Specialist Schools Trust - Privacy Notice

Parents/Carers – use of your child's personal data

Under UK data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store, and use personal data about **students**.

We, Specialist Schools Trust, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of UK data protection law.

Our data protection officer is Jennifer Frost and Roger Sim (see 'Contact us' below).

The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about students includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments
- Student and curricular records
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background, eligibility for free school meals, or special educational needs
- Exclusion information
- Details of any medical conditions, including physical and mental health
- Attendance information
- Safeguarding information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs
- CCTV images captured in school

We may also hold data about students that we have received from other organisations, including other schools, local authorities and the Department for Education.

Why we use this data

We use this data to:

- Support student learning
- Monitor and report on student progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect student welfare
- Assess the quality of our services
- Administer admissions waiting lists
- Carry out research
- Comply with the law regarding data sharing

Our legal basis for using this data

We only collect and use students' personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we process it where:

- We need to comply with a legal obligation
- We need it to perform an official task in the public interest

Less commonly, we may also process students' personal data in situations where:

- We have obtained consent to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect the individual's vital interests (or someone else's interests)

Where we have obtained consent to use students' personal data, this consent can be withdrawn at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent, and explain how consent can be withdrawn.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using students' personal data overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify our use of this data.

Collecting this information

While most of the information we collect about students is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you or your child, we make it clear whether providing it is mandatory or optional. If it is mandatory, we will explain the possible consequences of not complying.

How we store this data

We keep personal information about students while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary to comply with our legal obligations.

The local authority will hold pupil data in accordance with its Retention Schedule:

http://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/privacy-cookies/privacy-policy.aspx#retention

The school will hold pupil data and we will be adopting the recommendations as stated in Southampton City Council's Record Retention Schedule.

Data sharing

We do not share information about students with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with UK data protection law) we may share personal information about students with:

- Our local authority – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and exclusions
- The Department for Education – school census information which effects funding relating to students with specific needs
- The student's family and representatives – to meet our responsibility to the safety and behaviour of our students in school
- Educators and examining bodies – in the cases of entries and appeals of exams
- Our regulator e.g. Ofsted
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for
- Central and local government
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations – related to specific areas of educational and behavioural research
- Health authorities and social welfare organisations – to meet our responsibility to the health and wellbeing of our students
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with the authorities, such as criminal proceedings and safe guarding concerns

National Pupil Database

We are required to provide information about students to the Department for Education as part of statutory data collections such as the school census.

Some of this information is then stored in the National Pupil Database (NPD), which is owned and managed by the Department and provides evidence on school performance to inform research.

The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and exam boards.

The Department for Education may share information from the NPD with other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. Such organisations must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use the data.

For more information, see the Department's webpage on how it collects and shares research data.

You can also contact the Department for Education with any further questions about the NPD.

Youth support services

Once our students reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about them to the local authority, as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year olds.

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, and careers advisers.

Parents/carers, or students once aged 16 or over, can contact our data protection officer to request that we only pass the individual's name, address, and date of birth to local authority.

Transferring data internationally

Where we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with UK data protection law.

Parents and students' rights regarding personal data

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

Parents/carers can make a request with respect to their child's data where the child is not considered mature enough to understand their rights over their own data (usually under the age of 12), or where the child has provided consent.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you or your child, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and processing it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your child
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

Individuals also have the right for their personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request please contact our data protection officer.

Parents/carers also have a legal right to access to their child's **educational record**. To request access, please contact the relevant head of year.

Other rights

Under UK data protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Object to the use of personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Prevent it being used to send direct marketing
- Object to decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations To exercise any of these rights, please contact our data protection officer.

Complaints

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact our data protection officer.

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at https://ico.org.uk/concerns/
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Contact us

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact our **data protection officer**:

- **Jennifer Frost – Chief Financial Officer –** **jen.frost@rosewoodfreeschool.org.uk**
- **Roger Sim – Business Lead Premises and Estates** – **rogersim@greatoaks.school**

- This notice is based on the Department for Education's model privacy notice for students, amended for parents and to reflect the way we use data in this school.