

## Privacy Notice: how we use information about pupils and their families (children, parents and carers)

Date: August 2023

### The categories of pupil information that we process include:

- personal identifiers and contacts (such as name, unique pupil number, contact details and address)
- characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, and pupil premium/ free school meal eligibility)
- safeguarding information (such as court orders and professional involvement)
- special educational needs (including the needs and ranking)
- medical and administration (such as doctors' information, child health, dental health, allergies, medication and dietary requirements)
- attendance (such as sessions attended, number of absences, absence reasons and any previous schools attended)
- assessment and attainment (such as key stage 1 and phonics results)
- behavioural information (records of incidents and exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)

This list is not exhaustive, to access the current list of categories of information we process please see the school's data processing map, also referred to as the Record of Processing Activities (RoPA).

### Why we collect and use pupil information

We collect and use pupil information and that of their families, for the following purposes:

- a) to support pupil learning, assessment and special educational needs, as appropriate
- b) to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress
- c) to provide appropriate pastoral care
- d) to assess the quality of our services
- e) to keep children safe (food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- f) to meet the statutory duties placed upon us for the Department for Education (DfE) data collections and health services.

Under the [UK General Data Protection Regulation \(UK GDPR\)](#), the lawful bases we rely on for processing pupil information are:

- Article 6 (1) (c). processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject." and 6 (1) (e) - **processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest** or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller"

In addition, concerning any special category data we rely on Article 9:

- Article 9 (2) (a) the data subject has given explicit consent to the processing of those personal data for one or more specified purposes,
- 9 (2) (c) To protect the vital interests of the individual,
- 9 (2) (f) in the event of legal claims or judicial acts,
- 9 (2) (i) As required for purpose of public health (with a basis in law)

### Storing pupil data

We hold pupil data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. We have adopted the Information and Records Management Society (IRMS) recommendations as our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please see the Data Protection Policy and the IRMS Toolkit for schools [IRMS Schools Toolkit - Information and Records Management Society](#)

## Who we share pupil information with

We routinely share pupil information with (not exhaustive):

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- our local authority
- youth support services (pupils aged 13+)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- National Health Service
- Targeted and family support services
- The Police
- The Courts and the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass)

## Why we regularly 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. For example, we must share pupil information in accordance with the Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 and Keeping Children Safe in Education Statutory Guidance.

### Department for Education (DfE)

The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational settings and local authorities via various statutory data collections. We are required to share information about our pupils with the Department for Education (DfE) either directly or via our local authority for the purpose of those data collections, under: section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

All data is transferred securely and held by the Department for Education (DfE) under a combination of software and hardware controls, which meet the current [government security policy framework](#). For more information, please see 'How Government uses your data' section.

### 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, please contact the Head of School in the first instance or alternatively contact the school's Data Protection Officer (DPO), Richard Lewis-Ogden via email to [DPO@bywaterkent.co.uk](mailto:DPO@bywaterkent.co.uk)

You also have the right to:

- to ask us for access to information about you that we hold
- to have your personal data rectified, if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
- to restrict our processing of your personal data (i.e. permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to direct marketing (including profiling) and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you

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

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by the Department for Education (DfE), please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

## **Withdrawal of consent and the right to lodge a complaint**

Where we are processing your personal data with your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent. If you change your mind, or you are unhappy with our use of your personal data, please let us know by contacting the Federation Resources Manager: [suequirk@spherefederation.org](mailto:suequirk@spherefederation.org).

## **Last updated**

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated in August 2023.

## **Contact**

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact: Richard Lewis-Ogden, Data Protection Officer by email at [DPO@bywaterkent.co.uk](mailto:DPO@bywaterkent.co.uk)

## How Government uses your data

The pupil data that we lawfully share with the Department for Education (DfE) through data collections:

- underpins school funding, which is calculated based upon the numbers of children and their characteristics in each school.
- informs 'short term' education policy monitoring and school accountability and intervention (for example, school GCSE results or Pupil Progress measures).
- supports 'longer term' research and monitoring of educational policy (for example how certain subject choices go on to affect education or earnings beyond school)

## Data collection requirements

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

## The National Pupil Database (NPD)

Much of the data about pupils in England goes on to be held in the National Pupil Database (NPD).

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education (DfE) 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 for Education (DfE).

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.

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

## Sharing by the Department for Education (DfE)

The law allows the Department for Education (DfE) to share pupils' personal data with certain third parties, including:

- schools and local authorities
- researchers
- organisations connected with promoting the education or wellbeing of children in England.
- other government departments and agencies
- organisations fighting or identifying crime

For more information about the Department for Education's (DfE) NPD data sharing process, please visit:

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

Organisations fighting or identifying crime may use their legal powers to contact the Department for Education (DfE) to request access to individual level information relevant to detecting that crime.

For information about which organisations the Department for Education (DfE) has provided pupil information, (and for which project) or to access a monthly breakdown of data share volumes with Home Office and the Police please visit the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-external-data-shares>

## How to find out what personal information the Department for Education (DfE) holds about you

Under the terms of the [Data Protection Act 2018](#), you are entitled to ask the Department for Education (DfE):

- if they are processing your personal data
- for a description of the data they hold about you
- the reasons they're holding it and any recipient it may be disclosed to
- for a copy of your personal data and any details of its source

If you want to see the personal data held about you by the Department for Education (DfE), you should make a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education's (DfE) personal information charter that is published at the address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>

To contact the Department for Education (DfE): <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>