



**Inspiring Futures  
through Learning**

Inspiring Futures through Learning

**Data Protection Policy**

September 2023 to September 2025

<b>Policy name:</b>		Data Protection Policy
<b>Version:</b>		V2
<b>Date relevant from:</b>		September 2023
<b>Date to be reviewed:</b>		September 2025 <i>This policy will be reviewed every two years unless legislation dictates otherwise. Recent changes in Legislation will need to be read and used to review this Policy.</i>
<b>Role of reviewer:</b>		IFtL Head of Operations
<b>Statutory (Y/N):</b>		Y
<b>Published on website*:</b>		3C

<b>Policy level**:</b>	1
<b>Relevant to:</b>	All employees through all IFtL schools and departments
<b>Bodies consulted:</b>	
<b>Approved by:</b>	IFtL Board of Trustees
<b>Approval date:</b>	

**Key:**

**\* Publication on website:**

IFtL website		School website	
1	Statutory publication	A	Statutory publication
2	Good practice	B	Good practice
3	Not required	C	Not required

**\*\* Policy level:**

1. Trust wide:
  - This one policy is relevant to everyone and consistently applied across all schools and Trust departments with no variations.
    - o *Approved by the IFtL Board of Trustees.*
2. Trust core values:
  - This policy defines the values to be incorporated fully in all other policies on this subject across all schools and Trust departments. This policy should therefore form the basis of a localised school / department policy that in addition contains relevant information, procedures and / or processes contextualised to that school / department.
    - o *Approved by the IFtL Board of Trustees as a Trust Core Values policy.*
    - o *Approved by school / department governance bodies as a relevantly contextualised school / department policy.*
3. School / department policies
  - These are defined independently by schools / departments as appropriate
    - o *Approved by school / department governance bodies.*

## **Data Protection Policy**

### **Introduction**

In order to operate efficiently IFTL [the Trust] has to collect and use information about people with whom it works. These people may include members of the public, current, past and prospective employees, clients and customers, and suppliers. In addition, the law may require us to collect and use information in order to comply with the requirements of central government.

The Trust is committed to ensuring personal information is properly managed and that it ensures compliance with all current data protection legislation including the Data Protection Act 2018 [DPA] and the UK GDPR. (The GDPR was converted into UK law as the UK GDPR following Brexit. Within this document, references to GDPR mean the UK GDPR).

The Trust will make every effort to meet its obligations under the legislation and will regularly review procedures to ensure that it is doing so.

### **1. Scope**

This policy applies to all employees, governors, contractors, agents and representatives and temporary staff working for or on behalf of the Trust.

This policy applies to all personal information created or held by the Trust in whatever format (e.g. paper, electronic, email, microfiche, film) and however it is stored, (for example ICT system/database, shared drive filing structure, email, filing cabinet, shelving and personal filing drawers).

For the purposes of this policy, any reference to the Trust includes the trust offices and all schools that are a part of the trust plus the MKTSA and ITT Teaching Schools.

The DPA/UK GDPR does not apply to information about deceased individuals.

### **2. Responsibilities**

The Data Controller, under data protection law, is Inspiring Futures Through Learning (also referred to within this document as IFtL or the trust). Individual schools are also Data Controllers and share this role, and its responsibilities, with the trust. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for compliance with current data protection legislation.

The Head teachers of individual schools are responsible for ensuring compliance with the DPA, UK GDPR and this policy within the day to day activities of their Schools.

Headteachers should appoint a data lead who will be the main point of contact in school for the trust's Data Protection Officer.



Head teachers are also responsible for ensuring that any staff involved in the handling of personal data are trained in the correct procedures and are fully aware of policies relating to data protection.

Although members of staff or contractors who hold or collect personal data are responsible for their own compliance with the DPA and UK GDPR, schools should ensure that all appropriate technical and organisational measures are in place to ensure that data security is robust and that there is no opportunity for a rogue member of staff to illegally obtain and remove personal data.

