



Data Protection Policy

Date approved:	October 2021
Approved by:	NGST Trust Board
Next review date:	October 2023

1. Aims

Our school aims to ensure that all personal data collected about staff, pupils, parents, governors, visitors and other individuals is collected, stored and processed in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

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

2. 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](#).

It also reflects the ICO's [code of practice](#) for the use of surveillance cameras and personal information.

3. Policy statement

Everyone has rights with regard to how their personal information is handled. During the course of our activities we will collect, store and process personal information about our staff, and we recognise the need to treat it in an appropriate and lawful manner.

The types of information that we may be required to handle include details of current, past and prospective employees, suppliers, pupils and others that we communicate with.

The information, which may be held on paper or on a computer or other media, is subject to certain legal safeguards specified in the Data Protection Act 1998 (the Act) and other regulations. The Act imposes restrictions on how we may use that information. This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and it may be amended at any time. Any breach of this policy will be taken seriously and may result in disciplinary action.

4. Status of the policy

This policy has been approved by the Trust. It sets out our rules on data protection and the legal conditions that must be satisfied in relation to the obtaining, handling, processing, storage, transportation and destruction of personal information.

The Data Protection Compliance Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act and with this policy. Any questions or concerns about the operation of this policy should be referred in the first instance to the Data Protection Compliance Manager.

If you consider that the policy has not been followed in respect of personal data about yourself or others you should raise the matter with your line manager [or the Data Protection Compliance Manager].

5. Definition of data protection terms

Data is information which is stored electronically, on a computer, or in certain paper-based filing systems.

Data subjects for the purpose of this policy include all living individuals about whom we hold personal data. A data subject need not be a UK national or resident. All data subjects have legal rights in relation to their personal data.

Personal data means data relating to a living individual who can be identified from that data (or from that data and other information in our possession). Personal data can be factual (such as a name, address or date of birth) or it can be an opinion (such as a performance appraisal).

Data controllers are the people who or organisations which determine the purposes for which, and the manner in which, any personal data is processed. They have a responsibility to establish practices and policies in line with the Act. We are the data controller of all personal data used in our school.

Data users include employees whose work involves using personal data. Data users have a duty to protect the information they handle by following our data protection and security policies at all times.

Data processors include any person who processes personal data on behalf of a data controller. Employees of data controllers are excluded from this definition but it could include suppliers which handle personal data on our behalf.

Processing is any activity that involves use of the data. It includes obtaining, recording or holding the data, or carrying out any operation or set of operations on the data including organising, amending, retrieving, using, disclosing, erasing or destroying it. Processing also includes transferring personal data to third parties.

Sensitive personal data includes information about a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or similar beliefs, trade union membership, physical or mental health or condition or sexual life, or about the commission of, or proceedings for, any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by that person, the disposal of such proceedings or the sentence of any court in such proceedings. Sensitive personal data can only be processed under strict conditions, and will usually require the express consent of the person concerned.

6. Data protection principles

Anyone processing personal data must comply with the eight enforceable principles of good practice. These provide that personal data must be:

Processed fairly and lawfully.

Processed for limited purposes and in an appropriate way.

Adequate, relevant and not excessive for the purpose.

Accurate.

Not kept longer than necessary for the purpose.

Processed in line with data subjects' rights.

Secure.

Not transferred to people or organisations situated in countries without adequate protection.

7. Fair and lawful processing

The Act is intended not to prevent the processing of personal data, but to ensure that it is done fairly and without adversely affecting the rights of the data subject. The data subject must be told who the data controller is (in this case the Trust), who the data controller's representative is (in this case the Data Protection Compliance Manager), the purpose for which the data is to be processed by us, and the identities of anyone to whom the data may be disclosed or transferred.

For personal data to be processed lawfully, certain conditions have to be met. These may include, among other things, requirements that the data subject has consented to the processing, or that the processing is necessary for the legitimate interest of the data controller or the party to whom the data is disclosed.

When sensitive personal data is being processed, more than one condition must be met. In most cases the data subject's explicit consent to the processing of such data will be required.

8. Processing for limited purposes

Personal data may only be processed for the specific purposes notified to the data subject when the data was first collected or for any other purposes specifically permitted by the Act. This means that personal data must not be collected for one purpose and then used for another. If it becomes necessary to change the purpose for which the data is processed, the data subject must be informed of the new purpose before any processing occurs.

9. Adequate, relevant and non-excessive processing

Personal data should only be collected to the extent that it is required for the specific purpose notified to the data subject. Any data which is not necessary for that purpose should not be collected in the first place.

10. Accurate data

Personal data must be accurate and kept up to date. Information which is incorrect or misleading is not accurate and steps should therefore be taken to check the accuracy of any personal data at the point of collection and at regular intervals afterwards. Inaccurate or out-of-date data should be destroyed.

11. Timely processing

Personal data should not be kept longer than is necessary for the purpose. This means that data should be destroyed or erased from our systems when it is no longer required. For guidance on how long certain data is likely to be kept before being destroyed, contact the Data Protection Compliance Manager or the Principal.

12. Processing in line with data subject's rights

Data must be processed in line with data subjects' rights. A formal request from a data subject for information that we hold about them must be made in writing. A fee is payable by the data subject for provision of this information. Any member of staff who receives a written request should forward it to their line manager or the Data Protection Compliance Manager immediately.

12.1 Subject access requests

Data subjects have a right to: Request access to any data held about them by a data controller. 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.

12.2 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.

