

Data Protection Policy for Staff 2020

Monitoring

By	Review Period	Method
Full governing board	Bi-annual	Meeting

Owner: Human Resources Manager

Revision History

Review	Changes	Next Review Date
January 2017	Revised Policy	January 2019
May 2018	Revised due to change in legislation	May 2020
June 2020	Reviewed	June 2022



1 **Introduction**

- 1.1 This policy is about your obligations under the data protection legislation. Data protection is about regulating the way that the College uses and stores information about identifiable people (Personal Data). It also gives people various rights regarding their data - such as the right to access the Personal Data that the College holds on them.
- 1.2 We will collect, store and process Personal Data about our staff, pupils, parents, suppliers and other third parties. We recognise that the correct and lawful treatment of this data will maintain confidence in the College and will ensure that the College operates successfully.
- 1.3 You are obliged to comply with this policy when processing Personal Data on our behalf. Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action.
- 1.4 The Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager is responsible for helping you to comply with the College's obligations. All queries concerning data protection matters should be raised with Senior HR and Data Compliance.

2 **Application**

- 2.1 This policy is aimed at all staff working in the College (whether directly or indirectly), whether paid or unpaid, whatever their position, role or responsibilities, which includes employees, governors, contractors, agency staff, work experience / placement students and volunteers.
- 2.2 This policy does not form part of your contract of employment and may be amended by the College at any time.

3 **What information falls within the scope of this policy**

- 3.1 Data protection concerns information about individuals.
- 3.2 Personal Data is data which relates to a living person who can be identified either from that data, or from the data and other information that is available.
- 3.3 Information as simple as someone's name and address is their Personal Data.
- 3.4 In order for you to do your job, you will need to use and create Personal Data. Virtually anything might include Personal Data.
- 3.5 Examples of places where Personal Data might be found are:
 - 3.5.1 on a computer database;
 - 3.5.2 in a file, such as a pupil report;
 - 3.5.3 a register or contract of employment;
 - 3.5.4 pupils' exercise books, coursework and mark books;
 - 3.5.5 health records; and

- 3.5.6 email correspondence.
- 3.6 Examples of documents where Personal Data might be found are:
 - 3.6.1 a report about a child protection incident;
 - 3.6.2 a record about disciplinary action taken against a member of staff;
 - 3.6.3 photographs of pupils;
 - 3.6.4 a tape recording of a job interview;
 - 3.6.5 contact details and other personal information held about pupils, parents and staff and their families;
 - 3.6.6 contact details of a member of the public who is enquiring about placing their child at the School;
 - 3.6.7 financial records of a parent;
 - 3.6.8 information on a pupil's performance; and
 - 3.6.9 an opinion about a parent or colleague in an email.
- 3.7 These are just examples - there may be many other things that you use and create that would be considered Personal Data.
- 3.8 **Special Category Data:** The following categories are referred to as **Special Category Data** in this policy and in the Information Security policy. You must be particularly careful when dealing with Special Category Data which falls into any of the categories below:
 - 3.8.1
 - 3.9 Racial
 - Ethnic Origin
 - Political Opinion
 - Religious/Philosophical Belief
 - Trade Union Membership
 - Genetic Data
 - Biometric Data
 - Health
 - Sex life/orientation

If you have any questions about your processing of these categories of Special Category Data please speak to the Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager.
- 4 **Your obligations**
 - 4.1 **Personal Data must be processed fairly, lawfully and transparently**
 - 4.1.1 What does this mean in practice?
 - (a) "Processing" covers virtually everything which is done in relation to Personal Data, including using, disclosing, copying and storing Personal Data.

- (b) People must be told what data is collected about them, what it is used for, and who it might be shared with, unless it is obvious. They must also be given other information, such as, what rights they have in their information, how long we keep it for and about their right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (the data protection regulator).

This information is often provided in a document known as a privacy notice or a transparency notice. Copies of the College's privacy notices can be accessed on the College's website. You must familiarise yourself with the College's Pupil, Parent and Staff Privacy notices.