Schools must have contracts in place with any organisations that process personal data on the school's behalf. Such contracts must state the processors position on compliance with data protection legislation and should include information on the adequacy and security of data stored.

The Trust's Data Protection Officer is responsible for appropriately advising schools and staff on the correct procedures and their obligation to comply with the legislation, to provide training opportunities to staff that require it, to monitor compliance with the legislation and to advise on corrective actions where appropriate, to conduct internal data audits and to be the main point of contact with the regulatory authorities.

### **3. The Requirements**

Article 5 of the GDPR states that personal data shall be:

- Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals
- Collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date. Every reasonable step must be undertaken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against



accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Article 5(2) requires that:

- the controller shall be responsible for, and be able to demonstrate, compliance with the principles

Personal data is information about living, identifiable individuals. It covers both facts and opinions about the individual but need not be sensitive information. It can be as little as a name and address. Such data can be part of a computer record or manual record.

#### **4. Notification**

Under data protection law, every data controller who is processing personal data is required to notify and renew their notification, on an annual basis. Failure to do so is a criminal offence. The Information Commissioner maintains a public register of data controllers, in which the trust is registered. IFtL schools do not need to register individually.

The trust will review the Data Protection Register annually, prior to renewing the notification to the Information Commissioner.

#### **5. Privacy Notices**

Whenever information is collected about individuals, they must be made aware of the following:

- The identity of the data controller, e.g. the Trust;
- The purpose for which the information is being collected;
- The lawful basis for collection of that information;
- Any other purposes that it may be used for;
- Who the information will or may be shared with; and
- How to contact the data controller.

This must be at the time that information first starts to be gathered on an individual. Privacy notices are displayed in our schools and on our school websites.

Schools should also display relevant privacy notices near data collection points. For example, schools that use electronic visitor management systems should ensure that the system displays a privacy notice when visitors first sign in.

Specific privacy notice may be required if data outside the scope of the standard privacy notice is required. One example of this would be collecting information related to Covid vaccination status. This requires a separate privacy notice.



## 6. Lawful Basis for Processing

Under the terms of the GDPR, data controllers must have a valid lawful basis in order to process personal data. The following bases are the grounds on which information is processed within IFtL.

Pupil data is primarily processed as it is 'Necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject'. As a provider of public education, we are required by law to collect and process personal data on our pupils as without this data, we would be unable to provide and monitor education effectively.

We process data on our staff because it is 'Necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject'. Without processing this data we would be unable to pay staff or monitor their performance.

We process data relating to safeguarding and child protection because it is 'Necessary to protect the vital interests of a data subject or another person'.

We process certain types of special category data that enable schools to fulfil their duties in relation to being 'in-loco parentis' because it is 'Necessary for the purposes of carrying out the obligations and exercising the specific rights of the controller or of the data subject in the field of employment and social security and social protection law'.

Data that is gathered under any of these bases should only be used for the purposes covered by the basis stated. Data obtained using the legal obligation basis, for example, should not be used for marketing as the act of marketing is not a task covered by a legal obligation. Marketing is likely to require consent, which should be obtained following the principles stated in section 17 of this document.

Any data that does not fall within the categories above must only be obtained after obtaining explicit consent as covered in section 17 of this document.

## 7. Provision of Data

It is a criminal offence to knowingly or recklessly obtain or disclose information about an individual without legitimate cause. Relevant, confidential data should only be given to:

- *other members of staff on a need to know basis;*
- *relevant Parents/Guardians;*
- *other authorities if it is necessary in the public interest, e.g. prevention of crime;*
- *other authorities, such as the LEA and schools to which a pupil may move, where there are legitimate requirements (DfEE leaflet 0015/2000 entitled "Pupil Records and Reports" issued in March 2000 covers Data Protection issues and how and what information should be transferred to other schools.*



*DfES/0268/2002 provides further information) or to the DfE where required by law*

The Trust should not disclose anything on a pupil's record which would be likely to cause serious harm to their physical or mental health or that of anyone else. Therefore, those who create such records should ensure that such information is separated from other records.

