



DATA PROTECTION POLICY

WORMHOLT PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Article 16

Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life.

CHAIR SIGNATURE	
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Statement

Our school aims to ensure that all personal data collected about staff, pupils, parents and carers, governors, visitors and other individuals is collected, stored and processed in accordance with UK data protection law.

This policy applies to all personal data, regardless of whether it is in paper or electronic format.

Legislation and Guidance

This policy meets the requirements of the:

- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) – the EU GDPR was incorporated into UK legislation, with some amendments, by [The Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications \(Amendments etc\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [Data Protection Act 2018 \(DPA 2018\)](#)

It is based on guidance published by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) on the [UK GDPR](#) and guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on [Generative artificial intelligence in education](#).

Key Terms

TERM	DEFINITION
Personal data	Any information relating to an identified, or identifiable, living individual. This may include the individual's: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Name (including initials)➤ Identification number➤ Location data➤ Online identifier, such as a username It may also include factors specific to the individual's physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity.
Special categories of personal data	Personal data which is more sensitive and so needs more protection, including information about an individual's: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Racial or ethnic origin➤ Political opinions➤ Religious or philosophical beliefs➤ Trade union membership➤ Genetics➤ Health – physical or mental➤ Sex life or sexual orientation
Processing	Anything done to personal data, such as collecting, recording, organising, structuring, storing, adapting, altering, retrieving, using, disseminating, erasing or destroying. Processing can be automated or manual.
Data subject	The identified or identifiable individual whose personal data is held or processed.
Data controller	A person or organisation that determines the purposes and the means of processing personal data.
Data processor	A person or other body, other than an employee of the data controller, who processes personal data on behalf of the data controller.
Personal data breach	A breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data.

Roles and Responsibilities

The governing body has overall responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with its obligations under the DPA 2018. Day-to-day responsibility rests with the Headteacher. Members of staff are responsible for ensuring that they collect and store personal data in accordance with this policy and other related policies and procedures.

Wormholt Park Primary School collects personal information about pupils, parents and staff and other visitors is, therefore, a data controller.

The school is registered as a data controller with the Information Commissioner's Office and this registration is renewed annually.

Data Protection Officer

The data protection officer (DPO) is responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy, monitoring our compliance with data protection law, and developing related policies and guidelines where applicable.

They will provide an annual report of their activities directly to the governing board and, where relevant, report to the board their advice and recommendations on school data protection issues. The DPO is also the first point of contact for individuals whose data the school processes, and for the ICO.

Full details of the DPO's responsibilities are set out in their job description. Our DPO is Sam Everett and our Data Protection Lead (DPL) is Caroline Plummer.

Data Protection Principles

The DPA 2018 and GDPR contain key data protection principles, or rules, for good data handling and these include:

- Data shall be processed fairly, lawfully and in a transparent way
- Data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- Data that is collected shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- Data shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- Data shall be kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for which the personal data is processed
- Data shall be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data

Wormholt Park Primary School shall adhere to these principles at all times.

Privacy Notices

Pupils and Parents

We hold personal data about pupils at our school to support teaching and learning, provide pastoral care and to assess how the school is performing. We may also receive data about pupils from other organisations including, but not limited to, other schools, local authorities and the Department for Education. This data may include, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details
- Results of internal assessments and tests
- Data on pupil characteristics such as ethnicity or special educational needs
- Exclusion information
- Details of any medical conditions

- Information on free school meals eligibility

Data from other schools, local authorities and the Department for Education are transferred to the school using secure portals. Where other organisations share data with the school they are required to comply with the requirements of GDPR by ensuring that personal data is transferred using a secure system such as encrypted emails.

We will retain the data we collect only for as long as necessary to satisfy the purpose for which it has been collected and once it is no longer required will be deleted in accordance with the storage limitation principle of GDPR. We will not share information about pupils with anyone without parental consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so. Individuals who wish to see information that we hold about them should refer to the n Subject Access Requests section.

We are required, by law, to pass certain information about pupils to specified external bodies such as our local authority, the Department for Education and social services so that they are able to meet their statutory obligations.

Staff

We process data relating to those we employ to work at, or otherwise engage to work at, our school. The purpose of processing this data is to assist in the running of the school, including to:

- Enable individuals to be paid
- Facilitate safe recruitment
- Support effective performance management of staff
- Improvement management of workforce data across the sector
- Allow better financial modelling and planning
- Enable ethnicity and disability monitoring by the LA / Government
- Support the work of the School Teachers' Review Body

Staff personal data includes, but is not limited to, information such as:

- Contact details
- National insurance number
- Qualifications
- Salary information
- Absence data
- Personal characteristics, including ethnic groups, nationality, marital status
- Medical information
- Outcome of any disciplinary procedures

We will retain the data we collect for as long as is necessary to satisfy the purpose for which it has been collected or in accordance with legislative requirements. We will not share information about staff with third parties without consent unless the law allows us to.

