle include information about students, parents, our workforce (including staff, volunteers and governors) and others that we deal with. The personal data which we hold is subject to certain legal safeguards specified in the UK General Data Protection Regulation ('UK GDPR'), the Data Protection Act 2018, and other regulations (together 'Data Protection legislation').

This policy and any other documents referred to in it set out the basis on which we will process any personal data we collect from data subjects, or that is provided to us by data subjects or other sources.

This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and may be amended at any time.

This policy sets out rules on data protection and the legal conditions that must be satisfied when we process personal data.

## 3. DEFINITION OF DATA PROTECTION TERMS

A list of definitions is included in Appendix 1.1 to this policy

## 4. DATA PROTECTION OFFICER

Educate Together Academy Trust has appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO) who is responsible for monitoring our compliance with Data Protection laws, informing and advising on our data protection obligations, providing advice regarding Data Protection Impact Assessments and acting as the primary point of contact for Data Subjects and the Information Commissioner's Office.

Our DPO is Amy Brittan and can be contacted using the following email address – [dposchools@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dposchools@somerset.gov.uk).

In addition, the Trust employs a Data Protection Lead, Nicki Crossley, who works with the DPO in relation to some data protection functions and other day to day matters. Our Data Protection Lead can be contacted on the following email address: [gdpr@educatetogether.org.uk](mailto:gdpr@educatetogether.org.uk)

**Please see Appendix 3 for an explanation of the role of the DPO and the DPL**

## 5. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EDUCATE TOGETHER ACADEMY TRUST

The Trust is committed to protecting and respecting the confidentiality of sensitive information relating to staff, students, parents and governors. The Trust will:

- a) Follow the key principles of Data Protection legislation including the 6+1 principles of UK GDPR
- b) register with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO)
- c) keep an up-to-date Data Asset Audit which lists all known uses of personal data in the Trust including the lawful basis for processing under Data Protection legislation, who it is shared with, where it is stored (including transfer out of the UK) and how long it is retained for.
- d) verify that all systems that involve personal data or confidential information will be examined to see that they meet Data Protection regulations (see **paragraph 10 Data security**)
- e) inform all users about their rights regarding data protection;
- f) ensure all staff complete regular data protection training
- g) ensure that staff complete regular cyber security training, including the training from the National Cyber Security Centre <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/cyber-security-training-schools>
- h) monitor its data protection and information security processes on a regular basis, changing practices if necessary (see **paragraph 10 Data security**)

## 6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAFF, GOVERNORS AND VOLUNTEERS

All staff, governors and volunteers are responsible for checking that any information that they provide to the Trust and its schools is accurate and up to date.

Staff, governors and volunteers will complete regular data protection training as defined by the Trust

All staff are responsible for ensuring that any personal data they use in the process of completing their role:

- a) is not in the view of others who do not have the authority to view the data;
- b) is kept securely in a locked cabinet when not being used;
- c) is stored on a secure local or network drive;
- d) if on a school PC, laptop, or device, that the device is locked when the staff member is away from it;
- e) that passwords for school systems are not shared with other staff members or students;

- f) if kept on removable storage (laptop, tablet, USB memory stick) approved by the school, that this is password protected and encrypted. The data held on these devices must be backed up regularly to the school network and this is the responsibility of the individual;
- g) is not disclosed to any unauthorised third party (this includes verbal disclosures of confidential information)
- h) is assessed and approved by the Senior Leadership Team or the Data Protection Lead with advice from the DPO (see **Appendix 4 Data Protection Impact Assessment**) if used within an app, webservice or other application.

Staff, governors and volunteers should follow the security measures set out in the paragraph 10 Data security ~~section of this policy~~.

Staff will report any loss, theft or mishandling of personal data promptly to the Data Protection Lead.

Staff should note that unauthorised disclosure or transgression of the above statements or security measures ~~in~~ may result in disciplinary or other action.

Staff and Governors should ensure that they use the email address provided by the Trust for **only** school-related business and communication. All communication remains the property of the Trust and may be disclosed as part of a Subject Access Request (**see Appendix 5**)

If using a personal device to access school emails, the staff member / governor will take care not to download any personal information about students or other staff to their personal device, and respond to emails within the email app.

Staff and Governors will follow the email retention policy as laid out in paragraph 12 Data retention policy including Records Management.

When Staff and Governors leave the Trust, they are required to hand over all personal data belonging to other students or staff. They must not remove any personal data without the permission of the Trust. Taking personal data with no lawful basis may be a criminal offence.

## 7. INFORMING PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND SEEKING CONSENT

The Trust will inform the Parents/Guardians of the importance of the personal data the Trust uses and the importance of keeping this up to date. This process will include reminders to update personal information on the Parent Portal of Arbor (the current Management Information System).

Consent will be sought regarding matters of non-statutory use of personal data such as the use of images and names in publicity materials, upon induction or when required. The returns to these permissions will be recorded and exemptions communicated to staff.

In relation to all primary aged students, we will seek consent from an individual with parental responsibility for that student.

If consent is required for any other processing of personal data of any data subject, then the form of this consent must:

- a. inform the data subject of exactly what we intend to do with their personal data
- b. require them to positively confirm that they consent – we cannot ask them to opt-out rather than opt-in
- c. inform the data subject of how they can withdraw their consent.

