

# Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)



## The categories of pupil information that we collect, hold and share include:

- Personal information (such as name, unique pupil number and address)
- Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth and free school meal eligibility)
- Relevant medical information (such as allergies, asthma)
- Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- Achievements information (such as records of awards)
- Exclusions / behavioural information
- Assessment information (such as test results, teacher assessments)
- Special needs information (such as reports from agencies, identification of needs)
- Personal information about a pupil's parents and/or other relatives (such as name, contact details, relationship to child)
- Photographs
- CCTV images

## Why we collect and use this information

We use the pupil data to help run the school:

- to contact parents when we need to
- to support pupil learning, enabling us to provide extra help where needed
- to monitor and report on pupil progress
- track how well the school as a whole is performing
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to share data for statutory inspections and audit purposes

## The lawful basis on which we use this information

We collect and use pupil information under our legal requirements to provide education. The main pieces of legislation are:

- The Education Act (various years)
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations
- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The School Admissions Regulations 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- The Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014

We will only collect and use your information when the law allows us to. Most often, we will use your information where:

- We need to comply with the law
- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide you with an education)

Sometimes, we may also use your personal information where:

- You, or your parents/carers have given us permission to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect your interests (or someone else's interest)

Where we have got permission to use your data, you or your parents/carers may withdraw this at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for permission, and explain how to go about withdrawing consent.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your information overlap, and there may be several grounds which mean we can use your data.

## Collecting pupil information

Whilst the majority of pupil information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

## Storing pupil data

We will keep personal information about you while you are a pupil at our school. We may also keep it after you have left the school, where we are required to by law.

We have a record retention schedule which sets out how long we must keep information about pupils.

## Who we share pupil information with

We do not share personal information about you with anyone outside the school without permission from you or your parents/carers, unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary for another reason allowed under data protection law, we may share personal information about you with:

- *Our local authority – to meet our legal duties to share certain information with it, such as concerns about pupils' safety and exclusions*
- *The Department for Education (a government department) - to meet our legal duties to share certain information with it, such as school census returns, and assessments*
- *Ofsted - our regulator (the organisation or "watchdog" that supervises us)*
- *Suppliers and service providers – so that they can provide the services we have contracted them for*
- *School Meals Provider – to enable the provision of a catering service*
- *Health authorities – to support in the provision of health care for your child*
- *Professional advisers and consultants – to support the school in providing the best education*
- *Police forces, courts, tribunals – where we have a legal obligation for safeguarding.*

## **Why we share pupil information**

We do not share information about our pupils with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

We share pupils' data with the Department for Education (DfE) on a statutory basis. This data sharing underpins school funding and educational attainment policy and monitoring.

We are required to share information about our pupils with our local authority (LA) and the Department for Education (DfE) under section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

## **Data collection requirements:**

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (for example; via the school census) go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

## The National Pupil Database (NPD)

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education and contains information about pupils in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department. It is held in electronic format for statistical purposes. This information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and awarding bodies.

We are required by law, to provide information about our pupils to the DfE as part of statutory data collections such as the school census and early years' census. Some of this information is then stored in the NPD. The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>.

The department may share information about our pupils from the NPD with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children in England by:

- conducting research or analysis
- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The Department has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data. Decisions on whether DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of:

- who is requesting the data
- the purpose for which it is required
- the level and sensitivity of data requested: and
- the arrangements in place to store and handle the data

To be granted access to pupil information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of the data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information about the department's data sharing process, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

For information about which organisations the department has provided pupil information, (and for which project), please visit the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received>

To contact DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>

## Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, parents and pupils have the right to request access to information about them that we hold. To make a request for your personal information, or be given access to your child's educational record, contact the School Administrator.

You also have the right to:

- object to processing of personal data that is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- prevent processing for the purpose of direct marketing
- object to decisions being taken by automated means
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed; and
- claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the Data Protection regulations

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance. Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

## Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact:

The Headteacher – Tracy Keefe

or our Data Protection Officer – Ian Hoare, [ian.hoare@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.hoare@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)