Highwood Primary School

Promoting Resilience – Achieving Potential

Privacy Notice- Pupils

Approved by: The Full Governing Body

Date: November 2026

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Next review due by: November 2027

PRIVACY NOTICE FOR PUPILS ATTENDING Highwood Primary School

Highwood Primary School collects a lot of data and information about our pupils so that we can run effectively as a school. This privacy notice explains how and why we collect pupils' data, what we do with it and what rights parents and pupils have.

Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

Highwood is a two-form entry Local Authority maintained school. Mrs Paula Ladyman is the school's DPO and can be emailed at **dpo@highwood.herst.sch.uk** .
The school telephone number is 01923 256210 and any emails should be directed to **admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk**

Why do we collect and use pupil information?

We collect and use pupil information under section 537A of the Education Act 1996, section 83 of the Children Act 1989, and to carry out tasks in the public interest. If we need to collect special category (sensitive) personal information, we rely upon reasons for substantial public interest (equality of opportunity or treatment).

We collect and use pupil information under the following lawful bases under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR):

a. where we have the consent of the data subject [Article 6 (a)];
b. where it is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation [Article 6 (c)];
c. where processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or another person [Article 6 (d)];
d. where it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller [Article 6 (e)].
   Where the personal data we collect about pupils is sensitive (i.e. special category) personal data, we will only process it where;

   1. we have explicit consent [Article 9 (2)(a)];
   2. processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person where the data subject is physically or legally incapable of giving consent [Article 9 (2)(c)]; and / or
   3. processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest and is authorised by UK law (see section 10 of the 2018 Data Protection Act) [Article 9 (2)(g)].

Please see our **Data Protection Policy** for a definition of sensitive personal data.

We use the pupil data to support our statutory functions of running a school, in particular:

a. to decide who to admit to the school;
b. where necessary to maintain a waiting list;
c. to support pupil learning;
d. to monitor and report on pupil progress;
e. to provide appropriate pastoral care;
f. to assess the quality of our services;
g. to comply with the law regarding data sharing;
h. for the protection and welfare of pupils and others in the school;
i. for the safe and orderly running of the school;

j. to promote the school;
k. to communicate with parents / carers.

The categories of pupil information that we collect, hold and share include:

a. Personal information (such as name, unique pupil number and address);
b. Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, medical conditions and free school meal eligibility);
c. Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)

From time to time and in certain circumstances, we might also process personal data about pupils, some of which might be sensitive personal data, including information about criminal proceedings / convictions, information about sex life and sexual orientation, child protection / safeguarding. This information is not routinely collected about pupils and is only likely to be processed by the school in specific circumstances relating to particular pupils, for example, if a child protection issue arises or if a pupil is involved in a criminal matter. Where appropriate, such information may be shared with external agencies such as the child protection team at the Local Authority, the Local Authority Designated Officer and / or the police. Such information will only be processed to the extent that it is lawful to do so and appropriate measures will be taken to keep the data secure.

We collect information about pupils when they join the school and update it during their time on the roll as and when new information is acquired.

Collecting pupil information
Whilst the majority of pupil information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the UK GDPR, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this. Where appropriate, we will ask parents/ pupils for consent to process personal data where there is no other lawful basis for processing it, for example where we wish to use photos or images of pupils on our website or on social media to promote school activities or if we want to ask your permission to use your information for marketing purposes. Parents / pupils may withdraw consent at any time.

In addition, the school also uses CCTV cameras around the school site for security purposes and for the protection of staff and pupils. CCTV footage may be referred to during the course of disciplinary procedures (for staff or pupils) or investigate other issues. CCTV footage involving pupils will only be processed to the extent that it is lawful to do so. Please ask to see our CCTV policy/code of practice for more details

Storing pupil data
We hold pupil data securely and have appropriate security measures in place to prevent personal information from being accidentally lost or used/accessed in an unauthorised way. Access to information is limited to those who have a business need to know it and who are subject to a duty of confidentiality. A significant amount of personal data is stored electronically, for example, on our MIS database. Some information may also be stored in hard copy format.

Personal data will not be transferred to other countries.

We also have procedures in place to deal with any suspected data security breach. We will notify you and any applicable regulator of a suspected data security breach involving your data where we are legally required to do so.

When a pupil moves to another educational setting or school phase, the vast majority of information that we hold will move to that setting, although we may need to retain a certain amount of personal data, as laid out in our Data Retention Policy and Schedule which is available from the school's Business Manager/other nominated individual.

Who do we share pupil information with?