Where there is doubt or statutory requirements conflict, further advice should be obtained.

When giving information to an individual, particularly by telephone, it is most important that the individual's identity is verified. If in doubt, questions should be asked of the individual, to which only he/she is likely to know the answers. Information should not be provided to other parties, even if related. For example: in the case of divorced parents it is important that information regarding one party is not given to the other party to which he/she is not entitled. If there is any doubt, do not disclose the information and seek further advice.

## **8. Data Subjects and Their Rights**

Under the GDPR, Data Subjects have more rights than they had under the previous Data Protection Act. These rights, and how we deal with requests under these rights, are detailed within this section. If there is any uncertainty around the rights of the data subject or if further clarification is required following any communication regarding a person's rights, please contact the trust's data protection officer.

### **Right to be informed**

The right to be informed encompasses the organisations obligation to provide 'fair processing information'. At IFtL, we communicate this by means of privacy notices that are available at our schools and also via our website.

These notices include details such as why we need the data that we are collecting, the lawful basis for processing this data, whether this data is shared with third parties, the retention period for the data, confirmation of the rights of the data subject, a statement about the right to complain to the supervisory authority and the contact details of the trust's data protection officer.

This information must be provided at the time the data is collected if it directly obtained from the data subject or within 1 month of collecting the data if it is not obtained directly from the subject.

### **Right of access**

Individuals have the right to confirmation that their data is being processed, the right of access to their personal data and the right to other supplementary information (generally, this refers to the information that should be provided in privacy notices).



This information must be provided to data subjects free of charge. A fee, however, may be charged if a request is manifestly unfounded, excessive or repetitive.

Information, following subject access requests, must be provided without undue delay and, at the latest, within 30 calendar days.

Further guidance is available in the IFtL Subject Access Request Policy.

### **Right to rectification**

Individuals have the right to have any incorrect or inaccurate personal data rectified. This means that, where a request has been made, all records relating to that individual, where information is found to be incorrect, must be corrected within 30 calendar days. This relates to paper records, computer files, backups of computer files and, where possible, records kept by third parties where the information has been passed on by the trust.

Requests can be extended by 2 months where the request for rectification is complex.

### **Right to erasure**

The right to erasure is also known as ‘the right to be forgotten’. This is to enable an individual, where it is appropriate, to request the deletion or removal of personal data relating to them where there is no longer a compelling reason for its continued processing.

It is important to note that this is not an absolute right and the right of erasure can be refused in many circumstances.

Where data is no longer necessary in relation to the purpose for which it was originally collected, where an individual has withdrawn consent, where an individual objects to the processing of their data and there is no overriding legitimate interest for the continued processing of the data or where data is being unlawfully processed are some of the reasons where the right to be forgotten may be upheld.

Any case where a data subject requests to exercise this right should be referred to the trust’s data protection officer.

### **Right to restrict processing**

An individual can request that their data is no longer processed, that is, no longer used by the organisation. If this happens, the organisation retains the right to store the data, but may no longer further process it. This restriction may happen if the accuracy of data is contested, where an objection has been made against the processing, where processing is unlawful and the data subject requests restriction rather than erasure of data or where the organisation no longer requires the data but the individual requires the data to be retained in order to establish, exercise or defend a legal claim.

If this data has been passed on to third parties, there is an obligation to pass the restriction details on to them unless it is impossible, or would involve disproportionate effort, to do so.





## **Right to data portability**

Individuals have the right to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes across different services. This right should allow them to move, copy or transfer personal data easily from one IT system to another, safely and securely.

Data should be supplied in a structured, commonly used, machine readable format (An example of this format would be a .csv file) where possible.

This information must be provided free of charge within 30 calendar days.

