

Pupil and Parent Privacy notice for Fir Vale Academy, a United Learning Trust Academy

This notice is intended to provide information about how the Academy will use or “process” personal data about individuals including current, past and prospective pupils (referred to in this notice as “pupils”) and their parents, carers or guardians, and host families (referred to in this notice as “parents”).

Responsibility for Data Protection

The Data Controller for personal information held by Fir Vale Academy is United Learning Trust (ULT). ULT is registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). The registration number is Z7415170.

The Company Secretary, Alison Hussain, is responsible for ensuring that ULT complies with the Data Protection Law. She can be contacted on company.secretary@unitedlearning.org.uk or 01832 864538.

The Executive Business Manager, Fiona Turner (in her absence the Operations Manager) is responsible for ensuring that the Academy complies with ULT’s policies and procedures in relation to Data Protection. They can be contacted on 01142439391.

The purposes for which we process pupil and parent personal data

Fir Vale Academy and United Learning Trust collect, create and hold personal information relating to our pupils and may also receive information about them from their previous Academy, local authority and/or the Department for Education (DfE). We also collect and hold personal information about our pupil’s parents and carers. We use this personal data to:

- Provide education services (including SEN), career services and extra-curricular activities to pupils; and to monitor pupils’ progress and educational needs;
- To safeguard pupils’ welfare and provide appropriate pastoral (and where necessary, medical) care.
- To enable pupils to take part in national or other assessments, and to publish the results of public examinations or other achievements of pupils at the Academy.
- To maintain relationships with alumni and the Academy community.
- For the purposes of management planning and forecasting, research and statistical analysis and to enable ULT to monitor the Academy’s performance.
- To monitor use of the Academy’s IT systems in accordance with the Academy’s acceptable use policy.
- To receive information about current and prospective pupils from any educational institution that they attended.
- To confirm the identity of prospective pupils and their parents.
- To make use of images of pupils in print and digital communications, and for promotion and marketing, in accordance with the Academy’s/Academy’s policy on taking, storing and using images of children.
- To create invoices and process payments for services such as Academy meals, Academy trips etc.
- For security purposes, and for regulatory and legal purposes (for example child protection and health and safety) and to comply with its legal obligations.
- To receive reports from any external bodies who may be working with your child.
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the Academy’s purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the Academy.
- To keep you updated about the activities of the Academy including sending pupils’ attainment records, updates and newsletters by post, email, text and communications.

- To organise trips and visits both in the UK and abroad.

The categories of personal data that we process

The types of personal data processed by the Academy will include:

1. Names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and other contact details.
2. Academic records and national curriculum assessment results, including examination scripts and marks.
3. Personal characteristics such as your ethnic group, religious beliefs, any special educational needs you may have and any relevant medical information.
4. Attendance information, behavioural records, any exclusion information.
5. Information provided by previous educational establishments and or other professionals or organisations working with pupils.
6. Pupil destinations after they leave the academy.
7. Child protection records (where applicable).
8. References given or received by the Academy about pupils and information provided by previous educational establishments and/or other professionals or organisations working with pupils
9. For pupils enrolling for post 14 qualifications, the Learning Records Service will give us the unique learner number (ULN) and may also give us details about your learning or qualifications.
10. Still and moving images and audio, captured through video and photography and through the academy's CCTV system (in accordance with the academy's policy on taking, storing and using images of children).
11. Personal characteristics such as your ethnic group, any special educational needs you may have, religious beliefs, health and any relevant medical information.

The legal basis for the processing of pupil and parent data

The processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller and where necessary to comply with our legal obligations.

Information relating to racial or ethnic origin, religious beliefs or health (point 11) will only be processed with the explicit consent of the pupil or the pupil's parents. Further information regarding the purposes for which these data would be processed will be provided with the data collection form.

Data Retention Periods

The pupil's educational record will move with the pupil to their next Academy. Where the Academy is the last Academy that the pupil attends the records will be kept until the pupil is 25 years old.

Information relating to financial transactions will be kept for 7 years.

For further information on how long we keep personal data for please refer to our records retention schedule.

Data Security

ULT has in place technical and organisational measures that ensure a level of security appropriate to the sensitive nature of the personal data that we process. For further information regarding how we keep personal data secure please refer to our security of personal data policy.

