

BLOSSOM HOUSE SCHOOL



Data Protection Policy

**EYFS, Adapted Curriculum, Primary, Secondary,
Post 16**

Motspur Park | Euston | Wimbledon

Next review: March 2026

Document Management Information

Policy Name:	Data Protection Policy
Department Responsible for updating policy:	Data Protection Committee (Senior Management Team, IT, Human Resources)
Last updated:	Currently under review in line with new legislation Next review completion expected March 2026
Previous dates of update:	March 2021 26 th September 2022
Frequency of updates required:	As per changes in legislation, or annually at least. Policy duration is usually applicable in line with the school's academic calendar and is expected to be updated/reviewed at the beginning of each academic year in September
Salient changes made to this policy since the last update:	Addition of role of Data Protection Co-ordinator
Purpose of Policy:	The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the school follows the correct guidelines with regard to Data Protection as per the General Data Protection Regulations – May 2018

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Overview

The School takes the security and privacy of data seriously. We intend to comply with our legal obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) in respect of data privacy and security.

This policy applies to current and former employees, workers, volunteers, apprentices, consultants and contractors. You should read this policy alongside your contract of employment or contract for services and any other notice we issue to you from time to time in relation to your data.

Interpretation

Definitions:

Automated Decision-Making (ADM): when a decision is made which is based solely on Automated Processing (including profiling) which produces legal effects or significantly affects an individual. The DPA prohibits Automated Decision-Making (unless certain conditions are met) but not Automated Processing.

Automated Processing: any form of automated processing of Personal Data consisting of the use of Personal Data to evaluate certain personal aspects relating to an individual, in particular to analyse or predict aspects concerning that individual's performance at work, economic situation, health, personal preferences, interests, reliability, behaviour, location or movements. Profiling is an example of Automated Processing.

School name: Blossom House School, Station Road, Motspur Park, New Malden, KT3 6JJ

School Personnel: all employees, workers, contractors, agency workers, consultants, directors, members and others.

Consent: agreement which must be freely given, specific, informed and be an unambiguous indication of the Data Subject's wishes by which they, by a statement or by a clear positive action, signifies agreement to the Processing of Personal Data relating to them.

Data Controller: the person or organisation that determines when, why and how to process Personal Data. It is responsible for establishing practices and policies in line with the DPA. We are the Data Controller of all Personal Data relating to our Company Personnel and Personal Data used in our business for our own commercial purposes.

Data Subject: a living, identified or identifiable individual about whom we hold Personal Data. Data Subjects may be nationals or residents of any country and may have legal rights regarding their Personal Data.

Data Privacy Impact Assessment (DPIA): tools and assessments used to identify and reduce risks of a data processing activity. DPIA can be carried out as part of Privacy by Design and should be conducted for all major system or business change programs involving the Processing of Personal Data.

Data Protection Officer (DPO): [Satswana Ltd, with email of \[info@satswana.com\]\(mailto:info@satswana.com\) ; telephone number 01252 759177.](#)

Data Protection Manager: Data Protection Committee (Senior Management Team, HR, IT, Administration Manager).

Data Protection Co-ordinator: IT Supervisor (role includes working with the School DPO (Satswana Ltd) to ensure the Policy and actions arising from the Policy are up to date, making the Data Protection Committee aware of actions they need to take in their area with regards Data Protection, arranging the Data Protection Committee meeting on a six monthly basis, disseminating action points to the members and following up).

EEA: the 28 countries in the EU, and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

Explicit Consent: consent which requires a very clear and specific statement (that is, not just action).

Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA): Personal Data is subject to the legal safeguards specified in the DPA.

Personal Data: any information identifying a Data Subject or information relating to a Data Subject that we can identify (directly or indirectly) from that data alone or in combination with other identifiers we possess or can reasonably access. Personal Data includes Sensitive Personal Data and Pseudonymised Personal Data but excludes anonymous data or data that has had the identity of an individual permanently removed. Personal data can be factual (for example, a name, email address, location or date of birth) or an opinion about that person's actions or behaviour.