There is no obligation to make data compatible with a proprietary format nor to convert paper records to electronic format.

This right is unlikely to be exercised within a school setting and is primarily aimed at businesses and financial institutions. Schools, however, should be aware of the right and of its implications.

## **Right to object**

Individuals have the right to object to their data being processed based on legitimate interest or the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. They also have the right to object to direct marketing, including profiling and to the processing for purposes of scientific or historical research and statistics.

Where data is being processed on legitimate grounds, individuals must have an objection based on grounds relating to their own 'particular situation'. You must stop processing the data unless you can demonstrate compelling legitimate grounds for the continued processing which override the interests, rights and freedoms of the individual or unless the processing is for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.

Individuals must be informed of the right to object 'at the point of first communication'. This right is stated in our privacy notices and should be explicitly brought to the attention of the data subject.

## **Rights related to automated decision making, including profiling**

Individuals have rights with regard to automated decision making (where no human involvement is included in the making of a decision) as well as automated profiling (where personal data is analysed to evaluate certain things about an individual).

Currently, neither the trust nor its schools undertake any automated decision making or profiling. Should any automated systems be investigated in the future, a data protection impact assessment should be undertaken prior to any systems being put into place.

## **9. Provision of data to children**

Under the GDPR, the age at which a child can give their own consent to process data is 16. The 2018 DPA has lowered this, in some circumstances, to 13.



Secondary provision within the Trust should undertake an assessment of requests from pupils to establish whether requests made by pupils are deemed appropriate, i.e. whether the pupil is of sufficient maturity to understand the nature of such a request. Under UK law, children of 13 years and older are deemed responsible enough to manage their own data. Any decisions relating to subject access requests for children must be documented and retained with the paperwork.

## **10. Parents' rights**

The Education (Pupil Information)(England) Regulations 2005, do not apply to academies and free schools, therefore a parent's right to access their child's educational record does not apply within the IFtL trust as long as an annual report on the child's progress is provided. Schools may decide, on a case by case basis, to grant a request to access a pupil's educational record and will bear in mind any guidance issued from the ICO.

The law relating to children over 13 managing their own data also relates to this area, and schools should be aware that requests for pupil data for children aged 13 or over may need to be authorised by the child. In theory, a child aged 13 or older can prevent their parents accessing pupil data.

## **11. Information Security**

All members of staff should be constantly aware of the possibility of personal data being seen by unauthorised personnel. For example, possibilities may arise when computer screens are visible to the general public; files may be seen by cleaners if left on desks overnight (all papers must be locked in cabinets when not in use).

The requirement of GDPR is that only people with a legitimate entitlement to access data should be allowed to do so, therefore any paperwork containing personal data should be locked away at the end of each day or offices should be locked so that persons that are not authorised to access the data are unable to do so.

Computer screens must also be locked whenever an employee leaves their workstation in order to protect any data that is accessible from that workstation.

Portable flash drives (USB sticks) should not be used, under any circumstances, for the storage of personal data. These devices are easily lost or corrupted. (The use of such devices for non-personal information is acceptable, although all staff should be working from the IFtL Sharepoint Portal which should reduce the need for portable drives).

Laptops or tablets, where they have access to personal data, should be password protected and drives should be encrypted to minimise the risk of a data breach in event of the loss of a machine.

Schools should ensure that administrator password to networks are kept secure and only provided to persons that absolutely require access. Where possible, access should be



restricted to only the areas required and each administrator should have their own password so that access can be easily revoked if required.

Schools should consider penetration testing and ethical hacking services in order to assure the security of their networks.

For further guidance on this subject, please refer to the IFtL Cyber Security Policy.

## **12. Maintenance of up-to-date data and disposal of data**

Personal data should be checked and updated at appropriate intervals. Staff and parents should be given the opportunity to check relevant personal data and make corrections on a regular basis.

