



DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Reviewed March 2026 according to UK General Data Protection Regulation
(Next review date March 2027)

The school collects and uses personal information (referred to in the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as personal data) about staff, pupils, parents and other individuals who come into contact with the school. This information is gathered in order to enable the provision of education and other associated functions. In addition, the school may be required by law to collect, use and share certain information.

The school is the Data Controller, of the personal data that it collects and receives for these purposes.

The school has a Data Protection Officer, who is the school Business Manager and who may be contacted at adminoffice@greatbinfields.hants.sch.uk

The school issues Privacy Notices (also known as a Fair Processing Notices) to all pupils/parents and staff. These summarise the personal information held about pupils and staff, the purpose for which it is held and who it may be shared with. It also provides information about an individual's rights in respect of their personal data

Purpose

This policy sets out how the school deals with personal information correctly and securely and in accordance with the GDPR, and other related legislation.

This policy applies to all personal information however it is collected, used, recorded and stored by the school and whether it is held on paper or electronically.

What is Personal Information/ data?

Personal information or data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable individual. An identifiable individual is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly by reference to details such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or by their physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity. Personal data includes (but is not limited to) an individual's, name, address, date of birth, photograph, bank details and other information that identifies them. The school also collects certain 'special categories of personal data'. This includes racial or ethnic origin, religious beliefs, criminal convictions and health.

Data Protection Principles

The UK GDPR establishes six data protection principles as well as a number of additional duties that must be adhered to at all times:

1. Lawfulness, fairness and transparency. Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. In order for personal data to be processed lawfully, it must be processed on the basis of one of the legal grounds set out in the UK GDPR. These include (amongst other relevant conditions) where processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority exercised by the school.

Where the special categories of personal data are processed, this shall include (amongst other relevant conditions) where processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

When processing personal data and special category data in the course of school business, the school will ensure that these requirements are met where relevant.

2. Purpose limitation. Personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes (subject to exceptions for specific archiving purposes). The school will only process personal data for specific purposes and will notify those purposes to the data subject when it first collects the personal data or as soon as possible thereafter.

3. Data minimisation. Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary to the purposes for which they are processed and not excessive. Personal data which is not necessary for the purpose for which it is obtained will not be collected.

4. Accuracy. Personal data shall be accurate and where necessary, kept up to date; Personal data should be reviewed and updated as necessary and should not be retained unless it is reasonable to assume that it is accurate. Individuals should notify the school of any changes in circumstances to enable records to be updated accordingly. The school will be responsible for ensuring that updating or records takes place where appropriate.

5. Storage limitation. Personal data shall be kept in a form that permits the identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed. The school will not keep personal data for longer than is necessary for the purpose or purposes for which they were collected and will take reasonable steps to destroy or erase from its systems all data which is no longer required.

6. Integrity and confidentiality. Personal data shall be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data and which includes protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

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 UK 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 and where possible we will seek to anonymise data.

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 UK data protection law. Personal data shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area (EEA), unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of data protection.

Data Controllers have a General Duty of accountability for personal data.

Commitment

The school is committed to maintaining the principles and duties in the GDPR at all times. Therefore the school will:

- Inform individuals of the identity and contact details of the data controller
- Inform individuals of the contact details of the Data Protection Officer
- Inform individuals of the purposes that personal information is being collected and the basis for this
- Inform individuals when their information is shared, and why and with whom unless the GDPR provides a reason not to do this.
- If the school plans to transfer personal data outside the UK and the EU/EEA the school will inform individuals and provide them with details of where they can obtain details of the safeguards for that information.
- Inform individuals of their data subject rights

- Inform individuals that the individual may withdraw consent (where relevant) and that if consent is withdrawn that the school will cease processing their data although that will not affect the legality of data processed up until that point.
- Provide details of the length of time an individual's data will be kept
- Should the school decide to use an individual's personal data for a different reason to that for which it was originally collected the school shall inform the individual and where necessary seek consent
- Check the accuracy of the information it holds and review it at regular intervals.
- Ensure that only authorised personnel have access to the personal information whatever medium (paper or electronic) it is stored in.
- Ensure that clear and robust safeguards are in place to ensure personal information is kept securely and to protect personal information from loss, theft and unauthorised disclosure, irrespective of the format in which it is recorded.
- Ensure that personal information is not retained longer than it is needed.
- Ensure that when information is destroyed that it is done so appropriately and securely.
- Share personal information with others only when it is legally appropriate to do so.
- Comply with the duty to respond to requests for access to personal information (known as Subject Access Requests)
- Ensure that personal information is not transferred outside the UK and the EU/EEA without the appropriate safeguards
- Ensure that all staff and governors are aware of and understand these policies and procedures.

Subject access requests

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

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 unreasonable delay and within 1 month of receipt of the request (or receipt of the additional information needed to confirm identity, where relevant)
- Will normally 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.

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

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.

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.

Retention and Disposal of Personal Data

The school will dispose of personal data in a way which protects the rights and privacy of data subjects (e.g. shredding, disposal as confidential waste, secure electronic deletion) as appropriate.

The school maintains a Retention Schedule that is specific and relevant to the specific types of information retained. The schedule outlines the appropriate periods for retention in each case.

Complaints

Complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints policy. Complaints relating to the handling of personal information may be referred to the Information Commissioner who can be contacted at Wycliffe House, Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF or at www.ico.gov.uk

Review

This policy is statutory and the DofE recommend that it is best practice to review annually. This review will be undertaken by the Business Manager and approved by the Head teacher and Governing Body.

Contacts

If you have any enquires in relation to this policy, please contact the Data Protection Officer who is the School Business Manager.