- (c) If you are using Personal Data in a way which you think an individual might think is unfair please speak to the Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager.

- (d) You must only process Personal Data for the following purposes:

- (i) ensuring that the College provides a safe and secure environment;
- (ii) providing pastoral care;
- (iii) providing education and learning for our pupils;
- (iv) providing additional activities for pupils and parents (for example activity clubs);
- (v) protecting and promoting the College's interests and objectives (for example fundraising);
- (vi) safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils; and
- (vii) to fulfil the College's contractual and other legal obligations.

- (e) If you want to do something with Personal Data that is not on the above list, or is not set out in the relevant privacy notice(s), you must speak to Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager. This is to make sure that the College has a lawful reason for using the Personal Data.

- (f) We may sometimes rely on the consent of the individual to use their Personal Data. This consent must meet certain requirements and therefore you should speak to Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager if you think that you may need to obtain consent.

4.2 You must only process Personal Data for limited purposes and in an appropriate way.

4.2.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) For example, if pupils are told that they will be photographed to enable staff to recognise them when writing references, you should not use those photographs for another purpose (e.g. in the College's prospectus). Please see the College's Code of Conduct and the Guidance for Staff on the use of Photographs and Videos of Pupils by the College for further information relating to the use of photographs and videos.

4.3 Personal Data held must be adequate and relevant for the purpose

4.3.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) This means not making decisions based on incomplete data. For example, when writing reports you must make sure that you are using all of the relevant information about the pupil.

4.4 You must not hold excessive or unnecessary Personal Data

4.4.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) Personal Data must not be processed in a way that is excessive or unnecessary. For example, you should only collect information about a pupil's medical history if that Personal Data has some relevance, such as allowing the College to care for the pupil and meet their medical needs.

4.5 The Personal Data that you hold must be accurate

4.5.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) You must ensure that Personal Data is complete and kept up to date. For example, if a parent notifies you that their contact details have changed, you should update the College's information management system.

4.6 You must not keep Personal Data longer than necessary

4.6.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) The College has a policy about how long different types of data should be kept for and when data should be destroyed. This applies to both paper and electronic documents. You must be particularly careful when you are deleting data.
- (b) Please speak to Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager for guidance on the retention periods and secure deletion.

4.7 **You must keep Personal Data secure**

4.7.1 You must comply with the following College policies and guidance relating to the handling of Personal Data:

- (a) information security policy;
- (b) Guidance for Staff on the use of Photographs and Videos of Pupils by the College;
- (c) IT acceptable use policy for staff; and
- (d) information and records retention policy.

4.8 **You must not transfer Personal Data outside the EEA without adequate protection**

4.8.1 What does this mean in practice?

- (a) If you need to transfer personal data outside the EEA please contact Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager. For example, if you are arranging a school trip to a country outside the EEA.

5 **Sharing Personal Data outside the College - dos and don'ts**

5.1 Please review the following dos and don'ts:

- 5.1.1 **DO** share Personal Data on a need to know basis - think about why it is necessary to share data outside of the College - if in doubt - always ask the Data Protection Officer.
- 5.1.2 **DO** encrypt emails which contain Critical Personal Data described in paragraph 3.8 above. For example, encryption should be used when sending details of a safeguarding incident to social services.
- 5.1.3 **DO** make sure that you have permission from your Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager to share Personal Data on the College website.
- 5.1.4 **DO** be aware of "blagging". This is the use of deceit to obtain Personal Data from people or organisations. You should seek advice from Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager where you are suspicious as to why the information is being requested or if you are unsure of the identity of the requester (e.g. if a request has come from a parent but using a different email address).
- 5.1.5 **DO** be aware of phishing. Phishing is a way of making something (such as an email or a letter) appear as if it has come from a trusted source. This is a method used by fraudsters to access valuable personal details, such as usernames and passwords. Don't reply to email, text, or pop-up messages that ask for personal or financial information or click on any links in an email from

someone that you don't recognise. Report all concerns about phishing to the IT department.