We are required, by law, to pass certain information about staff to specified external bodies, such as our local authority, Department for Education and outsourced payroll provider, so that they are able to meet their statutory obligations.

Staff members who wish to obtain copies of information held about them should submit a Subject Access Request in accordance with the procedures set out in the school's Subject Access Requests Policy and Procedures.

Subject access requests and other rights of individuals

Subject access requests

Individuals have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that the school holds about them. This includes:

- Confirmation that their personal data is being processed
- Access to a copy of the data
- The purposes of the data processing
- The categories of personal data concerned
- Who the data has been, or will be, shared with
- How long the data will be stored for, or if this isn't possible, the criteria used to determine this period
- Where relevant, the existence of the right to request rectification, erasure or restriction, or to object to such processing
- The right to lodge a complaint with the ICO or another supervisory authority
- The source of the data, if not the individual
- Whether any automated decision-making is being applied to their data, and what the significance and consequences of this might be for the individual
- The safeguards provided if the data is being transferred internationally

Subject access requests can be submitted in any form, but we may be able to respond to requests more quickly if they are made in writing and include:

- Name of individual
- Correspondence address
- Contact number and email address
- Details of the information requested

If staff receive a subject access request in any form they must immediately forward it to the DPO.

Children and subject access requests

Personal data about a child belongs to that child, and not the child's parents or carers. For a parent or carer to make a subject access request with respect to their child, the child must either be unable to understand their rights and the implications of a subject access request, or have given their consent.

Children below the age of 12 are generally not regarded to be mature enough to understand their rights and the implications of a subject access request. Therefore, most subject access requests from parents or carers of pupils at our school may be granted without the express permission of the pupil. This is not a rule and a pupil's ability to understand their rights will always be judged on a case-by-case basis.

Parental requests to see the educational record

Parents, or those with parental responsibility, have a legal right to free access to their child's educational record (which includes most information about a pupil) within 15 school days of receipt of a written request.

If the request is for a copy of the educational record, the school may charge a fee to cover the cost of supplying it.

This right applies as long as the pupil concerned is aged under 18.

There are certain circumstances in which this right can be denied, such as if releasing the information might cause serious harm to the physical or mental health of the pupil or another individual, or if it would mean releasing exam marks before they are officially announced.

Storage of records

- Records are stored in accordance with the school's Records Retention Policy and Schedule which outlines requirements as published by the Records Management Society. The schedule will be updated at such time that further guidance is issued.
- Paper-based records and portable electronic devices, such as laptops and hard drives that contain personal information are kept under lock and key when not in use
- Papers containing confidential personal information will not be left on office and classroom desks, on staffroom tables or pinned to noticeboards where there is general access
- Where personal information needs to be taken off site (in paper or electronic form), staff must follow the Data Management Policy
- Passwords that are at least 8 characters long containing letters and numbers are used to access school computers, laptops and other electronic devices. Staff are reminded to change their passwords at regular intervals
- Encryption software is used to protect all portable devices and removable media, such as laptops and USB devices. Staff must not use personal devices.

Disposal of records

Records are disposed of in accordance with the timeline stated in the school's Records Retention Policy and Schedule which complies with legislation and statutory requirements and in accordance with guidance published by the Records Management Society.

Personal information that is no longer needed is disposed of securely. All personal information is securely contained onsite, then collected by an outside company for safe disposal, electronic files are overwritten. We also use an outside company to safely dispose of computer hard drives.

Photos and Videos

Images of staff and pupils may be captured at appropriate times and as part of educational activities for use in school only. Photos taken of pupils will only be taken using school equipment including digital cameras, tablets and iPads.

Unless prior consent from parents/pupils/staff has been given, the school shall not utilise such images for publication or communication to external sources.

Where pupils participate in a school production parents may use their own devices to take photographs. We expect parents to respect the choice of others and act in accordance with this policy by not publishing photographs that contain other individuals onto social media sites. If a parent wishes to use a personal photograph of their child that parent is responsible for ensuring that other individuals are cropped out of the picture.

Photographs and videos

As part of our school activities, we may take photographs and record images of individuals within our school.

We will obtain written consent from parents/carers for photographs and videos to be taken of their child for communication, marketing and promotional materials. We will clearly explain how the photograph and/or video will be used to both the parent/carer and the pupil.

