



# Fellgate Primary School

## Data Protection Policy

Approved: July 2017  
To be reviewed: May 2018

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## .1 Statement of Intent

Fellgate Primary School is required to keep and process certain information about its staff members and pupils in accordance with its legal obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998.

The school may, from time to time, be required to share personal information about its staff or pupils with other organisations, mainly the LA, other schools and educational bodies, and potentially social services.

This policy is in place to ensure all staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities and outlines how the school complies with the following core principles of the Act:

- Data must be processed fairly and lawfully.
- Data must only be acquired for one or more lawful purposes and should not be processed for other reasons.
- Data must be adequate, relevant and not excessive.
- Data must be kept accurate and up-to-date.
- Data must not be kept for longer than is necessary.
- Data must be processed in accordance with the data subject's rights.
- Appropriate measures must be taken to prevent unauthorised or unlawful access to data and against loss, destruction or damage to data.
- Data must not be transferred to a country or territory unless it ensures an adequate level of protection for the rights of the subject.

Organisational methods for keeping data secure are imperative, and Fellgate Primary School believes that it is good practice to keep clear practical policies, backed up by written procedures.

## **Mission Statement**

At Fellgate Primary School:

We are committed to quality learning. This best takes place in a happy, secure, stimulating environment in which everyone feels valued.

Our school community accepts that each person is an individual with unique needs and aspirations.

We aim to work together to ensure that all can achieve their full potential.

At Fellgate Primary School:

We **RESPECT** ourselves, others, and our environment.

We believe in **EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY** for all school community members.

We promote **ACHIEVEMENT** by providing quality education for all, and continually striving to raise standards.

We **CHALLENGE** ourselves and each other, to think, reflect to move forward and to expect the best for and of everyone.

We foster **HONESTY AND FAIRNESS**, with all taking responsibility for their actions.

Signed by:

Headteacher \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Chair of Governors \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Next review date: May 2018

## 1. Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to legislation, including, but not limited to the following:

- The Data Protection Act 1998
- The Freedom of Information Act 2000
- The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 (as amended in 2016)
- The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004
- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998

1.1 This policy will also have regard to the following guidance:

- Information Commissioner's Office (2014) 'Subject access code of practice'

1.2 This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the following other school policies:

- E-safety/Acceptable Use
- Child Protection and Safeguarding

## 2. Data Controller

2.1 Fellgate Primary School, as the corporate body, is the data controller.

2.2 The Governing Body of Fellgate Primary School therefore has overall responsibility for ensuring that records are maintained, including security and access arrangements in accordance with regulations.

2.3 The school business manager (SBM) deals with the day-to-day matters relating to data protection.

2.4 The SBM and Headteacher is responsible for processing personal information on the school's behalf.

2.5 On occasion, personal information may be processed by outside organisations involved in data processing. By involving another organisation in data processing,

the school increases certain risks. The security of the personal information is covered in a formal contract between the school and any outside organisation.

### 3. Fair Processing

3.1 The School recognises that its staff and pupils need to know what the school does with the information it holds about them.

3.2 Parents have access to a copy of this Data Protection Policy on the school's website.

3.3 Fellgate Primary School issues a general privacy notice, detailing the purposes for which personal data collected by the school will be used.

3.4 If personal details are being recorded for a specific purpose, a specific privacy notice is issued.

3.5 The general privacy notice is also published on the school's website.

3.6 Personal information is only made available to staff and governors who need that particular information to do their jobs, and is only made available at the time that it is needed.

3.7 All members of staff, including members of the governing body, receive training in their responsibilities under the Data Protection Act, and guidance on confidentiality of personal information.

3.8 The training is reinforced at regular intervals throughout their employment or term as governor.

3.9 Members of staff and parents are responsible for checking that any information that they provide to the school, in connection with their employment or in regard to a registered pupil, is accurate and up-to-date.

3.10 The school cannot be held accountable for any errors unless the employee or parent has informed the school about such changes.

3.11 The SBM is responsible for monitoring fair processing controls on an on-going basis

#### 4. Data Security

4.1 Confidential paper records are kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer or safe, with restricted access.

