

MEATH GREEN INFANT SCHOOL

GDPR Privacy Notice for Parents/Carers September 2020



Why do we collect and use pupil information?

We collect and use pupil information and under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy 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, Meath Green Infant School, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our data protection officer is: Mr E Dronfield.

We use the pupil data:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to protect pupil welfare

The categories of pupil information that we collect, hold and share includes, but is not restricted to:

- Personal information (such as name, unique pupil number and address)
- Contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil and curriculum records
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background, language, nationality, country of birth, eligibility for free school meals, or special educational needs
- Behavioural information
- Exclusion information
- Details of doctor, any medical conditions, including allergies, physical and mental health, medication and dietary requirements.
- Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- Safeguarding information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers
- Photographs
- Attendance at clubs and on educational visits.

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

Our legal basis for using this data

We only collect and use pupils' personal data 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)

Where we have obtained consent to use pupils' personal data, this consent can be withdrawn at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for consent, and explain how consent can be withdrawn.

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.

Collecting pupil information

Whilst the majority of pupil information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

How we store this data

We hold pupil data while they are attending our school. We also keep records beyond their attendance at our school to comply with our legal obligations. Our record retention schedule sets out how long we keep information about pupils.

Our record retention schedule is held as an appendix to our Data Protection Policy, a copy of which can be requested through the school.

Who do we share pupil information with?

We routinely share pupil information with:

- our local authority – to meet our legal obligations
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- Educators and examining bodies – to meet our legal obligation
- schools that the pupil's attend after leaving us
- Inspectors e.g. Ofsted – to enable effective evaluation of school performance
- NHS, Safeguarding Authorities – to share information with them, such as your child's health, wellbeing and safety concerns
- Police forces, courts, tribunals – to meet our legal duties and share information with them on specific matters

Why we share pupil information

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

We share pupils' data with the Department for Education (DfE) on a statutory basis. This data sharing underpins school funding and educational attainment policy and monitoring.

We are required to share information about our pupils with our local authority (LA) and the Department for Education (DfE) under section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

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>.

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.

We are required by law, to provide information about our pupils to the DfE as part of statutory data collections such as the school census. Some of this information is then stored in the NPD. The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

To find out more about the pupil information we share with the department, for the purpose of data collections, go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>.

The department may share information about our pupils from the NPD with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children in England by:

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

The Department has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data. Decisions on whether DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and 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 information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of the data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information about the department's 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 has provided pupil information, (and for which project), please visit the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received>

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

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 the School Office.

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
- claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the Data Protection regulations

If you have a concern 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 us:

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact us:

Via email: info@meath-green-infant.surrey.sch.uk

OR letter: Meath Green Infant School, Kiln Lane, Horley, Surrey RH6 8JG