Any photographs and videos taken by parents/carers at school events for their own personal use are not covered by data protection legislation. However, we will ask that photos or videos with other pupils are not shared publicly on social media for safeguarding reasons, unless all the relevant parents/carers have agreed to this.

Artificial intelligence (AI)

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard. Wormholt Park Primary

School recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but also poses risks to sensitive and personal data.

To ensure that personal and sensitive data remains secure, no one will be permitted to enter such data into unauthorised generative AI tools or chatbots.

If personal and/or sensitive data is entered into an unauthorised generative AI tool, Wormholt Park Primary School will treat this as a data breach, and will follow the personal data breach procedure outlined in appendix 1.

Data protection by design and default

We will put measures in place to show that we have integrated data protection into all of our data processing activities, including:

- Appointing a suitably qualified DPO, and ensuring they have the necessary resources to fulfil their duties and maintain their expert knowledge
- Only processing personal data that is necessary for each specific purpose of processing, and always in line with the data protection principles set out in relevant data protection law (see section 6)
- Completing data protection impact assessments where the school's processing of personal data presents a high risk to rights and freedoms of individuals, and when introducing new technologies (the DPO will advise on this process)
- Integrating data protection into internal documents including this policy, any related policies and privacy notices
- Regularly training members of staff on data protection law, this policy, any related policies and any other data protection matters; we will also keep a record of attendance
- Regularly conducting reviews and audits to test our privacy measures and make sure we are compliant
- Appropriate safeguards being put in place if we transfer any personal data outside of the UK, where different data protection laws may apply
- Maintaining records of our processing activities, including:
 - For the benefit of data subjects, making available the name and contact details of our school and DPO, and all information we are required to share about how we use and process their personal data (via our privacy notices)
 - For all personal data that we hold, maintaining an internal record of the type of data, type of data subject, how and why we are using the data, any third-party recipients, any transfers outside of the UK and the safeguards for those, retention periods and how we are keeping the data secure

Data security and storage of records

We will protect personal data and keep it safe from unauthorised or unlawful access, alteration, processing or disclosure, and against accidental or unlawful loss, destruction or damage.

In particular:

- Paper-based records and portable electronic devices, such as laptops and hard drives that contain personal data, are kept under lock and key when not in use
- Papers containing confidential personal data must not be left on office and classroom desks, on staffroom tables, or left anywhere else where there is general access
- Where personal information needs to be taken off site, staff must sign it in and out from the school office
- Passwords that are at least 10 characters long containing letters and numbers are used to access school computers, laptops and other electronic devices. Staff and pupils are reminded that they should not reuse passwords from other sites
- Encryption software is used to protect all portable devices and removable media, such as laptops and USB devices
- Staff, pupils or governors who store personal information on their personal devices are expected to follow the same security procedures as for school-owned equipment, see our acceptable use agreement.

- Where we need to share personal data with a third party, we carry out due diligence and take reasonable steps to ensure it is stored securely and adequately protected (see section 8)

Disposal of records

Personal data that is no longer needed will be disposed of securely. Personal data that has become inaccurate or out of date will also be disposed of securely, where we cannot or do not need to rectify or update it.

For example, we will shred or incinerate paper-based records, and overwrite or delete electronic files. We may also use a third party to safely dispose of records on the school's behalf. If we do so, we will require the third party to provide sufficient guarantees that it complies with data protection law.

Personal data breaches

The school will make all reasonable endeavours to ensure that there are no personal data breaches.

In the unlikely event of a suspected data breach, we will follow the procedure set out in appendix 1.

When appropriate, we will report the data breach to the ICO within 72 hours after becoming aware of it. Such breaches in a school context may include, but are not limited to:

- A non-anonymised dataset being published on the school website, which shows the exam results of pupils eligible for the pupil premium
- Safeguarding information being made available to an unauthorised person
- The theft of a school laptop containing non-encrypted personal data about pupils

Training

All staff and governors are provided with data protection training as part of their induction process.

Data protection will also form part of continuing professional development, where changes to legislation, guidance or the school's processes make it necessary.

Monitoring arrangements

The DPO / DPL is responsible for monitoring and reviewing this policy.

This policy will be reviewed **annually** and approved by the full governing board.