Personal Data Breach: any act or omission that compromises the security, confidentiality, integrity or availability of Personal Data or the physical, technical, administrative or organisational safeguards that we or our third-party service providers put in place to protect it. The loss, or unauthorised access, disclosure or acquisition, of Personal Data is a Personal Data Breach.

Privacy by Design: implementing appropriate technical and organisational measures in an effective manner to ensure compliance with the DPA.

Privacy Notices: separate notices setting out information that may be provided to Data Subjects when the Company collects information about them. These notices may take the form of general privacy statements applicable to a specific group of individuals (for example, employee privacy notices or the website privacy policy) or they may be stand-alone, one time privacy statements covering Processing related to a specific purpose.

Processing or Process: any activity that involves the use of Personal Data. It includes obtaining, recording or holding the data, or carrying out any operation or set of operations on the data including organising, amending, retrieving, using, disclosing, erasing or destroying it. Processing also includes transmitting or transferring Personal Data to third parties.

Pseudonymisation or Pseudonymised: replacing information that directly or indirectly identifies an individual with one or more artificial identifiers or pseudonyms so that the person, to whom the data relates, cannot be identified without the use of additional information which is meant to be kept separately and secure.

Sensitive Personal Data: information revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or similar beliefs, trade union membership, physical or mental health conditions, sexual life, sexual

orientation, biometric or genetic data, and Personal Data relating to criminal offences and convictions.

Introduction

This Data Protection policy sets out how **Blossom House School** ("we", "our", "us", "the Company") handle the Personal Data of our customers, suppliers, employees, workers and other third parties.

This Data Protection Policy applies to all Personal Data we Process regardless of the media on which that data is stored or whether it relates to past or present employees, workers, customers, clients or supplier contacts, shareholders, website users or any other Data Subject.

This Data Protection Policy is an internal document and cannot be shared with third parties, clients or regulators without prior authorisation from Data Protection Manager.

Scope

We recognise that the correct and lawful treatment of Personal Data will maintain confidence in the organisation and will provide for successful business operations. Protecting the confidentiality and integrity of Personal Data is a critical responsibility that we take seriously at all times. The School is exposed to potential fines of up to 4% of total worldwide annual turnover, whichever is higher and depending on the breach, for failure to comply with the provisions of the DPA.

All managers and employees are responsible for ensuring all School Staff comply with this Data Protection Policy and need to implement appropriate practices, processes, controls and training to ensure such compliance.

The Data Protection Manager is responsible for overseeing this policy and, as applicable, developing related policies and privacy guidelines. The Data Protection Manager can be contacted via email group (the Data Protection Committee).

The current Data Protection Committee consists of:

Joanna Burgess, School Principal
James Stavert, Head of Operations
Cheryl Rathmill, Head of Administration
Hannah Millyard, Designated Safeguarding Lead
Michael Dupree, IT Manager
Jude Bellair, Head of Therapies
Vikki Langford, Senior Manager
Tom Richards, Euston School Joint Lead
Zelah Hodges, Human Resources Manager

Please contact Data Protection Manager with any questions about the operation of the Data Protection Policy or if you have any concerns that this policy is not being or has not been followed. In particular, you must always contact the Data Protection Manager in the following circumstances:

- if you are unsure of the lawful basis which you are relying on to process Personal Data (including the legitimate interests used by the Company);
- if you need to rely on Consent and/or need to capture Explicit Consent;
- if you need to draft Privacy Notices;
- if you are unsure about the retention period for the Personal Data being Processed;
- if you are unsure about what security or other measures you need to implement to protect Personal Data;
- if there has been a Personal Data Breach;
- if you are unsure on what basis to transfer Personal Data outside the EEA;
- if you need any assistance dealing with any rights invoked by a Data Subject;
- whenever you are engaging in a significant new, or change in, Processing activity which is likely to require a DPIA or plan to use Personal Data for purposes others than what it was collected for;
- If you plan to undertake any activities involving Automated Processing including profiling or Automated Decision-Making;
- If you need help complying with applicable law when carrying out direct marketing activities; or
- if you need help with any contracts or other areas in relation to sharing Personal Data with third parties (including our vendors).