4.2 Confidential paper records are not left unattended or in clear view anywhere with general access.

4.3 Digital data is coded, encrypted or password-protected, both on a local hard drive and on a network drive that is regularly backed up off-site.

4.4 Where data is saved on removable storage or a portable device, the device is kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer or safe when not in use.

4.5 Memory sticks are not used to hold personal information unless they are password-protected and fully encrypted.

4.6 All electronic devices are password-protected to protect the information on the device in case of theft.

4.7 Where possible, the school enables electronic devices to allow the remote blocking or deletion of data in case of theft.

4.8 All necessary members of staff are provided with their own secure login and password, and every computer regularly prompts users to change their password.

4.9 Emails containing sensitive or confidential information are password-protected if there are unsecure servers between the sender and the recipient.

4.10 Circular emails to parents are sent blind carbon copy (bcc), so email addresses are not disclosed to other recipients.

4.11 When sending confidential information by fax, staff always check that the recipient is correct before sending.

4.12 Where personal information that could be considered private or confidential is taken off the premises, either in electronic or paper format, staff take extra care to follow the same procedures for security, e.g. keeping devices under lock and key. The person taking the information from the school premises accepts full responsibility for the security of the data.

4.13 Before sharing data, all staff always ensure:

- They are allowed to share it.
- That adequate security is in place to protect it.
- Who will receive the data has been outlined in a privacy notice.

4.14 Under no circumstances are visitors allowed access to confidential or personal information. Visitors to areas of the school containing sensitive information are supervised at all times.

4.15 The physical security of the school's buildings and storage systems, and access to them, is reviewed termly. If an increased risk in vandalism/burglary/theft is identified, extra measures to secure data storage will be put in place.

4.16 The school takes its duties under the Data Protection Act seriously and any unauthorised disclosure may result in disciplinary action.

4.17 The SBM and Headteacher are responsible for continuity and that the recovery measures are in place to ensure the security of protected data.

## 5. Subject Consent

5.1. Fellgate Primary School understands that subjects have certain legal rights to their personal data, which will be respected.

5.2. The school does not process personal data without the consent of the subject, although the processing of data will sometimes be necessary for:

- The performance of a contract to which the subject is party to, or the steps taken with a view to entering a contract.
- Compliance with a legal obligation to which the school is subject.
- The administration of justice, legal functions of persons or departments, or functions of a public nature exercised in the public interest.
- The purposes of legitimate interests of the school, unless the decision prejudices the rights, freedoms or legitimate interests of the subject.

5.3. Members of staff will be working in close contact with children. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are therefore a condition of employment in order to ensure that potential employees do not pose a threat or danger.



5.4. Sensitive data, including: information relating to a subject's racial or ethnic origin; political opinions; religious beliefs; trade union membership; physical or mental health; their sexual life; or the commission of any offence, can only be processed with the explicit consent of the subject.

5.5. Sensitive data is processed if it meets the following requirements:

- It is necessary to protect the subject's vital interests
- It is carried out in the course of legitimate activities by a not-for-profit body or association with appropriate safeguard
- It is necessary for the administration of justice or other legal purposes
- It has been ordered by the Secretary of State
- It is necessary to prevent fraud
- It is necessary for medical purposes
- It is necessary for equality reasons
- It was made public deliberately by the data subject

## **6. Rights to Access Information**

6.1. All members of staff, parents of registered pupils and other users are entitled to:

- Know what information the school holds and processes about them or their child, and why.
- Understand how to gain access to it.
- Understand how to keep it up-to-date.
- Understand what the school is doing to comply with its obligations under the Data Protection Act.

6.2. All members of staff, parents of registered pupils and other users have the right, under the Data Protection Act, to access certain personal data being held about them or their child.

6.3. Personal information can be shared with pupils once they are old enough, although this information can still be shared with parents.

6.4. Pupils who are old enough to make decisions for themselves, are entitled to have their personal information handled in accordance with their rights.

6.5. The school complies with requests for access to personal information as quickly as possible, but will ensure that it meets its duty under the Data Protection Act, as well as the 'Subject access code of practice' (ICO), to provide:

- Information containing, in whole or in part, a pupil's educational record within 15 school days.
- Any other information within 40 calendar days.

