

Privacy Notice (How we use children in need and children looked after information)

Our schools use various sources of students information to make improvements to the educational experience and achievements for existing and future students at the school.

The categories of personal information that we process include:

- personal information (such as name, date of birth and address)
- characteristics (such as gender, ethnicity and disability)
- episodes of being a child in need (such as referral information, assessment information, Section 47 information, Initial Child Protection information and Child Protection Plan information)
- episodes of being looked after (such as important dates, information on placements)
- outcomes for looked after children (such as whether health and dental assessments are up to date, strengths and difficulties questionnaire scores and offending)
- adoptions (such as dates of key court orders and decisions)
- care leavers (such as their activity and what type of accommodation they have)
- Medical information
- Special educational needs
- Behavioural and exclusions
- Multi-agency minutes
- Sibling information
- Assessment information
- Education/school history

Information the school collects has been identified in the 'Information Audit' document, which can be accessed on the school's website. If there is any reason that the school is holding information, which has been omitted from the document, then the school will update the document immediately they are aware it.

Why we collect and use this information

The school collects and holds personal information relating to pupils and may also receive information about them from their previous school, local authority and/or the Department for Education (DfE). We use this personal data to:

- a) support these children and monitor their progress
- b) provide them with pastoral care
- c) assess the quality of our services
- d) evaluate and improve our policies on children's social care

Examples of information needed to fulfil the above may be kept about a pupil to monitor national curriculum assessment results, attendance information, exclusion information, where pupils go after they leave the school and personal characteristics such as their ethnic group, any special educational needs they may have as well as relevant medical information. *Photographs, achievements and statistical information may be used to benchmark the quality of the students experiences offered by the school.*

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

Article 6

(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;

Article 9(2)

(b) processing is necessary for the purposes of carrying out the obligations and exercising specific rights of the controller or of the data subject in the field of employment and social security and social protection law in so far as it is authorised by Union or Member State law or a collective agreement pursuant to Member State law providing for appropriate safeguards for the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject;

1. Processing of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.
2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply if one of the following applies:
 - (j) Processing is necessary for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes in accordance with Article 89(1) based on Union or Member State law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

The Education (Information about Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013 - Regulation 5 'Provision of information by non-maintained special schools and Academies to the Secretary of State' states 'Within fourteen days of receiving a request from the Secretary of State, the proprietor of a non-maintained special school or an Academy (shall provide to the Secretary of State such of the information referred to in Schedule 1 and (where the request stipulates) in respect of such categories of pupils, or former pupils, as is so requested.'

The Education Act 1996 - Section 537A – states that we provide individual pupil information as the relevant body such as the Department for Education.

Children's Act 1989 – Section 83 – places a duty on the Secretary of State or others to conduct research.

Collecting this information

We collect personal information via registration forms (including online forms or apps) at the start of the school year or Common Transfer File (CTF) or secure file transfer from the previous setting, when we periodically check this data, and when parents/carers notify us that information has changed.

Children in need and children looked after information is essential for the local authority's operational use. Whilst the majority of personal information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is requested on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with UK GDPR, we will inform you at the point of collection, whether you are required to provide certain information to us or if you have a choice in this.

Storing personal data

We hold student data for the duration of time each the child remains a student of the school.

We also hold 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 our website.

Who we share this information with

We routinely share student information with:

- schools that student's attend after leaving the school
- the local authority
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- NHS/school nurse
- Third party professional services i.e. Social Services, Social Care Teams
- Multi Academy Trusts (MATs)

Why we share this information

We do not share information about our children in need or children looked after with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

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 the (DfE) under regulation 5 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

The 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 children in need and children looked after with the Department for Education (DfE) for the purpose of those data collections.

We share children in need and children looked after data with the Department for Education (DfE) on a statutory basis, under [Section 83 of 1989 Children's Act](#), <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/23/section/7> and also 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.

For privacy information on the data the Department for Education collects and uses, please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-children-and-young-people-under-18/privacy-information-children-and-young-people-under-18>.

Requesting access to your personal data

The UK GDPR gives parents, carers, and children certain rights about how their information is collected and used. To make a request for your personal information, or be given access to your child's educational record the head teacher

You have the following rights:

- the right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data – this is called 'right to be informed'.
- the right to ask us for copies of personal information we have about you – this is called 'right of access', this is also known as a subject access request (SAR), data subject access request or right of access request.
- the right to ask us to change any information you think is not accurate or complete – this is called 'right to rectification'.
- the right to ask us to delete your personal information – this is called 'right to erasure'.
- the right to ask us to stop using your information – this is called 'right to restriction of processing'.
- the 'right to object to processing' of your information, in certain circumstances.
- rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.
- the right to withdraw consent at any time (where relevant).
- the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner](#) if you feel we have not used your information in the right way.

There are legitimate reasons why we may refuse your information rights request, which depends on why we are processing it. For example, some rights will not apply:

- right to erasure does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task.
- right to portability does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests.
- right to object does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't have the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent.

If you have a concern 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 [raise a concern with ICO](#)

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 school office.

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 on 19th March 2026

Contact

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

Penny Rawlins, Head of Governance and Compliance – penny.rawlins@inmat.org.uk

Ruth Hawker, Data Protection Officer
Plumsun Ltd www.plumsun.com

How Government uses your data

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

- develop national policies
- manage local authority performance
- administer and allocate funding
- identify and encourage good practice

Data collection requirements

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (DfE) go to:

Children in need: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/children-in-need-census>

Children looked after: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/children-looked-after-return>

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. This information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and awarding bodies.

The data in the NPD is provided as part of the operation of the education system and is used for research and statistical purposes to improve, and promote, the education and well-being of children in England.

The evidence and data provide DfE, education providers, Parliament and the wider public with a clear picture of how the education and children's services sectors are working in order to better target, and evaluate, policy interventions to help ensure all children are kept safe from harm and receive the best possible education.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice>

Sharing by the Department for Education (DfE)

DfE will only share pupils' personal data where it is lawful, secure and ethical to do so. Where these conditions are met, the law allows 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/df-external-data-shares>

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

Under the terms of the UK GDPR, you're 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'. See the guide for details:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/requesting-your-personal-information/requesting-your-personal-information#your-rights>

Further information on what personal information the Department for Education (DfE) holds about you is published in the privacy notice for children and young people who are aged under 18 and not in mainstream education, and care leavers aged up to 25. This is available below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-children-and-young-people-under-18/privacy-information-children-and-young-people-under-18>