



Privacy Notice (How we use Pupil Information)

Introduction

Clarity Independent School is the data controller for the use of personal data in this privacy notice.

As a school we collect a significant amount of information about our pupils. This notice explains why we collect the information how we use it, the type of information we collect and our lawful reasons to do so.

The Categories of Pupil Information that we Process

The DfE and government require us to collect a lot of data by law, so that they can monitor and support schools more widely, as well as checking on individual schools' effectiveness.

The categories of pupil information that the school collects, holds and shares include the following:

- 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)
- CCTV, photos and video recordings are also personal information

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
- 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
- g) Enable targeted, personalized learning for pupils
- h) Manage behaviour and effective discipline
- i) Comply with our legal obligations to share data
- j) Keep pupils, parents and carers informed about school news and events

Our Legal Obligation

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

The Education Act 1996, Regulation 5 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013, Article 6 and Article 9 of the UK GDPR.

The Department for Education and Local Authorities require us to collect certain information and report back to them. This is called a 'public task' and is recognised in law as it is necessary to provide the Information.

We also have obligations to collect data about children who are at risk of suffering harm and to share with other agencies who have a responsibility to safeguard children, such as the police and social care.

We share information about pupils who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Medical teams have access to some information about pupils, either by agreement or because the law says we must share information, for example school nurses may visit the school.

Counselling services, careers services, occupational therapists are the type of people we will share information with, so long as we have consent or are required by law to do so.

We must keep up to date information about parents and carers for emergency contacts.

Some examples of how we use data in school as shown below:-

Legal basis for Processing	Data Example
Consent	School newsletters, CCTV
Contract	Contracts with third party suppliers such as counselling services, Careers services and occupational therapists etc.

Legal obligation	Admissions, attendance, census information
Vital interests	Emergency contact information, medical information
Public task	The DfE and Local Authorities require us to collect certain information and report back to them
Legitimate interests	Fraud prevention

In addition, concerning any special category data:

This might include Ethnicity, Health and Religion. We will process this data under the legal basis of Legal obligation and Public task.

Collecting Pupil Information

We collect pupil information via pupil data collection sheets at the start of the year. Common Transfer File (CTF) or secure file transfer from the previous school.

Pupil data is essential for the schools' operational use. Whilst the majority of pupil information parents provide to us is mandatory, some of it is requested on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the data protection legislation, we will inform parents at the point of collection, whether they are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if there is 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 visit <https://www.clarity.essex.sch.uk>

Who we share pupil information with

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- our Local Education Authority
- other Local Education Authorities
- youth support services (pupils aged 13+)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- the NHS

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.

Youth Support Services

Pupils aged 13+

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we also pass pupil information to our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- youth support services
- careers advisers

The information shared is limited to the child's name, address and date of birth. However where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service via secure electronic file transfer and is stored electronically and held in accordance with their data retention policy.

Pupils aged 16+

We will also share certain information about pupils aged 16+ with our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- post-16 education and training providers
- youth support services
- careers advisers

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service via secure electronic file transfer and is stored electronically and held in accordance with their data retention policy.

For more information about services for young people, please visit our local authority website.

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 the purpose of those data collections, under:

We are required to share information about our pupils with the DfE under regulation 5 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

All data is transferred securely and held by the Department for Education (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. For privacy information on the data the Department for Education collects and uses, please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-early-years-foundation-stage-to-key-stage-3>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-key-stage-4-and-5-and-adult-education>

Requesting Access To Your Personal Data

The UK -GDPR gives parents and pupils certain rights about how their information is collected and used. To make a request for your personal information, or be given access to your child's educational record, contact the schools DPO as detailed In the Data Protection policy.

You (parents of pupils, or pupils over the age of 13) also have the following rights:

- the right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data – this is called 'right to be informed'.
- the right to ask us for copies of your personal information we have about you – this is called 'right of access', this is also known as a subject access request (SAR), data subject access request or right of access request.
- the right to ask us to change any information you think is not accurate or complete – this is called 'right to rectification'.
- the right to ask us to delete your personal information – this is called 'right to erasure'
- the right to ask us to stop using your information – this is called 'right to restriction of processing'.

- the 'right to object to processing' of your information, in certain circumstances
- rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.
- the right to withdraw consent at any time (where relevant).
- the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner](#) if you feel we have not used your information in the right way.

There are legitimate reasons why we may refuse your information rights request, which depends on why we are processing it. For example, some rights will not apply:

- right to erasure does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task.
- right to portability does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests.
- right to object does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't have the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent.

If you have a concern 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 [raise a concern with ICO](#).

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

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.

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact:

The School Business Manager
Clarity Independent School
Bridge Farm Barn
Woodhill Road
Sandon,
Essex
CM2 7SG
Tel: 01245 408 606
businessmanager@clarity.essex.sch.uk

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. This information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and awarding bodies.

The data in the NPD is provided as part of the operation of the education system and is used for research and statistical purposes to improve, and promote, the education and well-being of children in England.

The evidence and data provide DfE, education providers, Parliament and the wider public with a clear picture of how the education and children's services sectors are working in order to better

target, and evaluate, policy interventions to help ensure all children are kept safe from harm and receive the best possible education.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice>

Sharing by the Department of Education (DfE)

DfE will only share pupils' personal data where it is lawful, secure and ethical to do so. Where these conditions are met, 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>

or

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/requesting-your-personal-information/requesting-your-personal-information#your-rights>

To contact the Department for Education (DfE): <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>