- d. Any consent must be freely given, which means that we cannot make the provision of any goods or services or other matter conditional on a data subject giving their consent.

The DPO must always be consulted in relation to any consent form before consent is obtained.

A record must always be kept of any consent, including how it was obtained and when.

## 8. RIGHTS OF THE DATA SUBJECT

All people having personal data stored by the Trust have the right to:

- a) obtain from the Trust confirmation if personal data concerning him or her (or their child) is being processed
- b) Where this is the case, have a copy of the personal data and the following information:
  - i. the purposes of the processing
  - ii. the third parties that the data will be shared with
  - iii. the period for which the personal data will be stored
  - iv. the existence of the right to request from the school to correct, erase or restrict processing of personal data if the data can be proved to be incorrectly held
  - v. the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority
  - vi. where the personal data is not collected from the data subject, any available information as to its source.
- c) if exemptions are placed on any of the data above, because of safeguarding or other issues, the existence of this data will be declared.

The individual school will place on its website a Privacy Notice regarding the personal data held about students and why it is processed. Privacy Notices for workforce and governors will be distributed to data subjects and be held on the school network. These will be based on the DfE's privacy notices here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-protection-and-privacy-privacy-notices>

Access to the data is called a Subject Access Request. Any person who wishes to exercise this right (or their parental right) should make a request (which does not need to be in writing) and submit it to the Headteacher. The process for dealing with a Subject Access Request is outlined in **Appendix 5**.

The Trust aims to comply with requests for access to personal information as quickly as possible and in accordance with advice from the ICO and other professional agencies.

For further information on how the Trust upholds the rights of the data subject please see **Appendix 1.2**

## 9. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST POLICY

The Board of Trustees of Educate Together Academy Trust is committed to openness and transparency and this policy sets out the procedures and obligations on the Trust when a Freedom of Information request is received.

The Freedom of Information Act allows anyone to request information without giving a reason. However, the request must state the name and address of the person as well as what information they are seeking. When a request is received this will be considered and the information, if held, will be provided unless one of the exemptions in the Act applies.

**Making requests:** Requests for information should be made clear and addressed to the Data Protection Lead at the following addresses:

Educate Together Academy Trust,  
Avonvale Road,  
Redfield,  
Bristol  
BS5 9RH  
Email: gdpr@educatetogether.org.uk

**Responding to requests:** Any request made to Educate Together Academy Trust or any of its schools will be complied with in accordance with the time limits in the Act. For schools, this is 20 school days (i.e. not including weekends, holidays or school closure days) or 60 working days if this is shorter. The school will inform the DPO of the request.

**Charges:** Educate Together Academy Trust will respond to most requests free of charge, and only charge where significant costs are incurred. The school may choose to charge a fee for complying with requests for information under FOI. The fees will be calculated according to FOI regulations and the person notified of the charge before information is supplied. Educate Together Academy Trust reserve the right to refuse to supply information where the cost of doing so exceeds the statutory maximum.

**Exemptions:** Whenever a request for information is received it will be reviewed with consideration given to whether one of the exemptions set out in the Act applies. Common exemptions include the data protection of others, confidentiality, the request going beyond the costs limit and prejudice being caused to the effective conduct of public affairs. There are other exemptions that may also be relevant. Where an exemption is being relied on to prevent disclosure of information, we would inform you that this is the case in our refusal notice.

**Publication scheme:** Educate Together Academy Trust has adopted the Information Commissioner's model publication scheme and explanatory note, stating what information can be accessed and the process for accessing information. The publication scheme and explanatory note can be found on the Trust website.

**Complaints:** Anyone who has made an FOI request to the Educate Together Academy Trust and who is not happy with the response that has been received can have an internal review of how their request has been handled. This will be generally carried out by a senior member of staff who was not involved in the initial request response. If a requester wishes to have an internal review, this should be requested within two months of the initial decision being communicated. Once an internal review request is received, we aim to conclude the review and communicate the outcome of this within 20 school days. Following an internal review, if the requester is still not happy with the response, they have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.

The process and record keeping for FOI requests is given in **Appendix 6**.

## 10. DATA SECURITY

The Trust will take appropriate security measures against unlawful or unauthorised processing of personal data, and against the accidental loss of, or damage to, personal data.

The Trust will put in place procedures and technologies to maintain the security of all personal data from the point of collection to the point of destruction.

Security procedures include:

- a) **Entry controls.** Any stranger seen in entry-controlled areas should be reported to a member of SLT
- b) **Staff network and software permissions.** Staff will only have the level of permissions required for their role. When staff leave the Trust all their permissions and accounts will be deleted.
- c) **Data walks.** The Data Protection Lead and governor conduct an annual data walk to assess the risk of data loss around the school, including physical security. The record of the walk and findings forms part of our monitoring documentation.
- d) **Data on display.** All personal data on display has been assessed for risk and minimised where necessary. Consent has been sought for display where we do not have a legal, public interest, or legitimate interest in displaying the personal data.
- e) **Secure lockable desks and cupboards.** Desks and cupboards should be kept locked if they hold confidential information of any kind, or information which would cause distress or harm if it were disclosed.
- f) **Privacy Data Protection Impact Assessments.** In line with Data Protection legislation, the Trust will carry out a ~~Privacy~~ Data Protection Impact Assessment when using software or online tools which may, if breached, cause harm to the rights and freedoms of individuals. These risk assessments will be carried out with the support of the DPO (see **Appendix 4 Privacy Data Protection Impact Assessment**) The risk of data being transferred in and out of the UK will also be assessed.
- g) **Methods of disposal.** Paper documents are disposed of in confidential waste bins. Digital storage devices will be reset once no longer required. IT assets are disposed of in accordance with the ICO's guidance on the disposal of IT assets.
- h) **Data retention.** To minimise the risk of data being lost or mishandled, we will not retain data including emails any longer than is required by law or where there is a business need. **See paragraph 12 Data retention policy.**
- i) **Equipment.** Staff must ensure that individual monitors do not show confidential information to passers-by and that they log off from their device when it is left unattended.
- j) **Working away from the school premises – paper documents.**  
*Staff are permitted to take children's work/exercise books home, ensuring that they are stored safely, e.g. when in transit, car doors to be locked if leaving vehicle. Staff are discouraged to take home documentation such as SEND reports, but on occasion this may be necessary. When necessary, such documentation should be stored securely so they cannot be seen. e.g. through a car window. All staff are responsible for the safe handling of pupil personal data when taken off-site and any loss or disclosure to third parties must be reported to the school data protection lead as soon as possible*
- k) **Working away from the school premises – electronic working.**  
*Staff are encouraged to access electronic documents via remote secure home access. Use of personal devices should be kept to a minimum, with Trust issued devices used instead. If a personal device is used, staff should follow the Acceptable User Agreement protocols. If staff believe pupil personal data may have been disclosed to third parties, this must be reported to the school data protection lead as soon as possible.*
- l) **Document printing.** Documents containing personal data must be collected immediately from printers and not left on photocopiers.

Specific cybersecurity measures include:

- a) **In the event of a cyberattack** staff must follow the Trust procedure as detailed in the Cyber Response Plan. The device should be turned off and not connected to the school network until it has been checked by the IT technician. If systems are infected, the Trust and its schools will follow the Business Continuity Plan and inform the school's technical support and Action Fraud. If personal data has been accessed, disclosed or is irretrievable, the Trust will follow the Data Breach procedure in Section 11.
- b) **Password security.** Passwords must be complex and not repeated. Passwords will not be shared with any other user.

- c) **Admin password security.** The Trust will retain all high-level login details for their systems including administrator passwords for the network, wireless connections, anti-virus, remote learning systems.
- d) **Permissions.** User access to systems will be regularly reviewed and access will be removed or downgraded when no longer required e.g. when a user has left the Trust. All access will be reviewed annually as part of end of year tasks.
- e) **Anti-virus and firewall protection.** The Trust will have appropriate systems in place to protect against cyberattack, ransomware and compromised accounts. This will be annually checked.
- f) **Encryption.** All devices that have access to data attached to the network are fully encrypted in line with current guidance.
- g) **Personal devices.** Personal devices may connect to the network with SLT permission but in full compliance with the ICT policies and this permission may be withdrawn at any time. The Trusts technical support will inform the owner/user that if a mobile device connects to the internet connection, then the device's online activity will be monitored and logged by the School's Internet Service Provider.
- h) **Back-ups.** Information including data in the school Management Information Systems and the school network drives is backed up at one of the Trust sites at regular intervals determined by the school's technical support. The Trusts technical support will carry out annual testing of the back-ups to ensure that information can be restored in the event of the systems being compromised.
- i) **Staff cybersecurity training.** Staff will complete the [National Cyber Security Centre's online training module](#) to increase awareness of possible risk. This will be part of induction for new staff and a requirement for existing staff.
- j) **Acceptable User Policies.** Staff and learners will sign and follow the Trust's appropriate Acceptable Use Policies. The Trust's technical support will sign and follow the specific AUP for technicians.

Any member of staff found to be in breach of the security measures may be subject to disciplinary action.

## 11. DATA BREACHES

If there is a data breach the Trust will inform the DPO who will then advise on any actions to be taken.

Any data breaches will be recorded, comprising the facts relating to the personal data breach, its effects and the remedial action taken as shown in Appendix 7.

If there is judged to be a significant risk to the rights and freedoms of the affected data subject, the Trust will communicate the breach to the data subjects with the support of the DPO.

In the case of a personal data breach where there is a significant risk of harm to the rights and freedoms of data subjects, the ICO should be informed as soon as possible and **within 72 hours of notification**. Further investigation of the breach can take place after this notification in line with advice from the DPO and the ICO.

Data breaches are reported using the information found at on the ICO website <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/report-a-breach/> and <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-UK-GDPR/personal-data-breaches/>

When reporting a breach, Data Protection legislation states that we must provide:

- a. a description of the nature of the personal data breach including, where possible
- b. the categories and approximate number of individuals concerned
- c. the categories and approximate number of personal data records concerned
- d. the name and contact details of the data protection officer or other contact point where more information can be obtained
- e. a description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach
- f. a description of the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, to deal with the personal data breach, including, where appropriate, the measures taken to mitigate any possible adverse effects, and to minimise risk of a repeated incident.

