

# Fir Vale Academy Trust

## Privacy notice for parents and carers and their children's data.



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## 1. Introduction

Under UK data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how our 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 **pupils at our school and their parents/carers**.

We, **Fir Vale School Academy Trust**, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of UK data protection law.

Our data protection officer is **EduDataPro** (see 'Contact us' below).

## 2. The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about you and your child or children includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details and contact preferences (such as your names, address, email address and telephone numbers),
- Pupil date of birth, identification documents
- Parents/carers email addresses, telephone numbers
- Details of your family circumstances
- Records of your correspondence and contact with us
- Details of any complaints you have made
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil and curricular records
- Behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)
- Attendance information
- Details of any safeguarding information including court orders or professional involvement
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs, videos and CCTV images captured in school
- Data about your use of the school's information and communications systems

We may also collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) information about you or your child that falls into "special categories" of more sensitive personal data. This includes, but is not restricted to, information about:

- Any medical conditions we need to be aware of, including physical and mental health
- Characteristics, such as ethnicity, religion, languages spoken or special educational needs
- Biometric data for cashless catering purposes

We may also hold data about your child that we have received from other organisations, including other schools and social services.

## 3. Why we use this data

We use the data listed above to:

- a) Support pupil learning
- b) Monitor and report on pupil attainment and progress

- c) To contact you about your child and the running of the school
- d) Provide appropriate pastoral care
- e) Protect pupil welfare and keep children safe (e.g. food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- f) Assess the quality of our services
- g) Administer admissions waiting lists
- h) Carry out research
- i) Comply with the law regarding data sharing
- j) Meet the statutory duties placed upon us by the Department for Education
- k) Keep you informed about the running of the school (such as emergency closures) and events
- l) Process payments for school services and clubs
- m) Make sure our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers) are used appropriately, legally and safely
- n) To ensure network and information security, including preventing unauthorised access to our computer and electronic communications systems and preventing malicious software distribution.

### 3.1 Use of your personal data for marketing purposes

Where you have given us consent to do so, we may send you marketing information by email or text promoting school events, campaigns, charitable causes or services that may be of interest to you.

You can withdraw consent or 'opt out' of receiving these emails and/or texts at any time by contacting us (see 'Contact us' below).

### 3.2 Use of your child's personal data in automated decision making and profiling

We do not currently process any personal data through automated decision making or profiling. If this changes in the future, we will amend any relevant privacy notices in order to explain the processing to you, including your right to object to it.

### 3.3 Use of your personal data for filtering and monitoring purposes

While you're in our school, we may monitor your use of our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers). We do this so that we can:

- Comply with health and safety and other legal obligations
- Comply with our policies (e.g. child protection policy, IT acceptable use policy) and our legal obligations
- Keep our network(s) and devices safe from unauthorised access, and prevent malicious software from harming our network (s)

## 4. Our lawful basis for using this data

Our lawful basis for processing you and your child's personal data for the purposes listed in section 3 above are as follows:

- **Legal obligation:** the processing is necessary for you to comply with the law (not including contractual obligations). We need to process data to meet our responsibilities as a school under UK law as set out here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statutory-guidance-schools>  
An example of this is 'safeguarding children and young people'
- **Public task:** the processing is necessary for you to perform a task in the public interest or for your official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law. Managing a school is considered a '**task in the public interest**'. Further details are available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statutory-guidance-schools>

Less commonly, we may also use personal information about you where:

- We ask for your **Consent**: the individual has given clear consent for you to process their (or their child's) personal data for a specific purpose. An example of this may be certain uses of photographs of your child.
- We need to protect an individual's **vital interests** (i.e. protect your life or someone else's life), in situations where you're physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data needs to be processed for **health or social care purposes**, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health or social work professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law.

Where you have provided us with consent to use your data or your child's data, you may withdraw this consent at any time. We will make this clear when requesting consent, and explain how you would go about withdrawing consent if you wish to do so.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using personal information about you overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify the school's use of your data.

#### 4.1 Our basis for using special category data

For 'special category' data, we only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and one of the following conditions for processing as set out in UK data protection law:

- We have obtained your explicit consent to use your child's personal data in a certain way
- We need to protect an individual's vital interests (i.e. protect your child's life or someone else's life), in situations where you're physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- We need to process it for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- We need to use it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation
- We need to process it for health or social care purposes, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health or social work professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to use it for public health reasons, and it's used by, or under the direction of, a professional obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to use it for archiving purposes, scientific or historical research purposes, or for statistical purposes, and the use is in the public interest

## 5. Collecting this data

While the majority of information we collect about you and your child is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you, we make it clear whether you must provide this information (and if so, what the possible consequences are of not complying), or whether you have a choice.

Most of the data we hold about your child will come from you, but we may also hold data about your child from:

- Sheffield City Council
- Government departments or agencies
- Health authorities or GP practices

- Police forces, courts or tribunals
- Use of the school network and equipment via our appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in line with [DfE guidance](#) and KCSIE2024

## 6. How we store this data

We keep personal information about you and your child while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary. Our record retention policy sets out how long we keep information about pupils.

If you wish to see a copy of the schools retention policy please ask at the main school office.

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent you and your child's personal information from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed.

We will dispose of you and your child's personal data securely when we no longer need it.

## 7. Who we share data with

We routinely share pupil information with:

- Schools that the pupils attend after leaving us
- Our local authority Sheffield City Council – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and information about exclusions
- The Department of Education for statutory data collections such as the school census
- On request we will share information requested with the NHS School Nursing Team

We do not share information about you or your child 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 also share personal information about you and your child with:

- Our youth support services provider
- Our regulator, Ofsted
- Exam boards
- Suppliers and service providers:
- Financial organisations
- 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
- United Learning. to facilitate the transition into the trust
- Edurio surveys

### 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.

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 third parties, such as other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. These third parties 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 personal data](#).

You can also [contact the Department for Education](#) with any further questions about the NPD.

## **7.1 Transferring data internationally**

Where we transfer your personal data to a third-party country or territory, we will do so in accordance with UK data protection law.

In cases where we have safeguarding arrangements in place, you can get a copy of these arrangements by contacting us.

## **8. Your rights**

### **8.1 How to access personal information that we hold about you and your child**

You have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that we hold about you and your child.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you and your child, we will (subject to any exemptions that apply):

- 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
- 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

You may also have the right for your child's personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

### **8.2 Your other rights regarding you and your child's data**

Under UK data protection law, you have certain rights regarding how you and your child's personal data is used and kept safe. For example, you have the right to:

- Object to our use of you and your child's personal data
- Prevent you and your child's data being used to send direct marketing
- Object to and challenge the use of you and your child's personal data for decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected

- In certain circumstances, have the personal data we hold about you and your child deleted or destroyed, or restrict its processing
- Withdraw your consent, where you previously provided consent for your personal information to be collected, processed and transferred for a particular reason
- In certain circumstances, be notified of a data breach
- Make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

To exercise any of these rights, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

## 9. 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.

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

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

## 10. Contact us

Our data protection officer is:

- **EduDataPro.** [dpo@edudatapro.com](mailto:dpo@edudatapro.com)

However, our **data protection lead** has day-to-day responsibility for data protection issues in our school.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact them:

- Head teacher