The sending out of pre-populated data collection sheets is something that should be avoided. Putting a sheet full of personal information in the post or in a child's book bag, for a parent or carer to review is, in itself, a potential data breach. Sending out a blank form is acceptable and the data on the returned, populated form then becomes the responsibility of the parent/carer.

A better solution is to review the forms with the parent/carer at a parents evening. This helps to ensure the data is secure as it does not leave the building. (Bear in mind that these sheets should then be returned to their designated location and locked away prior to staff leaving the building). Alternatively, for SIMS schools, the SIMS Parent App Lite is a free solution that allows parents to update their own data at any time.

Out of date information should be discarded if no longer relevant. Information should only be kept as long as needed, for legal or business purposes. The attitude where data is kept 'just in case' should be avoided. In reality, most relevant information should be kept for the period during which the person is associated with a school plus an additional period determined by the records management policy. Ideally, where data is archived, a disposal date should be clearly marked on boxes or folders.

When it is time for data to be disposed of, it should be destroyed in an approved manner. For paper records, this will be by use of a cross cut shredder or by means of an approved contractor operating to current industry standards.

Where electronic information is disposed of, this must be done under contract with a supplier where the contract assures that the terms of the GDPR are complied with. This extends to disposal of any computer equipment containing storage media (hard drives etc) that may have processed personal data during the lifetime of the equipment.

Schools should maintain a data asset register listing what data they hold, where it is held, who has access, why they have this data and for how long the data is kept. IFtL schools currently use GDPRiS to manage this.



It is a legal requirement for records to be kept of data that is disposed of. Staff destroying data should record, as a minimum;

- File reference (or other unique identifier)
- File title (or brief description)
- Number of files
- The name of the authorising officer
- Date action taken

This could be kept in an Excel spreadsheet or other database format and retained

### 13. Retention of Safeguarding and Child Protection Data

Milton Keynes Council have issued, in May 2019, a guide to CP record keeping for schools. This applies to academies as well as maintained schools so IFtL expect all of their schools to follow this guidance.

In addition, in January 2021, IFtL published a 'Transfer and Retention of Safeguarding and Child Protection Files' Policy which advises further on how Primary Schools should transfer CP data when pupils move on to their next setting.

The key points from this document include;

- Schools that use an online or electronic child protection or safeguarding system should contact the provider to check what happens to data if the child transfers to a school that does not operate the same system or if a child leaves the school with no further school placement (i.e. if they are home educated or move abroad, for example).  
Schools must ensure that they have procedures in place for these circumstances to ensure that information is retained or transferred and there is no risk of loss of information.
- All schools should compile a chronology of information as a summary of events which tell the whole story (in summary form) of the file<sup>1</sup>. This should record decision making, action agreed, outcomes and strategies. An example chronology is shown in the MKC document.
- All schools should compile a vulnerable child tracker/mapping tool to map services provided to support children<sup>1</sup>. This could also be used to identify and monitor sibling links.
- Primary schools **MUST** transfer CP and safeguarding files when a child leaves the school. The only legal reason for retention of CP or safeguarding information is if there is ongoing legal action.



Having said that, **IFtL recommend that a copy of the file is retained for a period not exceeding 24 months to allow for any enquiries or referrals from the child's new school to be appropriately addressed.** This will allow for a settlement period at the new setting and an adequate time for any issues to arise which may require input from staff who may need to refer back to notes on the file.

This retained copy should be stored securely, preferably in electronic format, and should not be otherwise processed unless an enquiry is made by the new setting or by an authority with appropriate legal justification. At the end of the 24 month period, the files should be securely destroyed<sup>2</sup>.

