West Kirby Grammar School

Privacy Notice – Parents/Carers and Students

Administration Use:	
Statutory/Non-Statutory:	**Statutory**
Website:	Yes
GB Committee:	Full Governing Body
Review:	Annually
Date Reviewed by Committee:	Summer 2026
Next Review due:	Summer 2027

Document Version Control Log

Version	Date	Description of changes and person/organisation responsible
2.0	27/04/2020	Text updated in 'Why We Collect and Use Pupil Information' to reflect additional conditions in Article 6 for processing data – (6c) a legal obligation and (6e) public task. Text updated in 'Why We Collect and Use Pupil Information' to reflect additional conditions in Article 9 for processing special category data – (9.2a) explicit consent, (9.2c) protection of vital interests, (9.2f) legal claims, (9.2g) substantial public interest, & (9.2j) archiving purposes. Text updated in 'Why We Collect and Use Pupil Information' to reflect Article 10 for processing criminal offence data.
2.1	26/02/2021	Text updated to reflect end of Brexit transition and updates references from the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). (SchoolPro TLC)
2.2	17/10/2022	Text updated in 'Requesting Access to Your Personal Data' to reflect new DfE wording regarding data subject rights. Bullet point list has been updated as well as introductory text to the list. (SchoolPro TLC)
2.3	11/08/2023	Text updated in 'How the Government Uses Your Data' to include some text minor changes. The changes are mostly to change references to the DfE to 'Department for Education (DfE)' in all cases and remove statistics on pupil data shares. (SchoolPro TLC)
2.4	01/11/2023	Updated a link to the National Pupil Database (NPD) privacy notice based on DfE update (SchoolPro TLC)
2.5	30/08/2024	Updates made to three sections as per the DfE template updates. Updates as follows: - Requesting access to your personal data - replaced entire section with new text - Sharing by the Department for Education (DfE) - replaced entire section with new text - How to find out what personal information the Department for Education (DfE) hold about you - replaced entire section with new text (SchoolPro TLC)
2.6	19/05/2025	Sharing by Department for Education (DfE) updated.
2.7	16/10/2025	The National Pupil Database (NPD) - Text updated to reflect how education and children's services sectors are working to help ensure all children are kept safe from harm and receive the best possible education.
2.8	31/10/25	Revised complaint handling section to reflect Section 164A DPA 2018 (as amended by DUAA 2025). Individuals must now submit complaints directly to the organisation. Links to government publications have been updated in the section "How to Find Out What Personal Information the Department of Education (Dfe) Hold About You"

Privacy Notice (How We Use Student Information)

This Privacy Notice explains how and why we store personal information about students and parents/carers. It provides a guide to parents/carers about our legal obligations and their own rights. Like any organisation which handles personal data, our school is defined as a 'Data Controller' and, as such, we are registered with the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) and we comply with the Data Protection Act. and UK General Data Protection Regulation

The Categories of Student Information That We Process Include:

This list is not exhaustive, to access the current list of categories of information we process please contact our Data Protection Lead, Mrs J Diamond on jdiamond@wkgs.net.

For all pupils	Personal Information	Name, Date of Birth, Gender, Year Group, Class, Address, Contacts Dietary needs, dietary preferences Medical practice address and telephone number Medical conditions
	Characteristics	Ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth
	Attendance Information	Sessions attended, number of absences, reasons for absence
	Academic attainment and progress records	Teacher Assessment grades Statutory assessment results Standardised score results Learning journey evidence (photographs and annotations) Other photographic evidence of learning Reports to parents (mid-year and end of year)
	Other	Pupil Surveys Incidental evidence of pupils' successes (certificates, photographs, named trophies, celebration events)
For some pupils (only if applicable)	Other	Free School Meals eligibility Court Orders Other pupil premium eligibility (such as if the child is looked after) Safeguarding records (incidents, external agency reports Special Educational needs records (professional assessments, external professionals' reports, referrals for external support) Pastoral records (referrals for support both internal and external, notes of discussions with pupils, pupils' jottings of thoughts and feelings) Exclusion information Behaviour incident records
All Parents/Carers*	Personal Information	Names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, relationship to the child (of parents/carers and other given contacts) Free school meals eligibility evidence
	Other	Parents' surveys Letters sent to school Emails sent to school Financial payments, including debt (both manual and electronic)

*this refers to those with legal responsibility for the child

Why We Collect and Use Student Information

The personal data collected is essential, for the school to fulfil their official functions and meet legal requirements.

We collect and use student information, for the following purposes:

- To support student learning
- To keep informed to keep children safe

- To monitor and report on student progress
- To provide appropriate pastoral care
- To comply with the law regarding data sharing
- To meet the statutory duties placed upon us for DfE data collections

We use the parents' data:

- To assess the quality of our services
- To comply with the law regarding data sharing
- To ensure financial stability

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), the lawful bases we rely on for processing student information are:

The lawful bases for processing personal data are set out in Article 6 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation. The school processed such data because we have:

(6a) Consent: parents have given clear consent for us to process their (and their child's) personal data for the purposes indicated above.

(6c) A Legal obligation: the processing is necessary for us to comply with the law (e.g. we are required by law to submit certain teacher assessment information and to safeguard students' welfare by sharing information with other agencies).

(6d) A duty to safeguard students: the processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject (children); (e.g. if we are required to share medical history information with emergency services in the event of an accident or to other agencies when a child may be in danger).

(6e) Public task: the processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the public interest or for our official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law (e.g. processing attendance information or academic attainment and progress records).

Special Categories of data are set out in Article 9 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation. The school processes such data because we have:

(9.2a) explicit consent. In circumstances where we seek consent, we make sure that the consent is unambiguous and for one or more specified purposes, is given by an affirmative action and is recorded as the condition for processing. Examples of our processing include use of student photographs for external purposes, student dietary requirements, and health information we receive from our students who require a reasonable adjustment to access our services.

