

Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

We at Bridge Schools Trust are a data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. We collect personal information from you and may receive information about your children from previous schools.

The categories of pupil information that we collect, hold and share include:

- Personal information (such as name, unique pupil number, address, medical information, Photo, special education needs, exclusions, behavioural information)
- Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth and free school meal eligibility)
- Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- Relevant medical information
- Assessment Information

Why we collect and use this information

We use the pupil data:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to support the management of school trips and provision outside of the school day
- to protect health and safety

The lawful basis on which we use this information

We collect and use pupil information for the purposes of data collection under the Education Act 1996. We are collecting and using pupil information to meet our legal compliance obligations under Article 6 and 9 of GDPR i.e.

- To perform the contract we have entered into with pupils/parents relating to the provision of education.
- To deliver education in accordance with public interest.
- Where we need to comply with a legal obligation.
- Where it is necessary for our legitimate interests (or those of a third party) and the pupil's interests and their fundamental rights do not override those interests.

We may also use pupil information in the following situations, which are likely to be rare:

- Where we need to protect their interests (or someone else's interests)

Collecting pupil 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, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

Storing pupil data

We will only retain pupil data for as long as is necessary. Our current policy is until the 24th birthday of the child.

Who we share pupil information with

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupil's attend after leaving us
- our local authority
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- NHS – School Nurse Team

Why we 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.

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.

Data collection requirements:

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (for example; via the school census) go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

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 National Pupil Database (NPD). The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

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

The department 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 Department 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 department'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 department 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>

Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, parents and former 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 your School Office Administrator or School DCO.

Parents and former pupils also have the right to:

- object to processing of personal data that is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress;
- prevent processing for the purpose of direct marketing
- object to decisions being taken by automated means
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed; and
- claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the Data Protection regulations

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, we request that you raise your concern with us in the first instance. Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Contact

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

Trust DPO Officer – Mrs Tracey Snell – 01208 503103 - tsnell@bridgeschools.co.uk