



## Privacy Notice for Parents/Carers (2025)

### Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

**Gorsewood Primary School is the data controller for the use of personal data.**

#### **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)
- School trips and activities information
- School meals and free school meal information

This list is not exhaustive, to access the current list of categories of information we process please contact the school.

#### **Why we collect and use pupil information**

We collect and use pupil information, for the following purposes:

- a) to support pupil learning
- b) to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress
- c) to provide appropriate pastoral care including safeguarding for all children
- d) to assess the quality of our services
- e) to keep children safe (food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- f) to meet the statutory duties placed upon us for the Department for Education (DfE) data collections

#### **Our legal basis for using your data**

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) we will only collect and use personal information when the law allows us to. In most cases, this will be where:

- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide you with an education)
- We need to comply with a legal obligation

Sometimes, we may also use personal information where:

- You have given us consent to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect your interests (or someone else's interest)

Where we have got consent to use your data you may withdraw this at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent, and explain how you can withdraw consent.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your data overlap and there may be several grounds which mean we can use your data.

In addition, concerning any special category data the following conditions apply:

- (a) Explicit consent
- (c) Vital interests
- (d) Not-for-profit bodies
- (e) Made public by the data subject
- (f) Legal claims or judicial acts
- (g) Reasons of substantial public interest (with a basis in law)
- (h) Health or social care (with a basis in law)
- (i) Public health (with a basis in law)
- (j) Archiving, research and statistics (with a basis in law)

### **Collecting pupil information**

We collect pupil information via school admission registration forms, Common Transfer File (CTF) or secure file transfer from previous schools.

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.

### **Storing pupil data**

We hold pupil 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 contact the school office.

### **Who we share pupil information with**

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- our local authority
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- School health & NHS
- Safeguarding Board
- curriculum resources (all web resources are checked, and minimal details are shared with online teaching resources)

### **Why we regularly share pupil information**

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.

The sharing of this information allows us to safeguard our pupils and meet their needs more effectively.

## **Department for Education (DfE)**

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 more information, please see the Department for Education webpage [How DfE shares personal data - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/transparency/department-for-education-shares-personal-data)

## **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 the school office.

You also have the right to:

- to ask us for access to information about you that we hold
- to have your personal data rectified, if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
- to restrict our processing of your personal data (i.e. permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to direct marketing (including profiling) and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you

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/>

## **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 January 2023.

## **Contact**

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact the school office.

## **How Government uses your data**

The pupil data that we lawfully share with the the Department for Education (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 (DfE) (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 (DfE) 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 for Education (DfE).

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 for Education (DfE)**

The law allows the Department for Education (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/dfe-external-data-shares>

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

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018, you are 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'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education's (DfE) 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 the Department for Education (DfE): <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>