(9.2b) processing is necessary for the purposes of carrying out the obligations and exercising specific rights of the controller or of the data subject in the field of social security and social protection law in so far as it is authorised by Union or Member State law or a collective agreement pursuant to Member State law providing for appropriate safeguards for the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

(9.2c) where processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person. An example of our processing would be using health information about a student in a medical emergency.

(9.2f) for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims. Examples of our processing include processing relating to any employment tribunal or other litigation.

(9.2g) reasons of substantial public interest. As a school, we are a publicly funded body and provide a safeguarding role to young and vulnerable people. Our processing of personal data in this context is for the purposes of substantial public interest and is necessary for the carrying out of our role. Examples of our processing include the information we seek or receive as part of investigating an allegation.

(9.2j) for archiving purposes in the public interest. The relevant purpose we rely on is Schedule 1 Part 1 paragraph 4 – archiving. An example of our processing is the transfers we make to the County Archives as set out in our Records Management Policy.

We process criminal offence data under Article 10 of the UK GDPR.

Our Data Protection Policy highlights the conditions for processing in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 that we process Special Category and Criminal Offence data under.

We also use this data collection for census purposes - Education Act 1996. This information can be found in the census guide documents on the following website:

Data collection and censuses for schools - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

How We Collect Student Information

We collect student information via registration forms at the start of the school year or Common Transfer File (CTF) or secure file transfer from the previous setting (where possible).

Student data is essential for the schools' operational use. Whilst the majority of student 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 student information to us or if you have a choice in this.

How We Store Student Data

We hold student data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please visit Policies | West Kirby Grammar School (wkgs.org).

All confidential information is kept secure either on our dedicated MIS system (Arbor), any safeguarding concerns are recorded on MyConcern, or for trips data is held on encrypted, password protected devices or paper copies kept on the school site. Once the deadline for retaining information has passed, data kept electronically is deleted and paper copies are destroyed in conjunction with the retention schedule.

Who We Share Student Information With

We routinely share student information with:

- Schools that the student attends after leaving us
- Our local authority
- The Department for Education (DfE)
- Children's Social Care (when safeguarding students' welfare)
- External professionals who visit school (such as Educational Psychologists)
- Suppliers and service providers with whom we have a contract
- Voluntary organisations linked to the school
- School Nurse, NHS
- The National Student Database

Why We Regularly Share Student Information

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

Youth Support Services

Students Aged 13+

Once our students reach the age of 13, we also pass student 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 / student once they reach the age 16.

Data is securely transferred to the youth support service via AnyComms+ Wirral Council's secure transfer system and is held for 90 days.

Students Aged 16+

We will also share certain information about students 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 via AnyComms+ Wirral Council's secure transfer system and is held for 90 days.

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

Department for Education (DfE)

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 students 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 Students) (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.

Local Authorities

We may be required to share information about our students with the local authority to ensure that they can conduct their statutory duties under

- the Schools Admission Code, including conducting Fair Access Panels.

Requesting Access to Your Personal Data

Under data protection legislation, parents and students 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 Lead, Mrs J Diamond jdiamond@wkgs.net or our school Data Protection Officer at SchoolPro TLC dpo@schoolpro.uk.

Depending on the lawful basis used for processing data (as identified above), you may also have the right to:

- have your personal data rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete;
- request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing;
- restrict our processing of your personal data (i.e. permitting its storage but no further processing);
- object to direct marketing (including profiling) and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics; or
- not be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you.

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/

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by DfE, please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

Withdrawal of Consent and the Right to Lodge a Complaint

Where we are processing your personal data with your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent. If you change your mind, or you are unhappy with our use of your personal data, please let us know by contacting our Data Protection Lead, Mrs J Diamond jdiamond@wkgs.net or our school Data Protection Officer at SchoolPro TLC dpo@schoolpro.uk.

Last Updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated on 23.09.2024.

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact: our Data Protection Lead, Mrs J Diamond jdiamond@wkgs.net or our school Data Protection Officer at SchoolPro TLC dpo@schoolpro.uk.

How Government Uses Your Data

The student data that we lawfully share with the Department for Education (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 Student 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 (DfE) (for example; via the school census) go to https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools

The National Student Database (NPD)

Much of the data about students in England goes on to be held in the National Student Database (NPD).

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education (DfE) and contains information about students in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE).

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-student-database-npd-privacy-notice/national-student-database-npd-privacy-notice

Sharing by the Department for Education (DfE)

The Department for Education (DfE) may share information about school employees with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children or the effective deployment of school staff in England by:

- conducting research or analysis
- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The Department for Education (DfE) will only share your personal data where it is lawful, secure and ethical to do so and has robust processes in place to ensure that the confidentiality of personal data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access to it and its use. Decisions on whether the Department for Education (DfE) releases personal data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of public benefit, proportionality, legal underpinning and strict information security standards.

For more information about the Department for Education's (DfE) data sharing process, please visit: https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data

For information about which organisations the Department for Education (DfE) has provided information, (and for which project) please visit the following website: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-external-data-shares

How to Find Out What Personal Information the Department for Education (DfE) Hold About You

Under the terms of UK GDPR, you're entitled to ask the Department for Education (DfE):

- if they are processing your personal data
- for a description of the data they hold about you
- the reasons they're holding it and any recipient it may be disclosed to
- for a copy of your personal data and any details of its source

If you want to see the personal data held about you by the Department for Education (DfE), you should make a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education's (DfE) personal information charter that is published at the address below: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter or https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/requesting-your-personal-information/requesting-your-personal-information#your-rights