Personal data protection principles

Personal Data must be processed in accordance with the “Data Protection Principles”. It must:

- be processed fairly, lawfully and transparently;
- be collected and processed only for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes;
- be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which it is Processed;
- be accurate and where necessary kept up to date. Any inaccurate data must be delayed or rectified without delay;
- be kept in a form which permits identification of Data Subjects for longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is Processed;
- be processed in a manner that ensures its security using appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect against unauthorised or unlawful Processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage;
- not be transferred to another country without appropriate safeguards being in place; and
- be made available to Data Subjects and Data Subjects allowed to exercise certain rights in relation to their Personal Data.

We are accountable for these principles and must be able to show we are compliant.

Lawfulness, fairness, transparency

Lawfulness and fairness

Personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the Data Subject.

You may only collect, Process and share Personal Data fairly and lawfully and for specified purposes. The DPA restricts our actions regarding Personal Data to specified lawful purposes. These restrictions are not intended to prevent Processing, but ensure that we Process Personal Data fairly and without adversely affecting the Data Subject.

The DPA allows Processing in specific circumstances, some of which are set out below:

- the Data Subject has given his or her Consent;
- the Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract with the Data Subject;
- to meet our legal compliance obligations.;
- to protect the Data Subject's vital interests; and
- to pursue our legitimate interests for purposes where they are not overridden because the Processing prejudices the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of Data Subjects. The purposes for which we process Personal Data for legitimate interests need to be set out in a Privacy Notice.

You must identify and document the legal ground being relied on for each Processing activity.

Consent

A Data Controller must only process Personal Data on the basis of one or more of the lawful bases set out in the DPA, which include Consent.

A Data Subject consents to Processing of their Personal Data if they indicate agreement clearly either by a statement or positive action to the Processing. Consent requires affirmative action so silence, pre-ticked boxes or inactivity are unlikely to be sufficient. If Consent is given in a document which deals with other matters, then the Consent must be kept separate from those other matters.

Data Subjects must be easily able to withdraw Consent to Processing at any time and withdrawal must be promptly honoured. Consent may need to be refreshed if you intend to Process Personal Data for a different and incompatible purpose which was not disclosed when the Data Subject first consented.

Unless we can rely on another legal basis of Processing, Explicit Consent is usually required for Processing Sensitive Personal Data, for Automated Decision-Making and for cross border data transfers. Usually we will be relying on another legal basis (and not require Explicit Consent) to

Process most types of Sensitive Data. Where Explicit Consent is required, you must issue a Privacy Notice to the Data Subject to capture Explicit Consent.

You will need to evidence Consent captured and keep records of all Consents so that the Company can demonstrate compliance with Consent requirements.

Transparency (notifying data subjects)

The DPA requires Data Controllers to provide detailed, specific information to Data Subjects depending on whether the information was collected directly from Data Subjects or from elsewhere. Such information must be provided through appropriate Privacy Notices.

Whenever we collect Personal Data directly from Data Subjects, including for human resources or employment purposes, we must provide the Data Subject with all the information required by the DPA including the identity of the Data Controller, how and why we will use, process, disclose, protect and retain that Personal Data via a Privacy Notice which must be presented when the Data Subject first provides the Personal Data.

When Personal Data is collected indirectly (for example, from a third party or publically available source), you must provide the Data Subject with all the information required by the DPA as soon as possible after collecting/receiving the data. You must also check that the Personal Data was collected by the third party in accordance with the DPA and on a basis which contemplates our proposed Processing of that Personal Data.

Purpose limitation

Personal Data must be collected only for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes. It must not be further processed in any manner incompatible with those purposes.

You cannot use Personal Data for new, different or incompatible purposes from when it was first obtained unless you have informed the Data Subject of the new purposes and they have consented where necessary.

Data minimisation

Personal Data must be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which it is processed.

You may only Process Personal Data when performing your job duties requires it. You cannot Process Personal Data for any reason unrelated to your job duties.

