

Privacy Notice - Pupils

What is the purpose of this Notice

This is our school's Privacy Notice which is intended to provide you with information about how and why we process pupil information. It is also intended to provide you with other information which is required under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The GDPR is a piece of legislation which contains the key laws relating to data protection.

It is important to the school, and a legal requirement, that we are transparent about how we process pupil information. As a school that processes pupil information, we are known as a "data controller". This means that we collect and use personal information for specified purposes which this Privacy Notice has been designed to tell you about.

The Data Protection Officer

The school has an appointed Data Protection Officer (DPO), whose contact details are set out at the end of this policy. The DPO is responsible for dealing with data protection issues within the school and you can contact the DPO should you wish to discuss any issues or concerns that you have about data protection.

What pupil information do we collect

The types of pupil information that we collect include:

- pupil names, unique pupil numbers, contact details (including parent(s)/guardian(s) details)
- characteristics such as ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth and free school meal eligibility
- attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- information relating to pupil exclusion
- attainment records including national curriculum assessment results and examination results
- records of where pupils go after they leave us
- safeguarding information
- special educational needs information
- medical information
- behavioural information

What is the purpose of us collecting and using pupil information

The purposes for which the school collects personal information are as follows:

- to support our pupils' learning
- to monitor and report on their progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- for safeguarding purposes
- for health, safety and insurance purposes

Why is it lawful to collect this pupil information

As a school, we are subject to a wide range of laws which we must comply with to further pupil education and to safeguard their well-being. To comply with these laws, we only process personal information as far as is necessary to meet those obligations. We also process some of the information described in this privacy notice to carry out the public tasks vested in us as a school to effectively run the school

Whilst the majority of pupil information provided to us is mandatory, some of it is provided on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the GDPR, when we request information we will make it clear whether this is required or if there is a choice. If it is a choice, then we will obtain consent first. Even if consent is given to us to collect and use this information, there is the right to withdraw consent at any time.

Some types of pupil information are regarded as more sensitive under the GDPR and referred to as being a 'special category' of personal information. Where we collect this type of information, it will often be processed as a matter of public interest. In other circumstances, explicit consent will be obtained first.

Who will we share pupil information with

- schools that pupils attend after leaving us
- our local authority
- the Department for Education (DfE)

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 5 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>.

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
- 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 to, 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>

How long will we hold pupil information for?

We will hold pupil information for a period of time specified by law and as detailed within our GDPR policy. The length of time will depend on the nature of the information held. For more information, please contact the DPO.

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 personal information held about themselves or to be given access to their child's educational record, parents should contact the Data Protection Officer.

There is also 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
- 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 personal data, you should raise your concern with the Data Protection Officer in the first instance or directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

The schools Data Protection Officer is:

Mr Mark Birkbeck

Contact details

Courtlands Special School

37 Parklands Avenue

Goring By Sea

BN12 4NG

Telephone: 01903 444765

Email: admin@courtlandsschool.co.uk