

Bledlow Ridge School



Privacy notice for parents and carers (How we use pupil information)

Date agreed: September 2024

Review date: September 2026

This privacy notice is for parents of children who you don't consider capable of understanding and exercising their rights over their own data (children are generally considered capable at age 12, but you'll need to consider this on a case-by-case basis).

The [ICO's checklist](#) of information was referred to when writing this policy.

Introduction

Under UK data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how our school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about pupils at our school.

This privacy notice applies while we believe your child is not capable of understanding and exercising their own data protection rights.

We, Bledlow Ridge School, Church Lane, High Wycombe, HP14 4AZ, 01494 481253 are the 'data controller' for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation. We collect and hold personal information from you about your child and may receive information about your child from their previous school or college, the Local Authority, the Department of Education (DfE) and the Learning Records Service.

Our data protection officer is James Simpson *'solicitor and qualified DPO'*

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)

We may also collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) information about your child that falls into 'special categories' of more sensitive personal data. This includes, but is not restricted to:

- Information about any medical conditions we need to be aware of, including physical and mental health
- Photographs and CCTV images captured in school

- Information about characteristics, such as ethnic background or special educational needs

We may also hold data about your child that we have received from other organisations, including other schools and social services.

Why we use this data

We use the data listed above to:

- Support pupil learning
- Monitor and report on pupil progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect pupil welfare
- Assess the quality of our services
- Carry out research
- Comply with the law regarding data sharing
- Make sure our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers) are used appropriately, legally and safely

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

- Article 6.1.e states that the use of personal data is justified if '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 this instance, the requirement for the school to deliver education under the Education Act (1996) requires us to collect information to deliver this service.
- Article 9 covers the use of sensitive personal information (this includes health and social care information). This is justified either by article 9.2.a (consent from the data subject) or article 9.2.e (processing is necessary for the purposes of preventive or occupational medicine, for the assessment of the working capacity of the employee, medical diagnosis, the provision of health or social care or treatment or the management of health or social care systems and services).

How we collect pupil information

We obtain pupil information via registration forms at the start of each academic year. In addition, when a child joins us from another school we are sent a secure file containing relevant information.

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 and we will tell you what you need to do if you do not want to share this information with us.

How we store pupil data

We hold pupil data securely for a set amount of time. For more information on how we keep your data safe, please visit [Bledlow Ridge School - Policies](#)

Who we share pupil information with

We do not share information about pupils with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so. Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with data protection law) we may share personal information about pupils with:

- Our local authority – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and exclusions
- The Department for Education
- The pupil's family and representatives
- Educators and examining bodies
- Our regulator [e.g. Ofsted]
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for (for example eschools and Mathletics)
- Financial organisations
- Central and local government
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Security organisations
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies

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:

Examples for school census:

- section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.
- Examples for Assessment and Reporting Arrangements:
- EYFSP - Section 40(2)(a) of the Childcare Act 2006 (Learning and Development Requirements) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/1772)
- KS1 (including phonics) - section 87 of the Education Act 2002. Article 9 of The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 1 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 20042
- KS2 - section 87 of the Education Act 2002. Article 11 of The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 2 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 20032
- 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

Local Authorities

We may be required to share information about our pupils with the local authority to ensure that they can conduct their statutory duties under

- The Schools Admission Code, including conducting Fair Access Panels.

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 Bledlow Ridge School, Church Lane, High Wycombe, HP14 4AZ, 01494 481253

Depending on the lawful basis above, you may 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/>

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

Withdrawal of consent and the right to lodge a complaint

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact our data protection officer.

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Contact us

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact the school office.

This notice is based on the Department for Education's model privacy notice for pupils, amended for parents and to reflect the way we use data in this school.

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/dfe-external-data-shares>

How to find out what personal information DfE hold about you

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018, you are entitled to ask the Department:

- 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, you should make a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department's 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 DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>