12.3 Responding to subject access requests

When responding to requests, we:

- May ask the individual to provide 2 forms of identification
- May contact the individual via phone to confirm the request was made
- Will respond without delay and within 1 month of receipt of the request (or receipt of the additional information needed to confirm identity, where relevant)
- Will provide the information free of charge
- May tell the individual we will comply within 3 months of receipt of the request, where a request is complex or numerous. We will inform the individual of this within 1 month, and explain why the extension is necessary

We may not disclose information for a variety of reasons, such as if it:

- Might cause serious harm to the physical or mental health of the pupil or another individual
- Would reveal that the child is being or has been abused, or is at risk of abuse, where the disclosure of that information would not be in the child's best interests
- Would include another person's personal data that we can't reasonably anonymise, and we don't have the other person's consent and it would be unreasonable to proceed without it
- Is part of certain sensitive documents, such as those related to crime, immigration, legal proceedings or legal professional privilege, management forecasts, negotiations, confidential references, or exam scripts

If the request is unfounded or excessive, we may refuse to act on it, or charge a reasonable fee to cover administrative costs. We will take into account whether the request is repetitive in nature when making this decision.

When we refuse a request, we will tell the individual why, and tell them they have the right to complain to the ICO or they can seek to enforce their subject access right through the courts.

12.4 Other data protection rights of the individual

In addition to the right to make a subject access request (see above), and to receive information when we are collecting their data about how we use and process it (see section 7), individuals also have the right to:

- Withdraw their consent to processing at any time
- Ask us to rectify, erase or restrict processing of their personal data (in certain circumstances)
- Prevent use of their personal data for direct marketing
- Object to processing which has been justified on the basis of public interest, official authority or legitimate interests
- Challenge decisions based solely on automated decision making or profiling (i.e. making decisions or evaluating certain things about an individual based on their personal data with no human involvement)
- Be notified of a data breach (in certain circumstances)
- Make a complaint to the ICO

- Ask for their personal data to be transferred to a third party in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format (in certain circumstances)

Individuals should submit any request to exercise these rights to the DPO. If staff receive such a request, they must immediately forward it to the DPO.

13. Data security

We must ensure that appropriate security measures are taken against unlawful or unauthorised processing of personal data, and against the accidental loss of, or damage to, personal data. Data subjects may apply to the courts for compensation if they have suffered damage from such a loss.

The Act requires us to put in place procedures and technologies to maintain the security of all personal data from the point of collection to the point of destruction. Personal data may only be transferred to a third-party data processor if he agrees to comply with those procedures and policies, or if he puts in place adequate measures himself.

Maintaining data security means guaranteeing the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the personal data, defined as follows:

Confidentiality means that only people who are authorised to use the data can access it.

Integrity means that personal data should be accurate and suitable for the purpose for which it is processed.

Availability means that authorised users should be able to access the data if they need it for authorised purposes. Personal data should therefore be stored on our central computer system instead of individual PCs.

Security procedures include:

14. Entry controls. Any stranger seen in entry-controlled areas should be reported.

Secure lockable desks and cupboards. Desks and cupboards should be kept locked if they hold confidential information of any kind. (Personal information is always considered confidential.)

15. Methods of disposal. Paper documents should be shredded. Floppy disks and CD-ROMs should be physically destroyed when they are no longer required.

16. Equipment. Data users should ensure that individual monitors do not show confidential information to passers-by and that they log off from their PC when it is left unattended.

17. Providing information over the telephone

Any member of staff dealing with telephone enquiries should be careful about disclosing any personal information held by us. In particular they should:

Check the caller's identity to make sure that information is only given to a person who is entitled to it.

Suggest that the caller put their request in writing if they are not sure about the caller's identity and where their identity cannot be checked.

Refer to their line manager or the Data Protection Compliance Manager for assistance in difficult situations.

No-one should be bullied into disclosing personal information.

18. Sharing personal data

We will not normally share personal data with anyone else without consent, but there are certain circumstances where we may be required to do so. These include, but are not limited to, situations where:

- There is an issue with a pupil or parent/carer that puts the safety of our staff at risk
- We need to liaise with other agencies – we will seek consent as necessary before doing this
- Our suppliers or contractors need data to enable us to provide services to our staff and pupils – for example, IT companies. When doing this, we will:

- Only appoint suppliers or contractors which can provide sufficient guarantees that they comply with data protection law
- Establish a contract with the supplier or contractor to ensure the fair and lawful processing of any personal data we share
- Only share data that the supplier or contractor needs to carry out their service

We will also share personal data with law enforcement and government bodies where we are legally required to do so.

We may also share personal data with emergency services and local authorities to help them to respond to an emergency situation that affects any of our pupils or staff.

Where we transfer personal data internationally, we will do so in accordance with data protection law.

19. 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.

15 CCTV

We use CCTV in various locations around the school site to ensure it remains safe. We will adhere to the ICO's [code of practice](#) for the use of CCTV.

We do not need to ask individuals' permission to use CCTV, but we make it clear where individuals are being recorded. Security cameras are clearly visible and accompanied by prominent signs explaining that CCTV is in use.

Any enquiries about the CCTV system should be directed to the premises manager.

20. 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 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.

Where the school takes photographs and videos, uses may include:

- Within school on notice boards and in school magazines, brochures, newsletters, etc.
- Outside of school by external agencies such as the school photographer, newspapers, campaigns
- Online on our school website or social media pages

Consent can be refused or withdrawn at any time. If consent is withdrawn, we will delete the photograph or video and not distribute it further.

When using photographs and videos in this way we will not accompany them with any other personal information about the child, to ensure they cannot be identified.

21. 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

Monitoring and review of the policy

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually.

We will continue to review the effectiveness of this policy to ensure it is achieving its stated objectives.