## 12. DATA PROTECTION COMPLAINTS

To comply with the provisions of the Data Use and Access Act 2025 (DUAA) we have a data protection complaints policy which can be found on our website - [Trust Wide Policies - Educate Together Academy Trust - Learn together to live together](#)

To manage data protection complaints, we comply with the guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office here <https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/what-we-do/complaints-guidance-for-organisations/>

We will acknowledge receipt in writing of the complaint within 30 calendar days after receipt. If the complaint is unclear, we will ask the complainant to clarify their concerns. We will ask them if they have any supporting evidence they wish to provide.

We will work with our DPO to investigate the complaint and keep a written record of all actions relevant to the complaint to comply with the Accountability principle of the UK GDPR.

We will provide a written outcome to the complainant as soon as possible without undue delay. We will explain what we have done to resolve their complaint and the actions we have taken as a result. If the complainant is dissatisfied, we will direct them to the Information Commissioner's Office.

We will review the outcome of the complaint to identify if there are any changes we need to make to our processes to improve on or prevent future complaints. We will retain documentation relating to the complaint in line with the retention schedule for our existing complaints process.

## 13. DATA RETENTION POLICY INCLUDING RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Trust has a comprehensive scheme for records management which supports us to comply with the Accountability Principle of UK GDPR.

Our scheme includes the following:

- a. **Data Protection and Freedom of Information Policy:** this explains our legal responsibilities as a data controller; how staff will process records securely; how we have technical and physical security in place; how we manage access to records; how we manage data loss or mismanagement; and how long we keep data for.
- b. **Data Asset Audit (Record of Processing Activities):** this is a statutory document (to comply with Article 30 of UK GDPR) and lists all the data we process in school, where it is, who it is shared with, our lawful basis for processing, and our retention schedule.

- c. **Data Protection Officer:** our Data Protection Officer provides strategic advice and supports the school to comply with statutory legislation including effective records management and monitors the school's compliance through audits and an annual report.
- d. **Retention Schedule:** the Trust follows guidance from our DPO on records retention, to ensure that we are compliant with legislation, including Keeping Children Safe in Education. We also follow the Information and Records Management Society's Schools Records Management Toolkit for schools<sup>1</sup>.
- e. **Privacy Notices:** these explain to data subjects how we will keep their records in a way that is compliant with the law.
- f. **Data breach log:** we have a record of incidents of personal data loss or disclosure.
- g. **Subject Access and Freedom of Information request logs:** we have a record of any request for information relating to records held by the school.
- h. **Staff training:** our staff receive induction and update training on how to keep personal data and records safe and have completed the National Cyber Security Centre training on cyber risks, which may affect the integrity and security of our records.
- i. **Acceptable User Policies:** all staff sign an acceptable user agreement which states how they will use technology in school including how they will access records held on the server or other systems such as Arbor.
- j. **Technical security systems:** we have external technical support who ensure that our firewall and anti-virus systems are up to date; that records are backed up and retrievable; that threats to our systems are identified and addressed.
- k. **Management Information System support:** the Trust has support from its MIS provider, Arbor, to ensure that our system is up to date, secure and compliant.
- l. **Destruction of confidential waste:** we have a contract with Restore Datashred to remove confidential data waste from the school and dispose of it securely.
- m. **Secure destruction of hardware:** we retain certificates of secure data destruction from third party contractors with appropriate professional accreditation when hardware is removed from the school e.g. photocopiers, computers or devices.
- n. **Emails:** the Trust has a clear email retention policy that is in line with the advice from the IRMS (Information and Records Management Society). Emails containing personal information of students or staff members which may be required for learning or safeguarding purposes must not be kept in the main inbox. If the email is required for evidence or future use, it should be attached to the student or staff members CPOMS or HR file. General emails about children or staff that are not required for evidence or future use should be promptly deleted.

## 14. REPORTING POLICY INCIDENTS

Any member of staff, parent or other individual who considers that the Policy has not been followed in respect of personal data should raise the matter with the Headteacher.

## 15. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://irms.org.uk/page/SchoolsToolkit>

This policy will be monitored and reviewed in line with the Trust's policy review procedure. It will be approved by the Finance and Resource Committee/Board of Trustees. The Local Governing Body will ensure this policy is implemented effectively and will ensure appropriate action is taken in a timely manner to safeguard children and deal with any concerns.

The Trust will monitor the implementation of the policy through data protection walks around the school site to ensure that the school's requirements are followed by staff. These walks will be conducted by the in-school Data Protection Lead and a governor.

## Appendix 1.1: Data Protection terms and definitions

Term	Definition
Data	Information which is stored electronically, on a computer, or in certain paper-based filing systems.
Data Asset Audit	The inventory of all the data processed by the Trust and individual schools including the lawful basis for processing, who it is shared with, where it is transferred (including out of the UK) and how long it is retained for,
Data Subjects	For the purpose of this policy include all living individuals about whom we hold personal data. This includes students, our workforce, staff, and other individuals. A data subject need not be a UK national or resident. All data subjects have legal rights in relation to their personal information.
Personal Data	Any information relating to an identified or identifiable living natural person (a data subject); an identifiable living natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.
Data Controllers	The people who or organisations which determine the purposes for which, and the manner in which, any personal data is processed. They are responsible for establishing practices and policies in line with Data Protection legislation. We are the data controller of all personal data used in our business for our own commercial purposes.
Data Users	Those of our workforce (including governors and volunteers) whose work involves processing personal data. Data users must protect the data they handle in accordance with this data protection policy and any applicable data security procedures at all times.
Data Processors	Any person or organisation that is not a data user that processes personal data on our behalf and on our instructions.
Processing	Any activity that involves use of the data. It includes obtaining, recording or holding the data, or carrying out any operation or set of operations on the data such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction. Processing also includes transferring personal data to third parties.
Special Category Personal Data	Information about a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, physical or mental health or condition or sexual life, or genetic or biometric data.

