



ST. MARY'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Privacy Notice for Parents/Carers

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

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

We, St. Mary's RC Primary School, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law. The school's Data Protection Officer is Gill Smith.

The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about pupils includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil and curricular records
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background, nationality, country of birth, eligibility for free school meals, or special educational needs
- Details of any medical conditions, including physical and mental health
- Attendance information
- Safeguarding information
- Exclusion information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs

We may also hold data about pupils that we have received from other organisations, including other schools, local authorities and the Department for Education.

Where do we get your personal data from?

We obtain your personal data directly from you, by way of information gathering exercises at appropriate times such as when your child joins the school and on our annual data collection form. We may also obtain information about you from other sources. This might include information from the local authority or other professionals or bodies, including a Court, which may raise concerns in relation to your child.

Why we use this data

We use this data to:

- Support pupil learning
- Monitor and report on pupil progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect pupil welfare
- Assess the quality of our services
- Administer admissions waiting lists
- Comply with the law regarding data sharing

Our legal basis for using this data

We only collect and use pupils' personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we process it where:

- We need to comply with a legal obligation
- We need it to perform an official task in the public interest

Less commonly, we may also process pupils' personal data in situations where:

- We have obtained consent to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect the individual's vital interests (or someone else's interests)

Where we have obtained consent to use pupils' personal data, this consent can be withdrawn at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent and explain how consent can be withdrawn.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using pupils' personal data overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify our use of this data.

Collecting this information

Whilst the majority of pupil information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

How we store this data

We keep personal information about pupils while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary in order to comply with our legal obligations.

Our Information Management Policy sets out how long we keep information about pupils. This policy can be found on our website, or a printed copy is available on request from the School Office.

Data sharing

We do not share information about our pupils with anyone 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
- Schools that pupils attend after leaving us
- Supply staff who work with school on an ad hoc basis
- The pupil's family and representatives
- OfSTED
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for
- Extended Services providing support to pupils through school
- Curriculum software packages
- Emergency contact information is accessed by 'Teachers2Parents' texting and Parents' Evening service
- Email addresses are used via Office365 for communication with parents
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies
- Pupils' details are used by the Parish Priest for baptismal information and the Sacramental Programme
- Out of School Club administration accesses child's information and emergency contact details provided by parents
- External venues for trips and residential packages

National Pupil Database

We are required to share information about our pupils with the Local Authority (LA) and the Department for Education (DfE) under section 3 of the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

Some of this information is then stored 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.

We are required by law, to provide information about our pupils to the DfE as part of statutory data collections such as the school census and early years' census. Some of this information is then stored in the NPD. The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

To find out more about the pupil information we share with the department, for the purpose of data collections, go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>.

The DfE may share information about our pupils from the NPD with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children in England by:

- conducting research or analysis
- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The DfE has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data. Decisions on whether DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of:

- who is requesting the data
- the purpose for which it is required
- the level and sensitivity of data requested: and
- the arrangements in place to store and handle the data

To be granted access to pupil information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of the data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information about the DfE's data sharing process, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

For information about which organisations the DfE has provided pupil information, (and for which project), please visit the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received>

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

Transferring data internationally

Where we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with data protection law.

Parents and pupils' rights regarding personal data

How to access personal information we hold about you

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

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and processing it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

You may also have the right for your personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact our data protection officer or Head Teacher. You are entitled to submit subject access requests all year round, but please bear in mind that it may be necessary for us to extend the response period when requests are submitted over the summer holidays. This is in accordance with article 12(3) of the GDPR, and will be the case where the request is complex – for example, where we need multiple staff to collect the data.

Other rights

Under data protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Object to the use of personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Prevent it being used to send direct marketing
- Object to decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing

- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

Legal Basis

The lawful bases for processing are set out in Article 6 of the GDPR. At least one of these must apply whenever you process personal data:

- a) Consent: the individual has given clear consent for you to process their personal data for a specific purpose.
- b) Contract: the processing is necessary for a contract you have with the individual, or because they have asked you to take specific steps before entering into a contract.
- c) Legal obligation: the processing is necessary for you to comply with the law (not including contractual obligations).
- d) Vital interests: the processing is necessary to protect someone's life.
- e) Public task: the processing is necessary for you to perform a task in the public interest or for your official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law.
- f) Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests. (This cannot apply if you are a public authority processing data to perform your official tasks.)

Special Category Data

GDPR identifies that some information is particularly sensitive and therefore needs extra protection:

- Racial or ethnic origin
- Political opinions
- Religious or philosophical beliefs
- Trade union membership
- Health
- Sexual life or orientation
- Genetic data (e.g. blood samples DNA)
- Biometric data to identify an individual (e.g. finger-prints, iris recognition)
- Financial information

Special Category Conditions

Article 9 of sets out the special category conditions. If you are processing special category data you need to meet a special category condition in addition to the legal basis identified above:

- The data subject has given explicit consent
- Necessary to protect the vital interests where the data subject is physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data has been made publically available by the data subject
- Processing is carried out by a foundation or not-for-profit body in the course of its legitimate activities
- Necessary to process legal claims
- Necessary for archiving statistical or historical research which is in the public interest
- Necessary for reasons of substantial public interest on the basis of UK law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued

Complaints

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, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance. Alternatively, you can contact 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 our **Data Protection Officer**.

Contact details

Data Protection Officer
Mrs Gill Smith
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Headteacher
Mrs Dominique Hayes
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