Data Processors

We use third party data processors to provide us with a management information system., accounts software, cloud storage services, apps and software for use in the classroom and to facilitate the secure transfer of data between the Academy and central office. This use of data processors will only take place if is in compliance with the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 and the general data protection regulations.

Decisions on whether we contract with these third party processors are subject to a robust approval process and are based on a detailed assessment of the purpose for which the data processing is required, the level and sensitivity of data involved and the arrangements in place to store and handle the data. To be granted access to pupil level data, data processors must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

Any collection of new data is reviewed in accordance with this policy. Should a data processor require the collection of any new data, Parents/Guardians will be notified accordingly.

We currently use the following data processors:

Chartwells Catering
ARBOR
Evolve
InVentry
Parent Pay
SENECA — homework software
SPARX Learning
Sheffield City Council
Tes-Class Charts
Ward Hendry Photography
School Photography Company
Sheffield College
CSE Education
Mitie
Konika
Oro Security
Wonde
Tes-Provision Maps
LASS
Senco
Pearson
NCFE
VTCT
AQA
Eduqas
A Star Attendance
Accessit Library (EU/NA)
Carousel
FFT Aspire Data Exchange
Flash Academy
GL Assessment
MRI Education
Renaissance
Smartgrade
Unifrog

Sharing Data with Third Parties (other data controllers)

We may share data with the following recipients:

Careers Guidance

We will provide Sheffield Futures, Sheffield Progress, Compass Plus and CYT Community Youth Team with pupil information to allow them to provide careers and work experience guidance.

References

We will provide references and information regarding outstanding fees and payment history to any other educational institution that the pupil proposes to attend. We will provide references to potential employers of past pupils.

School Inspections

On request we will share academic records with inspectors from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) and Ofsted.

Academy Nursing Team – NHS

On request we will share information requested with the NHS Academy Nursing Team

University of Sheffield

On request, we will provide pupil information to the University of Sheffield to allow them to provide higher education opportunities.

Sheffield Hallam University

On request, we will provide pupil information to Sheffield Hallam University to allow them to provide higher education opportunities.

Department for Education

We are required, by law, to pass some information about our pupils to the Department for Education (DfE). This information will, in turn, then be made available for use by the Local Authority.

The DfE may also share pupil level personal data that we supply to them, with third parties. This will only take place where legislation allows it to do so and it is in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR regulations

Decisions on whether DfE releases this personal data to third parties are subject to a robust approval process and are based on a detailed assessment of who is requesting the data, the purpose for which it is required, the level and sensitivity of data requested and the arrangements in place to store and handle the data. To be granted access to pupil level data, requestors must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information on how this sharing process works, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-pupil-database-apply-for-a-data-extract>

For information on which third party organisations (and for which project) pupil level data has been provided to, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received>

If you need more information about how our local authority and/or DfE collect and use your information, please visit:

- our local authority at www.sheffield.gov.uk or;
- the DfE website at <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

We will not give information about our pupils to any other third parties without your consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Rights of the Data Subject

Data protection legislation gives individuals certain rights which are detailed below. If you wish to exercise these rights please contact the Executive Business Manager, Fiona Turner.

Right of access to personal data “subject access request”

You have the right to access the personal data that the Academy holds about you. Requests need to be made in writing. If your child is over the age of 12 they will also need to sign the request. We take the security of personal data seriously so we may ask you for proof of identity to verify that you are entitled to the information requested.

Right to withdraw consent

Where we have obtained your consent to specific processing activities you may withdraw this consent at any time.

Right to rectification

You have the right to have the personal data that we hold about you rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete. We will respond to such requests within one month.

Right to erasure

You have the right to have personal data erased in certain specific circumstances. If you make such a request we will consider whether the right to erasure applies and give you a full and reasoned response.

Right to restrict processing

In certain circumstances you have the right to request that we restrict the processing of your personal data. If you make such a request we will consider whether the right to restrict processing applies and give you a full and reasoned response.

For further information regarding these rights please refer to the Group’s rights of the data subject policy.

If you disagree with a decision that we have taken regarding the processing of your personal data please contact ULT’s Company Secretary, Alison Hussain, on 01832 864538 or company.secretary@unitedlearning.org.uk.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the information Commissioners Office on 0303 123 1113 or <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Date of review: October 2025

Date of next review: August 2026