## Appendix 1.2: Rights of the data subject and how we uphold them

1. **The right to be informed:** Data subjects are informed of how we process their personal data through Privacy Notices.
2. **The right of access:** Data subjects may request access to all personal data we hold about them. Such requests will be considered in line with the school's Subject Access Request Procedure.
3. **The right to rectification:** If a data subject informs the [Trust/Academy/School] that personal data held about them by the [Trust/Academy/School] is inaccurate or incomplete then we will consider that request and provide a response within one month. If we consider the issue to be too complex to resolve within that period then we may extend the response period by a further two months. If this is necessary, then we will inform the data subject within one month of their request that this is the case. We may determine that any changes proposed by the data subject should not be made. If this is the case, then we will explain to the data subject why this is the case. In those circumstances we will inform the data subject of their right to complain to the ICO at the time that we inform them of our decision in relation to their request.
4. **The right to erasure:** Data subjects have a right to have personal data about them held by the [Trust/Academy/School] erased only in the following circumstances.
  - Where the personal data is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally collected.
  - When a data subject withdraws consent – which will apply only where the [Trust/Academy/School] is relying on the individuals consent to the processing in the first place.
  - When a data subject objects to the processing and there is no overriding legitimate interest to continue that processing – see above in relation to the right to object.
  - Where the processing of the personal data is otherwise unlawful.
  - When it is necessary to erase the personal data to comply with a legal obligation.
  - If the [Trust/Academy/School] offers information society services to a pupil and consent is withdrawn in respect of that pupil in relation to those services.The [Trust/Academy/School] is not required to comply with a request by a data subject to erase their personal data if the processing is taking place:
  - to exercise the right of freedom of expression or information
  - to comply with a legal obligation for the performance of a task in the public interest or in accordance with the law
  - for public health purposes in the public interest
  - for archiving purposes in the public interest, research or statistical purposes
  - in relation to a legal claim.If the [Trust/Academy/School] has shared the relevant personal data with any other organisation then we will contact those organisations to inform them of any erasure, unless this proves impossible or involves a disproportionate effort. The DPO must be consulted in relation to requests under this right.
5. **The right to restrict processing:** Data subjects have a right to 'block' or suppress the processing of personal data. This means that the [Trust/Academy/School] can continue to hold the personal data but not do anything else with it.  
The [Trust/Academy/School] must restrict the processing of personal data:
  - where it is in the process of considering a request for personal data to be rectified (see above)
  - where the [Trust/Academy/School] is in the process of considering an objection to processing by a data subject
  - where the processing is unlawful, but the data subject has asked the [Trust/Academy/School] not to delete the personal data

- where the [Trust/Academy/School] no longer needs the personal data but the data subject has asked the [Trust/Academy/School] not to delete the personal data because they need it in relation to a legal claim, including any potential claim against the [Trust/Academy/School].
- If the [Trust/Academy/School] has shared the relevant personal data with any other organisation then we will contact those organisations to inform them of any restriction, unless this proves impossible or involves a disproportionate effort.

The DPO must be consulted in relation to requests under this right.

6. **The right to data portability:** In limited circumstances a data subject has a right to receive their personal data in a machine-readable format, and to have this transferred to another organisation. If such a request is made, then the DPO must be consulted.
7. **The right to object:** In certain circumstances data subjects may object to us processing their personal data. This right may be exercised in relation to processing that we are undertaking on the basis of a legitimate interest or in pursuit of a statutory function or task carried out in the public interest. An objection to processing does not have to be complied with where the [Trust/Academy/School] can demonstrate compelling legitimate grounds which override the rights of the data subject. Such considerations are complex and must always be referred to the DPO upon receipt of the request to exercise this right. In respect of direct marketing any objection to processing must be complied with. The [Trust/Academy/School] is not however obliged to comply with a request where the personal data is required in relation to any claim or legal proceedings.
8. **Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling:** The [Trust/Academy/School] will carefully consider whether it takes any decisions about any individuals by automated means. This includes any decisions made solely by automated means, and which has a legal effect in relation to the individual. This might include, for example, a decision as to whether to employ an individual. We consider it to be unlikely that this would apply to a [Trust/Academy/School] as there is always likely to be an element of human intervention in any decision making. However careful consideration should be given to this issue.

## Appendix 2: Appropriate Policy Document

### 1. Scope

The Data Protection Act 2018 outlines the requirement for an appropriate policy document to be in place when processing special category and criminal offence data under certain specified conditions.

In order to operate effectively, the Trust has to process personal information which is listed in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018. Almost all of the conditions in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018, require an Appropriate Policy Document in place.

The Trust is committed to demonstrating that its processing of Schedule 1 conditions is compliant with the requirements of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) Article 5 principles. This Appropriate Policy Document therefore complements the School's record of processing under Article 30 of the UK GDPR and provides special category and criminal offence data with further protection and accountability.

