

# Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

Adopted Summer 24 ref 23.24 review date Summer 26

## 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 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, post 16 courses enrolled for and any relevant results)
- behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)
- resilience data, including participation in school event and trips

This list is not exhaustive and varies slightly for each student, largely dependent on their health and social care needs.

## Why we collect and use pupil information

The personal data collected is essential, in order for the school to fulfil their official functions and meet legal requirements. We collect and use pupil information, for the following purposes:

- a) to support pupil learning
- 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 DfE data collections

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

- for the purposes of **(a), (b), (c) & (d)** in accordance with the legal basis of Public task: collecting the data is necessary to perform tasks that schools are required to perform as part of their statutory function
- for the purposes of **(e)** in accordance with the legal basis of Vital interests: to keep children safe (food allergies, or medical conditions)
- for the purposes of **(f)** in accordance with the legal basis of Legal obligation: data collected for DfE census information

- [Section 537A of the Education Act 1996](#)
- [the Education Act 1996 s29\(3\)](#)
- [the Education \(School Performance Information\)\(England\) Regulations 2007](#)
- [regulations 5 and 8 School Information \(England\) Regulations 2008](#)
- [the Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2013](#)

In addition, concerning any special category data:

- conditions a, b, c and d of [GDPR - Article 9](#)

## How we collect pupil information

We collect pupil information via Common Transfer Files from other schools, our own information management system (SIMS) and our own SEND information system (Edukey). In addition, we hold an internal spreadsheet which is shared with all staff that summarises the key information about each student.

Pupil data is essential for the schools' operational use. Whilst the majority of pupil information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it requested on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the data protection legislation, we will inform you at the point of collection, whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

## How we store pupil data

We hold pupil data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please visit <https://www.wirralhs.co.uk/page/school-policies/50753>

## Who we share pupil information with

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- mainstream schools where the pupil is dual rolled
- employers and other post-16 providers, including employers for work experience
- CAMHS staff, where relevant to do so for health and safeguarding purposes
- our local authority
- youth support services (pupils aged 13+)
- the Department for Education (DfE)

For pupils enrolling for post-14 qualifications, the Learning Records Service will give us a pupil's unique learner number (ULN) and may also give us details about the pupil's learning or qualifications.

## 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.

In addition to our statutory duties, information is only shared with external organisations with the consent of the pupil and where it is in their best interests to do so, e.g. when requesting additional support for a young person to make their transition to college.

## Youth support services

### Pupils aged 13+

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we also pass pupil information to our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- youth support services
- careers advisers

The information shared is limited to the child's name, address and date of birth. However where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service via Anycomms and is stored on our internal intranet system as well as pastoral files and held until the pupil reaches the age of 25.

## Department for Education

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.

- [Section 537A of the Education Act 1996](#)
- [the Education Act 1996 s29\(3\)](#)
- [the Education \(School Performance Information\)\(England\) Regulations 2007](#)
- [regulations 5 and 8 School Information \(England\) Regulations 2008](#)
- [the Education \(Pupil Registration\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2013](#)

All data is transferred securely and held by 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, contact the main school office.

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
- a right to seek redress, either through the ICO, or through the courts

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/>

## Contact

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

- Phill Arrowsmith, Headteacher OR
- **Jayne Corrin**, Data Protection Officer

Please send letters in writing addressed to the school and marked FAO the relevant person above.

## How Government uses your data

The pupil data that we lawfully share with the 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 (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 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.

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

The law allows the Department to share pupils' personal data with certain third parties, including:

- schools
- 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's 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 DfE to request access to individual level information relevant to detecting that crime. Whilst numbers fluctuate slightly over time, DfE typically supplies data on around 600 pupils per year to the Home Office and roughly 1 per year to the Police.

For information about which organisations the Department 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/dfе-external-data-shares>

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