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools that pupils attend after leaving us;
- our local authority, Hertfordshire County Council;
- a pupil's home's local authority (if different);
- commissioned providers of local authority services [e.g. Herts for Learning Ltd]
- the Department for Education (DfE);
- school governors / trustees;
- exam boards;
- Herts Catering Ltd
- Arbor MIS

From time to time, we may also share pupil information with other third parties including the following:

- the police and law enforcement agencies;
- NHS health professionals including the school nurse, educational psychologists,
- Education Welfare Officers;
- Courts, if ordered to do so;
- the National College for Teaching and Learning;
- the Joint Council for Qualifications;
- Prevent teams in accordance with the Prevent Duty on schools;
- other schools, for example, if we are negotiating a managed move and we have your consent to share information in these circumstances;
- our HR providers, for example, if we are seeking HR advice and a pupil is involved in an issue;
- our legal advisors;
- our insurance providers / the Risk Protection Arrangement;
- Other third parties (e.g. extra-curricular club providers and academic tutors)

Some of the above organisations may also be data controllers in their own right in which case we will be joint controllers of your personal data and may be jointly liable in the event of any data breaches.

We may also share pupil data with a number of providers of software tools which may be used to: support pupil learning; monitor and report on pupil attainment and progress; deliver the educational curriculum; ensure the safety and wellbeing of pupils; communicate with parents;

or to carry out other operational processes to support our core activities as a public authority, under Article 6(e) of the UK GDPR. [A full list of these providers is available on request.] These providers act as data processors on our behalf and are required to take appropriate security measures to protect your personal information in line with our policies. We do not allow them to use your personal data for their own purposes, and we only permit them to process your personal data for specified purposes and in accordance with our instructions.

In the event that we share personal data about pupils with third parties or data processors, we will provide the minimum amount of personal data necessary to fulfil the purpose for which we are required to share the data. Where necessary, we will carry out a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to assess any risks involved.

Why we share pupil information
We do not share information about our pupils with anyone without consent unless the law allows us to do so.

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

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

Data collection requirements:
To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (for example; via the school census) go to https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools.

The National Pupil Database (NPD)
The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education and contains information about pupils in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department. It is held in electronic format for statistical purposes. This information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and awarding bodies.

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

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

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

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

- conducting research or analysis

- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The DfE has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data. Decisions on whether DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of:

- who is requesting the data;
- the purpose for which it is required;
- the level and sensitivity of data requested; and
- the arrangements in place to store and handle the data.

To be granted access to pupil information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of the data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

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

For information about which organisations the department has provided pupil information, (and for which project), please visit the following website:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received

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

Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, parents and pupils have the right to request access to information about them that we hold ("Subject Access Request"). Where a child does not have the maturity to make their own requests for personal data, parents may do so on their behalf in a primary school setting. To make a request for your child's personal data, or be given access to your child's educational record, contact the school's DPO, Mrs Paula Ladyman at **dpo@highwood.herts.sch.uk** although any written request for personal data will be treated as a Subject Access Request.

Parents of pupils who attend a maintained school have a separate statutory right to access their child's educational record. Upon receipt of a written or verbal request for a pupil's educational record, the school will respond to it within 15 school days. This is an independent legal right of parents which falls outside of the UK GDPR, therefore a pupil's consent is not required even if a pupil is able to make their own decisions in relation to their personal data unless a court order is in place which states otherwise.

The term "parent" is widely defined in education law to include the natural or adoptive parents (regardless of whether parents are or were married, whether a father is named on a birth certificate or has parental responsibility for the pupil, with whom the pupil lives or whether the pupil has contact with that parent), and also includes non-parents who have parental responsibility for the pupil, or with whom the pupil lives. It is therefore possible for a pupil to have several "parents" for the purposes of education law.

You also have the right to:

- object to processing of personal data that is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress;
- prevent processing for the purpose of direct marketing;
- object to decisions being taken by automated means;
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed; and
- claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of our data protection responsibilities.

We will always seek to comply with any requests regarding your rights. However, please note that we may still be required to hold or use your information to comply with legal duties.

For further information about your rights, including the circumstances in which they apply, see the guidance from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) on individuals' rights under the UK GDPR.

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance or directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at https://ico.org.uk/concerns/

Contact:

You can contact the Information Commissioners Office on 0303 123 1113 or via email https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/email/ or at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

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

- The school's DPO, Paula Ladyman at dpo@highwood.herts.sch.uk or the school office at admin@highwood.herts.sch.uk

Changes to this Privacy Notice

We reserve the right to update this privacy notice at any time, and we will provide you with a new privacy notice when we make any substantial updates. We may also notify you in other ways from time to time about the processing of your personal information.