- When files are transferred, written evidence of transfer should be retained. A sample transfer form is available in the MKC document. Schools should retain a copy of this form along with a copy of the chronology of information form until the child reaches the age of 25. Schools should store these securely in a designated location that is only accessible by DSLs.
- If children are classified as missing from education or are home educated, there may be a requirement to retain files at the last known school until the child reaches the age of 25. Cases should be referred to the local authority for guidance.
- Where an older sibling leaves a school and leaves a younger sibling behind, there may be a case to justify retention of the older sibling's files in order to ensure that the legal requirement to safeguard the younger sibling is met. As a minimum, the chronology in the younger sibling's file should refer to the transfer of files and cross reference to the retained chronology from the older sibling's file.  
Each case should be judged according to the circumstances of the individual case and a documented decision taken by DSLs involved. All decisions should be justified and documented on the CP file chronologies.
- Safeguarding and CP files must be retained within the school system until the child reaches the age of 25. Responsibility for transfer lies with the school that the pupil is leaving and the school should satisfy themselves that they have fulfilled their duty and obtained sufficient evidence that the complete file has been received by the new school. Responsibility for maintenance of the file then becomes the responsibility of the new school.
- Due to the ongoing iicsa enquiry, no pupil or staff records should be destroyed until further notice (This relates to original files where we have evidence of transfer, not to retained copies). Responsibility for retention of pupil records passes up the chain of schools but primary schools should retain the transfer forms and chronologies indefinitely until advised otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> – *These items come from Learning from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and Serious Incident Learning Reviews (SILRs) relevant to information sharing & recording- schools, 2009-2015*



## **14. Inaccurate Data**

Under GDPR, data subjects have the right to rectification, the right to erase, the right to object and the right to restrict processing.

This means that data subjects can ask for their data to be corrected where it is inaccurate or incomplete, erased under certain circumstances, although this right is not absolute and there are many grounds for refusing the right to erasure, they have the right to object to the use of their data and they can also request that their data is no longer processed.

Should schools receive any of these requests, please refer to the trust's data protection officer.

## **15. Recording of Data**

Records should be clear, concise and accurate. It should also be borne in mind that at some time in the future, the data may be inspected by the courts or some legal official. Data should, therefore be correct, unbiased, unambiguous and clearly decipherable/readable. Where information is obtained from an outside source, details of the source and date obtained should be recorded.

## **16. Photographs**

Photographs are considered personal data and require the same protection as any other type of personal data.

Collecting photographs for use on SIMS is a part of our legal obligation so consent is not required. Photographs used for other purposes, however, will most likely require consent. Consent under GDPR is required to be unambiguous, specific and freely given. This means that blanket consent for photographs is no longer appropriate and consent must be given for each different use required for photographs. Further guidance on consent is given below.

## **17. Further rules around consent**

Wherever possible, the use of consent as a legal basis for processing data should be a last resort.

Any data that is necessary to perform the tasks required of the organisation by law, should be gathered using the lawful bases for processing detailed in part 7 above of one of the other lawful bases listed under article 6 of the GDPR (or article 9 for special category data). Where data is required that does not fall within the bases stated, consent should be obtained in order to process this data prior to any processing taking place.

This can include photographs, as in part 16 above, or other data that may fall outside of the scope of the lawful bases stated.

Where consent is required, it must be freely given, unambiguous and explicit. It also requires



a positive opt-in which means that pre-ticked boxes or boxes where you must tick to opt out are illegal under GDPR.

The requirement for consent to be explicit also means that consent must be given for each individual use of the data. Using photographs as an example, it is no longer permitted to ask for consent for photographs to be used for 'use on our website, newsletters, within school and other areas'. Each specific use of the photographs must individually be consented to and a dated signature should be obtained to show when consent was obtained and records should be kept.

Individuals should also be informed that they have the right to withdraw their consent at any time and should also be informed if the data that they are consenting to will be passed on to any third parties for processing.

There are some exceptions to withdrawal of consent. For example, if you have just printed a prospectus and consent is withdrawn for a photograph within it, it may be acceptable to continue to use these but to remove the photograph in future print runs. If this occurs, consideration would have to be given on a case by case basis.

If there is any doubt around this, please contact the trust's data protection officer.