Appendix 1: Personal data breach procedure

This procedure is based on [guidance on personal data breaches](#) produced by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

- On finding or causing a breach or potential breach, the staff member, governor or data processor must immediately notify the data protection officer (DPO) by emailing DPO@wormholtprimary.co.uk
- The DPO will investigate the report and determine whether a breach has occurred. To decide, the DPO will consider whether personal data has been accidentally or unlawfully:
 - Lost
 - Stolen
 - Destroyed
 - Altered
 - Disclosed or made available where it should not have been
 - Made available to unauthorised people
- Staff and governors will co-operate with the investigation (including allowing access to information and responding to questions). The investigation will not be treated as a disciplinary investigation
- If a breach has occurred or it is considered to be likely that is the case, the DPO will alert the headteacher and the chair of governors
- The DPO will make all reasonable efforts to contain and minimise the impact of the breach. Relevant staff members or data processors should help the DPO with this where necessary, and the DPO should take external advice when required (e.g. from IT providers). (See the actions relevant to specific data types at the end of this procedure)
- The DPO will assess the potential consequences (based on how serious they are and how likely they are to happen) before and after the implementation of steps to mitigate the consequences
- The DPO will work out whether the breach must be reported to the ICO and the individuals affected using the ICO's [self-assessment tool](#)
- The DPO will document the decisions (either way), in case the decisions are challenged at a later date by the ICO or an individual affected by the breach. Documented decisions are stored on the school's computer system.
- Where the ICO must be notified, the DPO will do this via the '[report a breach](#)' page of the ICO website, or through its breach report line (0303 123 1113), within 72 hours of the school's awareness of the breach. As required, the DPO will set out:
 - A description of the nature of the personal data breach including, where possible:
 - The categories and approximate number of individuals concerned
 - The categories and approximate number of personal data records concerned
 - The name and contact details of the DPO
 - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach
 - A description of the measures that have been, or will be taken, to deal with the breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned
- If all the above details are not yet known, the DPO will report as much as they can within 72 hours of the school's awareness of the breach. The report will explain that there is a delay, the reasons why, and when the DPO expects to have further information. The DPO will submit the remaining information as soon as possible
- Where the school is required to communicate with individuals whose personal data has been breached, the DPO will tell them in writing. This notification will set out:
 - A description, in clear and plain language, of the nature of the personal data breach
 - The name and contact details of the DPO
 - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach

- A description of the measures that have been, or will be, taken to deal with the data breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned
- The DPO will consider, in light of the investigation and any engagement with affected individuals, whether to notify any relevant third parties who can help mitigate the loss to individuals – for example, the police, insurers, banks or credit card companies
- The DPO will document each breach, irrespective of whether it is reported to the ICO. For each breach, this record will include the:
 - Facts and cause
 - Effects
 - Action taken to contain it and ensure it does not happen again (such as establishing more robust processes or providing further training for individuals)
- Records of all breaches will be stored on the school's computer system.
- The DPO and headteacher will meet to review what happened and how it can be stopped from happening again. This meeting will happen as soon as reasonably possible
- The DPO and headteacher will meet as necessary to assess recorded data breaches and identify any trends or patterns requiring action by the school to reduce risks of future breaches

Actions to minimise the impact of data breaches

We set out below the steps we might take to try and mitigate the impact of different types of data breach if they were to occur, focusing especially on breaches involving particularly risky or sensitive information. We will review the effectiveness of these actions and amend them as necessary after any data breach.

Sensitive information being disclosed via email (including safeguarding records)

- If special category data (sensitive information) is accidentally made available via email to unauthorised individuals, the sender must attempt to recall the email as soon as they become aware of the error
- Members of staff who receive personal data sent in error must alert the sender and the DPO as soon as they become aware of the error
- If the sender is unavailable or cannot recall the email for any reason, the DPO will ask the IT support provider to attempt to recall it.
- In any cases where the recall is unsuccessful or cannot be confirmed as successful, the DPO will consider whether it's appropriate to contact the relevant unauthorised individuals who received the email, explain that the information was sent in error, and request that those individuals delete the information and do not share, publish, save or replicate it in any way
- The DPO will endeavor to obtain a written response from all the individuals who received the data, confirming that they have complied with this request
- The DPO will carry out an internet search to check that the information has not been made public; if it has, we will contact the publisher/website owner or administrator to request that the information is removed from their website and deleted
- If safeguarding information is compromised, the DPO will inform the designated safeguarding lead and discuss whether the school should inform any, or all, of its 3 local safeguarding partners

Other types of breach that you might want to consider could include:

- Details of pupil premium interventions for named children being published on the school website
- Non-anonymised pupil exam results or staff pay information being shared with governors
- A school laptop containing non-encrypted sensitive personal data being stolen or hacked
- The school's cashless payment provider being hacked and parents' financial details stolen
- Hardcopy reports sent to the wrong pupils or families

Links with other policies

CCTV Policy