

# **St Thomas' CE(VA) Primary**

## **Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents and Guardians**

## Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents & Guardians (How we use pupil information)

At The King's CE(A) School and St Thomas' CE(VA) Primary we collect and process pupil information as part of our public functions under section 537A of the Education Act 1996, and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. We also comply with Article 6(1)(c) and Article 9(2)(b) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

### 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 the needs and ranking)
- medical and administration (such as doctors information, child health, dental health, 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 key stage 1 and phonics results, post 16 courses enrolled for and any relevant results)
- behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)

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

- a) to support pupil learning
- b) to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress
- c) to provide appropriate pastoral care
- d) to assess the quality of our services
- e) to keep children safe (food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- f) to meet the statutory duties placed upon us for DfE data collections
- g) to comply with the law regarding data protection

### The lawful basis upon which we use this information

As a UK public authority we process the information above 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)

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.

However where consent is required, it is obtained explicitly with a clear and concise supporting information. Explicit consent is obtained for the following reasons:

- Use of photographs
- Internet access
- Social Media
- Educational visits

### **Collecting pupil information**

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.

### **How we store pupil data**

We hold pupil data securely according to statutory requirements. Data is retained for the relevant retention period in accordance with our retention schedules, after which it is either securely destroyed, deleted or transferred to the pupils next school.

### **Who we share pupil information with**

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- our local authority
- NHS and School Nurses
- Suppliers and service providers – so that they can provide the services we have contracted them for
- Examination bodies
- Health and social welfare organisations
- youth support services (pupils aged 13+)
- the Department for Education (DfE)

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

### **Youth support services**

#### **Pupils aged 13+**

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we also pass pupil information to our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- youth support services
- careers advisers

The information shared is limited to the child's name, address and date of birth. However where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the

provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service.

### **Pupils aged 16+**

We will also share certain information about pupils aged 16+ with our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- post-16 education and training providers
- youth support services
- careers advisers

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service.

For more information about services for young people, please visit our local authority website.

### **Department for Education**

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 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.

### **Requesting access to your personal data**

Under data protection legislation, parents and 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, please refer to the school's Data Protection policy.

You 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
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed; and
- a right to seek redress, either through the ICO, or through the courts

If you have a concern or complaint about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance. Alternatively, if you are not satisfied with our response you can contact the external regulator of information rights and law the information commissioner's office at

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

## Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, information we hold about you, or if you have a complaint about the privacy or misuse of personal data please contact the school:- Mrs M Prince Email: [office@st-thomas-kidsgrove.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-thomas-kidsgrove.staffs.sch.uk)

You can also contact our Data Protection Officer using the below contact details:

Email: [dpo@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:dpo@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Post to:

Data Protection Officer  
Information Governance Unit  
Staffordshire County Council  
2 Staffordshire Place  
Stafford  
ST16 2DH

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are not processing your personal data in accordance with the law you can contact the [Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\)](#).

## How Government uses your data

The pupil data that we lawfully share with the 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 (for example; via the school census) go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>

## The National Pupil Database (NPD)

Much of the data about pupils in England goes on to be held in 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.

To find out more about the NPD, go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>

## Sharing by the Department

The law allows the Department to share pupils' personal data with certain third parties, including:

- schools
- 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's 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 DfE to request access to individual level information relevant to detecting that crime. Whilst numbers fluctuate slightly over time, DfE typically supplies data on around 600 pupils per year to the Home Office and roughly 1 per year to the Police.

For information about which organisations the Department 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/dfе-external-data-shares>

To contact DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>