## **18. Breach of the policy**

Non-compliance with the requirements of the DPA/UK GDPR by members of staff is a serious matter. Fines under GDPR can be up to £17.5 Million or 4% of annual turnover, whichever is the greater. Staff can also be personally convicted of criminal offences, for example, obtaining or disclosing personal data for their own purposes or without the consent of the data controller can lead to criminal prosecution. Non-compliance by a member of staff is therefore considered a disciplinary matter which, depending on the circumstances, could lead to dismissal.

## **19. Procedure in the event of a data breach**

A data breach can be any loss, destruction, unofficial alteration, unofficial access, theft or disclosure of personal data.

Any potential breach of data **MUST** be notified to the trust's data protection officer as soon as it is discovered.

The DPO will investigate the potential breach with the school and decide what action to take. Certain breaches are reportable to the supervising authority and that report must be filed within 72 hours of the first discovery of the breach. It is critical, therefore, that potential breaches are reported to the data protection officer immediately.

Fines can be imposed by the supervisory authority for infringements relating to breach notification. Potential fines for improper reporting of data breaches fall within the lower band of fine under GDPR, which is 'up to £8.7 Million or 2% of annual turnover'.

For further guidance, please see the Trust's Data Breach Policy.





## **20. Transferring data outside of the UK/EEA**

Since Brexit, the UK has been granted 'adequacy' status which means that data transfer to and from the EEA remains as it was prior to Brexit and is fully compliant with the terms of the GDPR.

There are certain rules regarding the transfer of data outside of the EEA under GDPR. This includes the storage of data on 'cloud' service providers.

It is unlikely that the trust, or any of its schools, will deliberately transfer data outside of the EEA but schools should ensure that they carry out adequate due diligence on any cloud service providers to ensure that they do not inadvertently transfer data overseas. Schools should consider the following when assessing overseas transfers;

Transfers may be made to a third country where the European Commission has declared that the country, or international organisation, provides an adequate level of protection. The EU-US Privacy Shield was declared invalid on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020 so this can no longer be used to transfer data to the USA.

Transfers to third countries must follow appropriate safeguards, such as binding corporate rules, standard contractual clauses, compliance with an approved code of conduct approved by a supervisory authority or certification under an approved certification mechanism as provided for in the GDPR.

There may be other conditions under which transfers may be made. In all cases, the trust's data protection officer should be consulted about transfers outside the EEA.

## **21. Provision of online services to children**

Where online services that collect personal data are offered to children, explicit parental consent must be obtained. This is particularly significant where children's personal information is used to create online profiles or for marketing. (Preventative or counselling services do not necessarily require parental consent.) Children aged 13 years or older may provide their own consent.

It is unlikely that these services will be offered by the trust or its schools, but schools should ensure that any apps or websites used for educational purposes are compliant with GDPR before putting them to use in the classroom.

## **22. Use of email and document security**

Email has evolved over the years and the email systems that are currently in use across the Trust are Outlook/Office 365 and Google Mail. Both systems have Transport Layer Security (TLS) embedded by design.

TLS is a protocol designed to provide privacy and data integrity between two or more communicating computer applications. This means that, by default, email between any IFTL





staff using their work email account is secure and no further steps are necessary to ensure secure transfer of information.

If extra security is required, for communicating outside the trust, products such as Egress Switch or Trend Encryption can be used.

Azure Information Protection can also be enabled in Outlook which enables encryption of emails and controls such as 'do not forward'.

All staff, governors and trustees should be issued an IFtL email address for their use with regard to work matters. Use of personal email addresses for work matters should be avoided wherever possible.

Where agendas and papers for meetings are issued, these should be hosted on the portal and links distributed by email as opposed to sending out documents attached to an email. This helps ensure the security of the documents and also helps with version control as there will only be one copy of the document in use rather than various copies which may not pick up any modifications made.