- 5.1.6 **DO NOT** disclose Personal Data to the Police without permission from the Data Protection Officer (unless it is an emergency).
- 5.1.7 **DO NOT** disclose Personal Data to contractors without permission from Senior HR and Data Compliance Manager. This includes, for example, sharing Personal Data with an external marketing team to carry out a pupil recruitment event.

6 **Sharing Personal Data within the College**

- 6.1 This section applies when Personal Data is shared within the College.
- 6.2 Personal Data must only be shared within the College on a "need to know" basis.
- 6.3 Examples of sharing which are **likely** to comply with data protection legislation:
 - 6.3.1 a teacher discussing a pupil's academic progress with other members of staff (for example, to ask for advice on how best to support the pupil);
 - 6.3.2 informing an exam invigilator that a particular pupil suffers from panic attacks; and
 - 6.3.3 disclosing details of a teaching assistant's allergy to bee stings to colleagues so that you/they will know how to respond (but more private health matters must be kept confidential).
- 6.4 Examples of sharing which are **unlikely** to comply with data protection legislation:
 - 6.4.1 informing all staff that a pupil has been diagnosed with dyslexia (rather than just informing those staff who teach the pupil); and
 - 6.4.2 disclosing personal contact details for a member of staff (e.g. their home address and telephone number) to other members of staff (unless the member of staff has given permission or it is an emergency).
- 6.5 You may share Personal Data to avoid harm, for example in child protection and safeguarding matters. You should have received training on when to share information regarding welfare and safeguarding issues. If you have not received this training please contact the HR team as a matter of urgency.

7 **Individuals' rights in their Personal Data**

- 7.1 People have various rights in their information.

7.2 You must be able to recognise when someone is exercising their rights so that you can refer the matter to Data Protection Officer. These rights can be exercised either in writing (e.g. in an email) or verbally.

- (a) Please let the Data Protection Officer know if anyone (either for themselves or on behalf of another person, such as their child):
 - (i) wants to know what information the College holds about them or their child;
 - (ii) asks to withdraw any consent that they have given to use their information or information about their child;
 - (iii) wants the College to delete any information;
 - (iv) asks the College to correct or change information (unless this is a routine updating of information such as contact details);
 - (v) asks for electronic information which they provided to the College to be transferred back to them or to another organisation;
 - (vi) wants the College to stop using their information for direct marketing purposes. Direct marketing has a broad meaning for data protection purposes and might include communications such as the College newsletter or alumni events information; or
 - (vii) objects to how the College is using their information or wants the College to stop using their information in a particular way, for example, if they are not happy that information has been shared with a third party.

8 Requests for Personal Data (Subject Access Requests)

- 8.1 One of the most commonly exercised rights mentioned in section 7 above is the right to make a subject access request. Under this right people are entitled to request a copy of the Personal Data which the College holds about them (or in some cases their child) and to certain supplemental information.
- 8.2 Subject access requests do not have to be labelled as such and do not even have to mention data protection. For example, an email which simply states "Please send me copies of all emails you hold about me" is a valid subject access request. You must always immediately let the Data Protection Officer know when you receive any such requests.
- 8.3 Receiving a subject access request is a serious matter for the College and involves complex legal rights. Staff must never respond to a subject access request themselves.

- 8.4 When a subject access request is made, the College must disclose all of that person's Personal Data to them which falls within the scope of his/her request - there are only very limited exceptions. There is no exemption for embarrassing information - so think carefully when writing letters and emails as they could be disclosed following a subject access request. However, this should not deter you from recording and passing on information where this is appropriate to fulfil your professional duties, particularly in relation to safeguarding matters.

9 **Breach of this policy**

- 9.1 A breach of this policy may be treated as misconduct and could result in disciplinary action including in serious cases, dismissal.
- 9.2 A member of staff who deliberately or recklessly discloses Personal Data held by the College without proper authority is also guilty of a criminal offence.