You may only collect Personal Data that you require for your job duties: do not collect excessive data. Ensure any Personal Data collected is adequate and relevant for the intended purposes.

You must ensure that when Personal Data is no longer needed for specified purposes, it is deleted or anonymised in accordance with the Company's data retention guidelines.

Accuracy

Personal Data must be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date. It must be corrected or deleted without delay when inaccurate.

You will ensure that the Personal Data we use and hold is accurate, complete, kept up to date and relevant to the purpose for which we collected it. You must check the accuracy of any Personal Data at the point of collection and at regular intervals afterwards. You must take all reasonable steps to destroy or amend inaccurate or out-of-date Personal Data.

Storage limitation

Personal Data must not be kept in an identifiable form for longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed.

You must not keep Personal Data in a form which permits the identification of the Data Subject for longer than needed for the legitimate business purpose or purposes for which we originally collected it including for the purpose of satisfying any legal, accounting or reporting requirements.

The Company will maintain retention policies and procedures to ensure Personal Data is deleted after a reasonable time for the purposes for which it was being held, unless a law requires such data to be kept for a minimum time.

You will take all reasonable steps to destroy or erase from our systems all Personal Data that we no longer require in accordance with all the Company's Retention Policy. This includes requiring third parties to delete such data where applicable.

You will ensure Data Subjects are informed of the period for which data is stored and how that period is determined in any applicable Privacy Notice.

Security integrity and confidentiality

Protecting Personal Data

Personal Data must be secured by appropriate technical and organisational measures against unauthorised or unlawful Processing, and against accidental loss, destruction or damage.

We will develop, implement and maintain safeguards appropriate to our size, scope and business, our available resources, the amount of Personal Data that we own or maintain on behalf of others and identified risks (including use of encryption and Pseudonymisation where applicable). We will regularly evaluate and test the effectiveness of those safeguards to ensure security of our Processing of Personal Data. You are responsible for protecting the Personal Data we hold. You must implement reasonable and appropriate security measures against unlawful or unauthorised Processing of Personal Data and against the accidental loss of, or damage to, Personal Data. You must exercise particular care in protecting Sensitive Personal Data from loss and unauthorised access, use or disclosure.

You must follow all procedures and technologies we put in place to maintain the security of all Personal Data from the point of collection to the point of destruction. You may only transfer Personal Data to third-party service providers who agree to comply with the required policies and procedures and who agree to put adequate measures in place, as requested.

You must maintain data security by protecting the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the Personal Data, defined as follows:

- Confidentiality means that only people who have a need to know and are authorised to use the Personal Data can access it.
- Integrity means that Personal Data is accurate and suitable for the purpose for which it is processed.
- Availability means that authorised users are able to access the Personal Data when they need it for authorised purposes.

You must comply with and not attempt to circumvent the administrative, physical and technical safeguards we implement and maintain in accordance with the GDPR and relevant standards to protect Personal Data.

Reporting a Personal Data Breach

The DPA requires Data Controllers to notify any Personal Data Breach to the applicable regulator and, in certain instances, the Data Subject.

We have put in place procedures to deal with any suspected Personal Data Breach and will notify Data Subjects or any applicable regulator where we are legally required to do so.

If you know or suspect that a Personal Data Breach has occurred, do not attempt to investigate the matter yourself. Immediately contact Data Protection Manager as the key point of contact for Personal Data Breaches. You should preserve all evidence relating to the potential Personal Data Breach.

Transfer limitation

The DPA restricts data transfers to countries outside the EEA in order to ensure that the level of data protection afforded to individuals by the DPA is not undermined. You transfer Personal Data originating in one country across borders when you transmit, send, view or access that data in or to a different country.