### 2. Description of processing which requires an appropriate policy document

#### Schedule 1, Part 1 – Conditions relating to employment, social security and social protection.

- Employment, social security and social protection
- Processing personal data concerning health in connection with our rights under employment law.
- Processing data relating to criminal convictions under Article 10 UK GDPR in connection with our rights under employment law in connection with recruitment, discipline or dismissal.

#### Schedule 1, Part 2 – Substantial Public Interest Conditions

##### Statutory etc. and government purposes

- Fulfilling the school's obligations under UK legislation for the provision of education to school aged children
- Complying with other legal requirements, such as the requirement to disclose information in connection with legal proceedings.
- We may also process criminal offence data under this condition.

##### Equality of opportunity or treatment

- Ensuring compliance with the School's obligations under legislation such as the Equality Act 2010.
- Ensuring that we fulfil our public sector equality duty when carrying out our work.
- Ensuring we provide equal access to our services, to all pupils in recognition of our legal and ethical duty to represent and serve pupils.

##### Preventing or detecting unlawful acts

- Processing data concerning criminal records in connection with employment in order to reduce the risk to the School and safeguard pupils and the wider community.
- Disclosing data to support the prevention or detection of unlawful acts.

##### Protecting the public against dishonesty etc.

- Processing data concerning dishonesty, malpractice or other improper conduct in order to safeguard and protect pupils and the wider community.
- Carrying out investigations and disciplinary actions relating to our employees.

- Regulatory requirements relating to unlawful acts and dishonesty etc.
- Assisting other agencies in connection with their regulatory requirements.

#### **Support for individuals with a particular disability or medical condition**

- To provide services or raise awareness of a disability or medical condition in order to deliver services to individuals.

#### **Counselling**

- For the provision of confidential counselling organised through Occupational Health, advice or support or of another similar service provided confidentially.

#### **Safeguarding of children and individuals at risk**

- Protecting vulnerable children and young people from neglect, physical, mental or emotional harm.
- Identifying individuals at risk while attending emergency incidents.
- Obtaining further support for children and individuals at risk by sharing information with relevant agencies.

#### **Insurance**

- Information that is necessary for insurance purposes.

#### **Occupational pensions**

- Fulfilling the School's obligation to provide an occupational pension scheme.

### **Schedule 1, Part 3 – Additional Conditions Relating to Criminal Convictions, etc.**

- The Trust may process personal data relating to criminal convictions in connection with its service obligations or as part of recruitment and employment checks to safeguard and protect pupils and the wider community against dishonesty.

## **3. Data Protection Principles**

Article 5 of the UK GDPR states that personal data shall be:

- Processed lawfully, fairly and transparently
- Collected for specific and legitimate purposes and processed in accordance with those purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the stated purposes
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up-to-date
- Retained for no longer than necessary, and
- Kept secure

In addition, Article 5 requires that the data controller shall be responsible for, and able to demonstrate compliance with, these principles (the accountability principle).

#### **Processed lawfully, fairly and transparently**

- The Trust provides clear and transparent information about why we process personal data including our lawful basis for processing in our privacy notices and policy documents.
- Our processing for purposes of substantial public interest are necessary to exercise our functions which are outlined in legislation.

- Our processing for the purposes of employment relates to our obligations as an employer.
- We also process special category personal data to comply with other obligations imposed on the School in its capacity as an educational institute e.g. the Equality Act.
- The Senior Leadership Team and Governors oversees policy work and monitors compliance in all areas of Information Governance, as outlined in its terms of reference.
- We carry out data protection impact assessments to ensure processing is fair and lawful.

#### **Collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes**

- We process personal data for purposes of substantial public interest as explained above when the processing is necessary for us to fulfil our statutory functions, where it is necessary for complying with or assisting another to comply with a regulatory requirement, to establish whether an unlawful or improper conduct has occurred, to protect the public from dishonesty, preventing or detecting unlawful acts or for disclosure to elected representatives.
- We are authorised by law to process personal data for the purposes outlined above.
- We process personal data only when it is necessary and proportionate.
- If we are sharing data with another controller, we will document that they are authorised by law to process the data for their purpose.
- We will not process personal data for purposes incompatible with the original purpose it was collected for. If we do use personal data for a new purpose that is compatible, we will inform the data subject first.

#### **Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for processing**

- We collect personal data necessary for the relevant purposes and ensure it is not excessive.
- The information we process is necessary for and proportionate to our purposes. Where personal data is provided to us or obtained by us, but is not relevant to our stated purposes, we will erase it.

#### **Accurate and kept up to date with every effort to erase or rectify without delay**

- Where we become aware that personal data is inaccurate or out of date, having regard to the purpose for which it is being processed, we will take every reasonable step to ensure that data is erased or rectified without delay. The [Trust/Academy/School] has processes in place to help people do this.
- If we decide not to either erase or rectify it, for example because the lawful basis we rely on to process the data means these rights don't apply, we will document our decision.

