

Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

Our school needs to use data on pupils in order to keep them safe and to deliver the best education possible. Only essential data is help and we always follow the law when we collect, use, store and share this data. You have a legal right to be informed about how our school uses any personal information we hold about you or your child. This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use that personal data.

Trinity First School is the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law. Our Data Protection Officer (DPO) is Amy Brittan.

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 details of the needs)
- medical and administration (such as doctors information, medical conditions, 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 the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, phonics results and termly teacher assessments)
- behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)
- photographs
- permissions to attend trips
- attendance at after school clubs or wraparound care provision

Why we collect and use pupil information

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

- a) to support pupil learning and identify if any additional support is required
- b) to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress
- c) to ensure we are looking after the wellbeing of pupils
- d) to assess the quality of our services – educational, pastoral and administrative
- 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

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

- We need to comply with the law (Article 6(1)(c) of UK GDPR)
- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide our pupils with an education) (Article 6(1)(e) of UK GDPR)

Sometimes, we may also use your child's personal information where:

- You have given us permission to use it in a certain way (Article 6(1)(a) of UK GDPR)
- We need to protect the interests of our pupils e.g. in a life or death situation (Article 6(1)(d) of UK GDPR)

We may also collect and use information about your health. This is a special category of personal information and we will only collect it and use it when it is necessary for public health, e.g. protecting against serious threats to health. The legal basis for this is Article 9(2)(i) of UK GDPR.

Collecting pupil information

We collect pupil information via registration forms we ask parents to complete when their child begins school, and to update periodically during their child's time at our school. When a child is joining Trinity First School from another school, we also collect data through a Common Transfer File, which is a secure means of transferring data between 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. This is based on the Information and Records Management Society's toolkit for schools and sets out how long we keep information about pupils.

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, and why

We do not share information about our pupils with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us – we have a legal duty to do this
- our local authority – to meet our legal duty to share certain information with the LA, such as concerns about pupils' safety and exclusions
- the Department for Education (DfE) – we have a legal duty to do this, and our data-sharing underpins school funding and educational policy
- Frome Learning Partnership – to support pupils within our local area network
- health and social welfare organisations – to support the health and wellbeing of pupils
- our payment service providers and messaging service providers (ParentPay and Class Dojo) – so we can communicate with parents and so parents can pay for meals, trips etc
- providers of electronic learning resources (e.g. Times Tables Rock Stars) – to support pupil learning

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 section 3 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>

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 school office or Amy Brittan, our Data Protection Officer on dposchools@somerset.gov.uk

You 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. This version was last updated in September 2024.

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact the school office or Amy Brittan, our Data Protection Officer on dposchools@somerset.gov.uk

How Government uses your data

The pupil data that we lawfully share with 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)

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-mpd-privacy-notice/national-pupil-database-mpd-privacy-notice>

Sharing by the Department for 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/df-external-data-shares>

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

Under the terms of the UK GDPR, 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>