Particular attention should be paid to permissions when sharing documents and you should consider whether to send documents with read only rights or whether editing is necessary.

### **23. DPIAs and Data Protection (Privacy) by Design**

It is critical that any new systems take data protection into account at the planning stage. When looking into any new systems that handle personal data, a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) should be undertaken to ensure that the security, protection and privacy of data held within the new system is assured prior to any purchasing taking place. For information regarding DPIAs, please see the ICO guidance on Privacy Impact Assessments or refer to the trust's data protection officer.

Further guidance on all matters relating to data protection is available from the trust's data protection officer or from the Information Commissioners Office.

### **24. Technical and Organisational Measures**

One of the requirements of the GDPR is that organisations implement appropriate technical and organisational measure to ensure the appropriate protection of data and information. All schools should consider that they have appropriate measures in place.

Some of the measures we have in place as a Multi Academy Trust are;

- A suite of data protection policies that all schools are required to comply with
- All schools protected by firewalls, internet filtering, anti-virus and anti-malware software



- Use of Outlook and Office 365 with in-built protection
- Azure Rights Management and Microsoft Secure Score used to maximise protection
- Multi Factor Authentication on all portal admin accounts
- Appropriate permissions set to ensure access to information is secure
- Business Continuity Plans are in place across schools
- Staff are trained through Smartlog or through the IFtL portal and this is supplemented by refreshers at Inset and twilight sessions
- Annual data protection audits are undertaken
- GDPRiS is being used across the trust to monitor compliance
- School buildings are secure with efficient visitor management in place
- Schools have effective procedures in place for secure disposal of paperwork and of redundant IT equipment

Schools should consider their own measures to ensure that they are as secure as possible and to highlight where they may need to make improvements.

As a trust, we work to the NCSC Cyber Essentials standards to ensure that our IT security is as robust as possible.

## **25. Additional Considerations**

Certain events and incidents may occur which fall outside of the scope of our general processing activities. For example, the processing of data related to the Covid-19 pandemic was an unexpected occurrence and some of the use of this data may not be covered by our usual practices.

In these circumstances, IFtL will issue central guidance and/or additional privacy notices to ensure that we continue to process data in a legal manner.

If you are in any doubt about any data processing and whether or not additional justification is necessary, please speak to your school Data Lead or contact the IFtL DPO at [dpo@iftl.co.uk](mailto:dpo@iftl.co.uk)



## Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
DPA	Data Protection Act 2018
EIR	Environmental Information Regulations 2004
FoIA	Freedom of Information Act 2000
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation

## Glossary

Data Controller	A person or organisation that determines the purposes for which, and the manner in which, personal data is processed
Data processor	A person, other than an employee of the data controller, who processes the data on behalf of the data controller
Data Subject	The person whose personal data is held or processed
Educational record	The educational record is confined to information that comes from a teacher or other employee of a local authority or school, the pupil or their parents. Communications about a particular child from head teachers and teachers at a school and other employees at an education authority will therefore form part of that child's official educational record, as will correspondence from an educational psychologist engaged by the governing body under a contract of services. It may also include information from the child and their parents, such as information about the health of the child. Information kept by a teacher solely for their own use does not form part of the official educational record.
Information Commissioner (ICO)	The supervisory authority for data protection in the UK
Personal Data	Data from which a person can be identified, including data that, when combined with other readily available information, leads to a person being identified
Processing	Obtaining, recording or holding data



Sensitive Personal Data	<p>Data such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact details</li> <li>• Racial or ethnic origin</li> <li>• Political opinions</li> <li>• Religious beliefs, or beliefs of a similar nature</li> <li>• Where a person is a member of a trade union</li> <li>• Physical and mental health</li> <li>• Sexual orientation</li> <li>• Whether a person has committed, or is alleged to have committed, an offence</li> </ul> <p>Criminal convictions</p>
Subject Access Request	An individual's request for personal data under the Data Protection Act 2018 or the GDPR.