#### **Kept in a form such that the data subject can be identified only as long as is necessary for processing.**

- All data processed by the Trust, unless retained longer for archiving purposes, will be retained for the periods set out in our retention schedules. The requirement for retention schedules is outlined in our Records Management and Data Quality Policy.
- We determine the retention period for this data based on our legal obligations and the necessity of its retention for our business needs.
- Our retention schedule is reviewed regularly and updated when necessary.
- We anonymise data when possible.

### Processed in a manner that ensures the appropriate security

- The Trust will carry out risk assessments taking into account state of the art technical measures, the costs of implementation and the risk/likelihood to individuals if a security breach occurs and the effect of any security breach on the School itself.
- Both the School and its processors shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk.
- When assessing appropriate organisational and technical measures, the School Business Manager (DPO) and Head Teacher will consult with other relevant services, such as ICT, Human Resources and Audit.
- Our Senior Leadership Team and Governors meet regularly to ensure suitable information security governance is deployed throughout the Trust
- Employees working within the Trust are to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.
- All of our staff are trained in data protection matters and our contracts include confidentiality clauses.
- Technical security controls such as encryption are employed to secure sensitive information within systems.
- Role-based access controls are implemented to restrict access to sensitive data.
- Where possible, anonymisation or pseudonymisation are used to reduce the risk of sensitive data being compromised.

### Accountability principle

- The appointment of a Data Protection Officer.
- Taking a 'data protection by design and default' approach to our activities.
- Maintaining documentation of our processing activities.
- We have written contracts in place with our data processors.
- Implementing appropriate security measures in relation to the personal data we process.
- Carrying out data protection impact assessments for our high risk processing.
- Regularly reviewing our accountability measures and update or amend them when required.
- The Senior Leadership Team and Governors are responsible for ensuring that the school is compliant with Information Governance duties.
- All staff are routinely trained in key areas, including data protection.

### Additional special category processing

The Trust processes special category personal data in other instances where it is not a requirement to keep an appropriate policy document. Our processing of such data respects the rights and interests of the data subjects. We provide clear and transparent information about why we process personal data including our lawful basis for processing in our privacy notices.

### Evaluation

The appropriate policy document will be subject to an annual review to ensure that it matches service delivery and the information being processed by the Trust.

## Appendix 3: Roles of the Data Protection Officer and Data Protection Lead

### Purpose

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) is responsible for monitoring compliance with current data protection law, and has the knowledge, support and authority to do so effectively. They oversee and verify the school's data protection processes and advise the school on best practice.

Within each school there will be a Data Protection Lead (DPL), who maintains contact with the DPO and is responsible for assisting in monitoring with compliance and verifies the school's data protection practices on a day to day basis.

### Data Protection Officer Responsibilities

To:

- advise the school about their obligations under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018;
- support the DPL in developing a joint understanding of the school's processing operations, information systems, data security processes and needs, and administrative rules and procedures;
- assist, in cooperation with the DPL, with the monitoring of the school's compliance with data protection law, by:
  - collecting information to identify data processing activities;
  - analysing and checking the compliance of data processing activities;
  - informing, advising and issuing recommendations to the school;
  - ensuring they have current and detailed information in data protection issues and changes to the law, attending relevant training as appropriate;
- assist the DPL in making sure that the school's policies are followed, through:
  - assigning responsibilities to individuals;
  - awareness-raising activities;
  - coordinating staff training;
  - conducting internal data protection audits;
- advise on and assist the school with carrying out data protection impact assessments, if necessary;
- act as a contact point for the ICO, assisting and consulting it where necessary, including:
  - helping the ICO to access documents and information;
  - seeking advice on data protection issues;
- act as a contact point for individuals whose data is processed (for example, staff, students and parents), including:
  - responding with support from the DPL to subject access requests;
  - responding with support from the DPL to other requests regarding individuals' rights over their data and how it is used;
- take a risk-based approach to data protection, including:

- prioritising the higher-risk areas of data protection and focusing mostly on these
- advising the school if/when it should conduct an audit, which areas staff need training in, and what the DPO/DPL roles should involve.
- report to the governing board/board of trustees on the school's data protection compliance and associated risks;
- respect and uphold confidentiality, as appropriate and in line with data protection law, in carrying out all duties of the role;
- assist the DPL in maintaining a record of the school's data processing activities;
- work with external stakeholders, such as suppliers or members of the community, on data protection issues;
- working with the DPL in fostering a culture of data protection throughout the school;
- work closely with other departments and services to ensure UK GDPR compliance, such as HR, legal, IT and security;
- work with the Senior Leadership team at the school to ensure UK GDPR compliance;
- assist with any additional tasks necessary to keep the school compliant with data protection law and be successful in the role.

## Tasks

From these responsibilities, isolated tasks should include:

- providing a model Data Protection Policy and assist in customising it for the school;
- advising on procedures and pro formas to allow the Data Protection Policy to be adhered to;
- providing advice on other associated policies and documents;
- providing materials and advice in completing a dynamic Data Asset Audit and assisting in its completion if necessary;
- checking issues with the Data Asset Audit;
- providing training materials to allow the DPL to assist staff in keeping up to date with Data Protection issues;
- acting as the point of contact for SAR and FOI requests and supporting the school to provide the information as required;
- providing a Data Protection Audit on a 3 yearly rota basis and producing a report for Governors at cost;
- providing telephone and email advice and support;
- providing regional training for the DPL and other staff;
- providing school based on-demand training at cost.