6.6. All subject access requests (SAR) are kept in a log that requires formal consideration.

6.7. The school may charge a fee on each occasion that access is requested, but in the majority of cases, not more than £10.

6.8. Where a SAR is made for information containing, in whole or in part, a pupil's educational record, the following prescribed maximum fees apply, depending on the number of pages supplied:

Number of pages	Maximum fee
1-19	£1
20-29	£2
30-39	£3
40-49	£4
50-59	£5
60-69	£6
70-79	£7
80-89	£8
90-99	£9
100-149	£10
150-199	£15
200-249	£20

250-299	£25
300-349	£30
350-399	£35
400-449	£40
450-499	£45
500+	£50

6.9. Fellgate Primary School is not obliged to supply access to information unless it has received:

- A request in writing.
- The fee required.

6.10. However, where a fee is payable, but it has not been sent with a SAR, the school will not ignore their request, but will promptly contact the individual concerned within five working days and inform them that they need to pay.

6.11. Similarly, where further information is required from an individual in order to comply with a SAR, the school will contact the individual promptly, within five working days, to ask for the additional information.

6.12. Turnaround times for complying with a SAR begin from the date that the school receives the appropriate fee, and any additional information required from the individual concerned.

6.13. Fellgate Primary School is not obliged to provide unstructured personal data if the administrative cost is deemed to exceed the limit of £450 as contained in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

6.14. Fees will not be charged to an individual after the fact, if they have already been informed that it has been waived for a particular SAR.

## **7. Publication of Information**

7.1. Fellgate Primary School publishes details on its website outlining classes of information that will be made routinely available, including:

- Policies and procedures.

- Annual reports.
- Financial information.

7.2. Fellgate Primary School does not publish any personal information, including photos, on its website without the permission of the affected individual.

7.4. When uploading information to the school website, staff are considerate of any metadata or deletions which could be accessed in documents and images on the site.

## **8. Photography and Video**

8.1. The school understands that recording images of identifiable individuals constitutes processing personal information, so it is done in line with data protection principles.

8.2. The school always indicates its intentions for taking photographs of pupils and retrieves permission before publishing them.

8.3. If the school wishes to use images/video footage of pupils in a publication, such as the school website, prospectus, or recordings of school plays, written permission is sought from the parent of the pupil.

8.4. Precautions are taken when publishing photographs of pupils, in print, video or on the school website.

8.5. Images captured by individuals for recreational/personal purposes, and videos made by parents for family use, are exempt from the Data Protection Act.

## **9. Data retention**

9.1. The Data Protection Act states that data should not be kept for longer than is necessary.

9.2. Unrequired data is deleted as soon as practicable.

9.3. Some educational records relating to former pupils or employees of the school may be kept for an extended period for legal reasons, but also to enable the provision of references or academic transcripts.

9.4. Paper documents are shredded or pulped, and electronic memories scrubbed clean or destroyed, once the data should no longer be retained.

## **10. DBS data**

10.1. All data provided by the DBS will be handled in line with data protection legislation; this includes electronic communication.

10.2. Data provided by the DBS is never duplicated.

10.3. Any third parties who access DBS information are made aware of the data protection legislation, as well as their responsibilities as a data handler.

## **11. Challenges and Compensation**

11.1. The school understands that members of staff and the parents of registered pupils have the right to prevent the processing of personal data if it is likely to cause damage or distress.

11.2. Individuals with concerns related to the processing of personal data should provide the SBM with written notice.

11.3. If the SBM receives a written notice asking them to cease or not to begin processing specified data, they attempt to reply in writing within 21 days detailing:

- Their compliance or their intent to comply.
- Their reasons for considering the subject's written notice unjustified and the extent to which they have complied, or intend to comply, with the request.

11.4. Data subjects reserve the right to take their concerns to a court of law and will be entitled to compensation if it is judged that the school contravened the provisions of the Data Protection Act.

11.5. Individuals who are not the subject of the data, but suffer damage as a result of the contravention, are also entitled to compensation.

11.6. It is the individual's own responsibility to take action for compensation if loss of personal data causes them damage.

11.7. The school will immediately rectify, block, erase or destroy any data that a court of law judges to have contravened the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

## **12. Policy review**

12.1. This policy is reviewed every year by the ICT coordinator.

12.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is May 2018.