You may only transfer Personal Data outside the EEA if one of the following conditions applies:

- the European Commission has issued a decision confirming that the country to which we transfer the Personal Data ensures an adequate level of protection for the Data Subjects' rights and freedoms;
- appropriate safeguards are in place such as binding corporate rules (BCR), standard contractual clauses approved by the European Commission, an approved code of conduct or a certification mechanism;

- the Data Subject has provided Explicit Consent to the proposed transfer after being informed of any potential risks; or
- the transfer is necessary for one of the other reasons set out in the GDPR including the performance of a contract between us and the Data Subject, reasons of public interest, to establish, exercise or defend legal claims or to protect the vital interests of the Data Subject where the Data Subject is physically or legally incapable of giving Consent and, in some limited cases, for our legitimate interest.

You must comply with the Company's guidelines on cross border data transfers.

Data Subject's rights and requests

Data Subjects have rights when it comes to how we handle their Personal Data. These include rights to:

- withdraw Consent to Processing at any time;
- receive certain information about the Data Controller's Processing activities;
- request access to their Personal Data that we hold;
- prevent our use of their Personal Data for direct marketing purposes;
- ask us to erase Personal Data if it is no longer necessary in relation to the purposes for which it was collected or Processed or to rectify inaccurate data or to complete incomplete data;
- restrict Processing in specific circumstances;
- challenge Processing which has been justified on the basis of our legitimate interests or in the public interest;
- request a copy of an agreement under which Personal Data is transferred outside of the EEA;
- object to decisions based solely on Automated Processing, including profiling (ADM);
- prevent Processing that is likely to cause damage or distress to the Data Subject or anyone else;
- be notified of a Personal Data Breach which is likely to result in high risk to their rights and freedoms;
- make a complaint to the supervisory authority; and
- in limited circumstances, receive or ask for their Personal Data to be transferred to a third party in a structured, commonly used and machine readable format.

You must verify the identity of an individual requesting data under any of the rights listed above (do not allow third parties to persuade you into disclosing Personal Data without proper authorisation).

You must immediately forward any Data Subject request you receive to your Line Manager and notify the Data Protection Manager.

Accountability

The Data Controller must implement appropriate technical and organisational measures in an effective manner, to ensure compliance with data protection principles. The Data Controller is responsible for, and must be able to demonstrate, compliance with the data protection principles.

The Company must have adequate resources and controls in place to ensure and to document DPA compliance including:

- appointing a suitably qualified DPO (where necessary) and an executive accountable for data privacy;
- implementing Privacy by Design when Processing Personal Data and completing DPIAs where Processing presents a high risk to rights and freedoms of Data Subjects;
- integrating data protection into internal documents including this Data Protection Policy, any related policies or Privacy Notices;
- regularly training Company Personnel on the DPA, this Data Protection Policy and data protection matters including, for example, Data Subject's rights, Consent, legal basis, DPIA and Personal Data Breaches. The Company must maintain a record of training attendance by Company Personnel; and
- regularly testing the privacy measures implemented and conducting periodic reviews and audits to assess compliance, including using results of testing to demonstrate compliance improvement effort.

Record keeping

The DPA requires us to keep full and accurate records of all our data Processing activities.

You must keep and maintain accurate corporate records reflecting our Processing including records of Data Subjects' Consents and procedures for obtaining Consents.

These records should include, at a minimum, the name and contact details of the Data Controller and the DPO, clear descriptions of the Personal Data types, Data Subject types, Processing activities, Processing purposes, third-party recipients of the Personal Data, Personal Data storage locations, Personal Data transfers, the Personal Data's retention period and a description of the security measures in place. In order to create such records, data maps should be created which should include the detail set out above together with appropriate data flows.

Training and audit

We are required to ensure all School Personnel have undergone adequate training to enable them to comply with data privacy laws. We must also regularly test our systems and processes to assess compliance.

You must undergo all mandatory data privacy related training and ensure your team undergo similar mandatory training in accordance with the School's mandatory training guidelines.

You must regularly review all the systems and processes under your control to ensure they comply with this Data Protection Policy and check that adequate governance controls and resources are in place to ensure proper use and protection of Personal Data.

Privacy by Design and Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

We are required to implement Privacy by Design measures when Processing Personal Data by implementing appropriate technical and organisational measures (like Pseudonymisation) in an effective manner, to ensure compliance with data privacy principles.