## Data Protection Lead Responsibilities

To:

- verify that the school has registered with the ICO;
- support the DPO in advising the school about their obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018;
- support the DPO in developing an understanding of the school's processing operations, information systems, data security processes and needs, and administrative rules and procedures;

- assist, in cooperation with the DPO, with the monitoring of the school's compliance with data protection law, by:
  - collecting information to identify data processing activities;
  - analysing and checking the compliance of data processing activities;
  - informing, advising and issuing recommendations to the school;
  - ensuring they have current and detailed information in data protection issues and changes to the law, attending relevant training as appropriate;
- assist the DPO in making sure that the school's policies are followed, through:
  - assigning responsibilities to individuals;
  - awareness-raising activities;
  - coordinating staff training;
  - conducting internal data protection audits;
- act as a contact point for the DPO in supporting individuals whose data is processed (for example, staff, students and parents), including:
  - responding with support from the DPO to subject access requests;
  - responding with support from the DPO to other requests regarding individuals' rights over their data and how it is used;
- assist the DPO in maintaining a record of the school's data processing activities providing this on a yearly basis to the DPO;
- assisting the DPO in working with external stakeholders, such as suppliers or members of the community, on data protection issues;
- working with the DPO in fostering a culture of data protection throughout the school;
- work with the Senior Leadership team at the school to ensure UK GDPR compliance;
- assist with any additional tasks necessary to keep the school compliant with data protection law and be successful in the role.

## Tasks

From these responsibilities, isolated tasks should include:

- act as the point of contact with the DPO;
- assist in customising the Data Protection Policy for the school;
- advising on procedures and pro formas to allow the Data Protection Policy to be adhered to;
- provide advice on other associated policies and documents;
- providing materials and advice in completing a Data Asset Audit and assisting in its completion if necessary;
- supplying the DPO with the Data Asset Audit on a yearly basis;
- using the training materials provided by the DPO to assist the staff in keeping up to date with Data Protection issues.

## Appendix 4: Data Protection Impact Assessment

Before the use of any new service that uses personal data, staff should complete a Data Protection Assessment Form.

The Senior Leaders and/or the DPL, with advice from the DPO will then approve the use and the information be placed on the Data Asset Audit.

The Trust will contact the DPO for a template Data Protection Impact Assessment which will assess the risks of the project and identify actions that can minimise the risks.

The Trust will follow the guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office here <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/uk-gdpr-guidance-and-resources/accountability-and-governance/guide-to-accountability-and-governance/accountability-and-governance/data-protection-impact-assessments/>

## Appendix 5: Subject Access Request process

On receiving a Subject Access Request or request for change or deletion of data the DPO or Trust or School will:

- inform the DPL in the Trust (and the Headteacher if necessary);
- contact the DPO if clarity on the request is needed or procedure is needed;
- record the details of the request, updating this record where necessary
- reply to the requestor informing receipt of the request asking for clarity if there is confusion about which data is required;
- identify the people responsible for gathering the necessary data;
- gather the data indicating a deadline;
- examine the data for redactions making sure there is no 'bleeding' of data;
- ask the requestor for an address and time for delivery.

The whole process should take no longer than **1 calendar month**, which can be extended by a further 2 months where the request is complex or where there are numerous requests.

## Appendix 6: Freedom of Information request process

On receiving a Freedom of Information Request, which must be made in writing, the DPO or the school will:

- inform the DPL in the Trust (and the Headteacher if necessary);
- contact the DPO for clarity on the request and procedure, and a sample response
- record the details of the request, updating this record where necessary
- reply to the requestor informing receipt of the request asking for clarity if there is confusion about which data is required;
- decide that if the material is already published or falls within an exemption;
- if data is not going to be published inform the requestor why this is not being released;
- identify the people responsible for gathering the necessary data;
- gather the data indicating a deadline;
- examine the data for redactions making sure there is no 'bleeding' of data;
- ask the requestor for an address and time for delivery.

The whole process should take no longer than **20 school days** (i.e. not including weekends, holidays or school closure days) or **60 working days** if this is shorter.

## Appendix 7: Data Breach process

Every Data Protection Breach should be recorded. The process that should be followed is listed below:

- inform the DPL in the school (and the Headteacher if necessary);
- record the details of the breach providing these details:
  - a description of the nature of the personal data breach including, where possible:
  - the categories and approximate number of individuals concerned; and
  - the categories and approximate number of personal data records concerned;
  - the name and contact details of the data protection officer (if your organisation has one) or other contact point where more information can be obtained;
  - a description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach; and
  - a description of the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, to deal with the personal data breach, including, where appropriate, the measures taken to mitigate any possible adverse effects.
- contact the DPO if clarity on reporting the breach is needed and if necessary, report to the ICO;
  - By phoning **0303 123 1113**
  - By downloading a form from the ICO website <https://cy.ico.org.uk/media/report-a-concern/forms/4019685/report-a-personal-data-breach-form.doc> and emailing to [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk)
  - By filling in the online form at <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/report-a-breach/personal-data-breach/report-a-data-breach-online-form/report-a-personal-data-breach-online-form/> and sending it to [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)
- updating this record where necessary;
- identify the people whose data is accidentally released, inform them of the breach and the processes taken to rectify the situation;
- review why the breach took place and if future similar events can be avoided