

Privacy Notice for Parents/Carers

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the Trust and its Academies uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

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

We, The North East Learning Trust are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our Data Protection Officer is Joanne Barker (see 'Contact us' below).

The personal data we hold

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

- Parental details, contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil 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
- Biometric data
- CCTV images captured in the Academy

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

Why we use this data

We use this data to:

- Support pupil learning
- Monitor and report on pupil progress
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect pupil 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 pupils' 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 pupils' 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Where we have obtained consent to use pupils' personal data, this consent can be withdrawn at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent and explain how consent can be withdrawn.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 pupils' personal data overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify our use of this data.

Collecting this information

While the majority of information we collect about pupils 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 pupils while they are attending the Academy. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary to comply with our legal obligations.

The Trust's Data Retention Policy sets out how long we keep information about pupils. A copy of this policy is published on the Trust and Academy websites, alternatively a paper copy is available from the Data Protection Officer.

Data sharing

We do not share information about pupils 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 data protection law) we may share personal information about pupils 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- to meet our legal obligations to share certain information including safeguarding concerns and student outcomes*
- *The pupil's family and representatives – to meet our legal obligations in relation to informing parents/carers of their child's academic progress, and safeguarding matters*
- *Educators and examining bodies – to ensure that students are entered for public examinations and that marks for controlled assessments are submitted*
- *Our regulator e.g. Ofsted – in response to any safeguarding matters they are required to investigate, to share data with Inspectors during Ofsted inspections*
- *Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for*
- *Central and local government – to enable us to meet our legal obligations in regard to safeguarding, exclusions*
- *Survey and research organisations – to allow access to the latest research to support school improvement and improve student outcomes*
- *Health authorities – to ensure that appropriate support is available to students and to comply with our legal obligations in relation to safeguarding*
- *Health and social welfare organisations - to ensure that appropriate support is available to students and to comply with our legal obligations in relation to safeguarding*

- *Professional advisers and consultants: to access support and advice to assist students to achieve their full potential*
- *Charities and voluntary organisations – to access appropriate support for students as and when required*
- *Police forces, courts, tribunals – to comply with the law and meet our legal obligations on relation to safeguarding*

National Pupil Database

We are required to provide information about pupils to the Department for Education 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), 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 pupils reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about them to the appropriate 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 pupils 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 the appropriate 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 data protection law.

Parents and pupils' 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.

Parents/carers also have the right to make a subject access request with respect to any personal data the school holds about them.

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.

There is no automatic parental right to access educational records in an Academy. The Trust has agreed to allow parents/carers to access their child's educational record. To request access, please contact the Academy your child attends.

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;
- 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 will not disclose information if it:

- Might cause serious harm to the physical or mental health of the pupil or another individual;
- Would reveal that the child is at risk of abuse, where the disclosure of that information would not be in the child's best interests;
- Is contained in adoption or parental order records;
- Is given to a court in proceedings concerning the child.

If the request is unfounded or excessive, we may refuse to act on it, or charge a reasonable fee which considers administrative costs.

A request will be deemed to be unfounded or excessive if it is repetitive or asks for further copies of the same information.

When we refuse a request, we will tell the individual why, and tell them they have the right to complain to the ICO.

Other rights

Under 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 Joanne Barker, Data Protection Officer, Telephone number 0191 5270757 or email: joanne.barker@nelt.co.uk

This notice is based on the [Department for Education's model privacy notice](#) for pupils, amended for parents and to reflect the way we use data in the Trust and our Academies.