You must assess what Privacy by Design measures can be implemented on all programs/systems/processes that Process Personal Data by taking into account the following:

- the state of the art;
- the cost of implementation;
- the nature, scope, context and purposes of Processing; and
- the risks of varying likelihood and severity for rights and freedoms of Data Subjects posed by the Processing.

Data controllers must also conduct DPIAs in respect to high risk Processing.

You should conduct a DPIA **(and discuss your findings with the DPO)** when implementing major system or business change programs involving the Processing of Personal Data including:

- use of new technologies (programs, systems or processes), or changing technologies (programs, systems or processes);
- Automated Processing including profiling and ADM;
- large scale Processing of Sensitive Data; and
- large scale, systematic monitoring of a publicly accessible area.

A DPIA must include:

- a description of the Processing, its purposes and the Data Controller's legitimate interests if appropriate;
- an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the Processing in relation to its purpose;
- an assessment of the risk to individuals; and
- the risk mitigation measures in place and demonstration of compliance.

Automated Processing (including profiling) and Automated Decision-Making

Generally, ADM is prohibited when a decision has a legal or similar significant effect on an individual unless:

- a Data Subject has Explicitly Consented;

- the Processing is authorised by law; or
- the Processing is necessary for the performance of or entering into a contract.

If certain types of Sensitive Data are being processed, then grounds (b) or (c) will not be allowed but such Sensitive Data can be Processed where it is necessary (unless less intrusive means can be used) for substantial public interest like fraud prevention.

If a decision is to be based solely on Automated Processing (including profiling), then Data Subjects must be informed when you first communicate with them of their right to object. This right must be explicitly brought to their attention and presented clearly and separately from other information. Further, suitable measures must be put in place to safeguard the Data Subject's rights and freedoms and legitimate interests.

We must also inform the Data Subject of the logic involved in the decision making or profiling, the significance and envisaged consequences and give the Data Subject the right to request human intervention, express their point of view or challenge the decision.

A DPIA must be carried out before any Automated Processing (including profiling) or ADM activities are undertaken.

Direct marketing

We are subject to certain rules and privacy laws when marketing to our customers.

For example, a Data Subject's prior consent is required for electronic direct marketing (for example, by email, text or automated calls). The limited exception for existing customers known as "soft opt in" allows organisations to send marketing texts or emails if they have obtained contact details in the course of a sale to that person, they are marketing similar products or services, and they gave the person an opportunity to opt out of marketing when first collecting the details and in every subsequent message.

The right to object to direct marketing must be explicitly offered to the Data Subject in an intelligible manner so that it is clearly distinguishable from other information.

A Data Subject's objection to direct marketing must be promptly honoured. If a customer opts out at any time, their details should be suppressed as soon as possible. Suppression involves retaining just enough information to ensure that marketing preferences are respected in the future.

Sharing Personal Data

Generally we are not allowed to share Personal Data with third parties unless certain safeguards and contractual arrangements have been put in place.

You may only share the Personal Data we hold with another employee, agent or representative of our group (which includes our subsidiaries and our ultimate holding company along with its

subsidiaries) if the recipient has a job-related need to know the information and the transfer complies with any applicable cross-border transfer restrictions.

You may only share the Personal Data we hold with third parties, such as our service providers if:

- they have a need to know the information for the purposes of providing the contracted services;
- sharing the Personal Data complies with the Privacy Notice provided to the Data Subject and, if required, the Data Subject's Consent has been obtained;
- the third party has agreed to comply with the required data security standards, policies and procedures and put adequate security measures in place;
- the transfer complies with any applicable cross border transfer restrictions; and
- a fully executed written contract that contains GDPR approved third party clauses has been obtained.

Changes to this Data Protection Policy

We reserve the right to change this Data Protection Policy at any time without notice to you so please check back regularly to obtain the latest copy of this policy. We indicate revisions to this policy and salient changes made on the Document Management Page.

This Data Protection Policy does not override any applicable national data privacy laws and regulations in countries where the Company operates.