

Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how Bright Futures Learning Trust ('the Trust') 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 **pupils**.

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

The categories of pupil information that we process

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

- 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 and phonics results)
- behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)
- Photographs and Videos
- CCTV images captured on our premises

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

Why we collect and use pupil information

The Trust holds the legal right to collect and use personal data relating to pupils and their families, and we may also receive information regarding them from their previous school, LA and/or the DfE. We collect and use personal data in order to meet legal requirements and legitimate interests set out in the GDPR and UK law, including those in relation to the following:

- Article 6 and Article 9 of the GDPR
- Education Act 1996
- Regulation 5 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013

In accordance with the above, the personal data of pupils and their families is collected and used for the following reasons:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to keep children safe (food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- to meet the statutory duties placed upon us for DfE data collections

How we collect pupil information

Methods of data collection include but are not limited to: Common Transfer File, admission and application forms, medication forms, Child Protection Plans, consent forms, funding application forms.

Pupil data is essential for our 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 keep personal information about pupils while they are attending schools or nurseries within the Trust. We may also keep it beyond their attendance if this is necessary in order to comply with our legal obligations.

Data Sharing

We do not share personal information about pupils with anyone without consent unless the law requires it or where it is allowed by law and complies with the Trust's own policies.

- Our local authority – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns, exclusions and funding
- Schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- Within the Trust
- The Department for Education
- The pupil's family and representatives
- Educators and examining bodies
- Our regulator e.g. Ofsted
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the contracted service
- Financial organisations
- Central and local government
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Security organisations
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies

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 regulation 5 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, contact our Data Protection Officer by emailing dpo@bflt.org.uk.

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
- object to decisions being taken by automated means
- 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 or directly to 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 our data protection officer by emailing: dpo@bflt.org.uk.

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/dfe-external-data-shares>

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

Policy to be reviewed: September 2023