

Chorus Education Trust

Privacy Notice for Parents & Carers – use of your personal data

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Version control

Version	Section	Amendments	Date Ratified:	Author
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	Section 2	Additional personal and special category data included – use of systems		
	Section 3	Additional detail on why and how we use data, including new section on filtering and monitoring		
	Section 5	Clarification of lawful basis		
	Section 6	Clarification of lawful basis		
	Section 6	Additional detail regarding data storage and sharing with 3 rd parties		
	Section 8	Additional clarification added to existing rights		
	Section 8	Additional rights exemplified: deletion, access and correction		
	Section 9	More detailed complaints process with timescales		

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1. Introduction

Under UK data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how our trust uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about **parents and carers of students at our academies**. For more information about how we use and process personal data on your child please refer to the [**Privacy Notice for Students**](#)

Our trust, **Chorus Education Trust**, is the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our data protection officer is **EduDataPro** (see 'Contact us' below).

2. The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about you includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details and contact preferences (such as your name, address, email address and telephone numbers)
- Details of your family circumstances
- Details of any safeguarding information including court orders or professional involvement
- Records of your correspondence and contact with us
- Details of any complaints you have made
- Information about your use of our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers)
- Photographs and CCTV images captured in school

We may also collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) information about you that falls into "special categories" of more sensitive personal data. This includes, but is not restricted to, information about:

- Any health conditions you have that we need to be aware of

We may also hold data about you that we have received from other organisations, including other schools, the local authority and local authorities.

3. Why we use this data

We collect and use the data listed above to:

- a. Report to you on your child's attainment and progress
- b. Keep you informed about the running of the school (such as emergency closures) and events
- c. Process payments for catering, school services and clubs
- d. Provide appropriate pastoral care
- e. Protect pupil welfare

- f. Administer admissions waiting lists
- g. Assess the quality of our services
- h. Carry out research
- i. Comply with our legal and statutory obligations
- j. Make sure our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers) are used appropriately, legally and safely

We will only use your personal information for the purposes for which we have collected it, unless we reasonably consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the original purpose. If we need to use your personal information for an unrelated purpose, we will notify you and explain the legal basis which allows us to do so.

Please note that we may process your personal information without your knowledge or consent, in compliance with the above rules, where this is required or permitted by law.

3.1 Use of your personal data for marketing purposes

Where you have given us consent to do so, we may send you marketing information by email or text promoting school events, campaigns, charitable causes or services that may be of interest to you.

You can withdraw consent or 'opt out' of receiving these emails and/or texts at any time by selecting the 'Unsubscribe' link at the bottom of any such communication, or by contacting us (see 'Contact us' below).

3.2 Use of your personal data in automated decision making and profiling

We do not currently process any personal data through automated decision making or profiling. If this changes in the future, we will amend any relevant privacy notices in order to explain the processing to you, including your right to object to it.

3.3 Use of your personal data for filtering and monitoring purposes

While you're in our school, we may monitor your use of our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers). We do this so that we can:

- Comply with health and safety and other legal obligations
- Comply with our policies (e.g. child protection policy, IT acceptable use policy) and our legal obligations
- Keep our network(s) and devices safe from unauthorised access, and prevent malicious software from harming our network(s)
- Protect your child's welfare

4. Our lawful basis for using this data

Our lawful basis for processing your personal data for the purposes listed in section 3 above are as follows:

- **Legal obligation:** the processing is necessary for you to comply with the law (not including contractual obligations). We need to process data to meet our responsibilities as a school under UK law as set out here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statutory-guidance-schools>
An example of this is 'safeguarding children and young people'

- **Public task:** the processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the public interest or for official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law. For example managing a school is considered a ‘**task in the public interest**’. Further details are available here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statutory-guidance-schools>

Less commonly, we may also process personal information about you where:

- We ask for your **Consent**: the individual has given clear consent for you to process their personal data for a specific purpose.

Where you’ve provided us with consent to use your information, you may take back this consent at any time. We’ll make this clear when requesting your consent, and explain how you’d go about withdrawing consent if you want to.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using personal information about you overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify the school’s use of your data.

4.1 Our basis for using special category data

For ‘special category’ data, we only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and one of the following conditions for processing as set out in data protection law:

- We have obtained your explicit consent to use your personal data in a certain way
- We need to perform or exercise an obligation or right in relation to employment, social security or social protection law
- We need to protect an individual’s vital interests (i.e. protect your life or someone else’s life), in situations where you’re physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by you
- We need to process it for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation
- We need to process it for health or social care purposes, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health or social work professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to process it for public health reasons, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to process it for archiving purposes, scientific or historical research purposes, or for statistical purposes, and the processing is in the public interest

For criminal offence data, we will only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and a condition for processing as set out in data protection law. Conditions include:

- We have obtained your consent to use it in a specific way
- We need to protect an individual’s vital interests (i.e. protect your life or someone else’s life), in situations where you’re physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by you
- We need to process it for, or in connection with, legal proceedings, to obtain legal advice, or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal rights
- We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation

5. Collecting this data

We will only collect and use your data when the law allows us to (as detailed above in section 4 of this notice)

While the majority of information we collect about you is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you, we make it clear whether you must provide this information (and if so, what the possible consequences are of not complying), or whether you have a choice.

Most of the data we hold about you will come from you, but we may also hold data about you from:

- Local authorities
- Government departments or agencies
- Your children
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Other schools or trusts

6. How we store this data

We keep personal information about you while your child is attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary to comply with our legal obligations or to meet our regulatory requirements. Our record retention schedule sets out how long we keep information about parents and carers.

To request a copy of our *record retention schedule*, please email info@chorustrust.org

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal information being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed.

We will dispose of your personal data securely when we no longer have a legal requirement to retain it.

7. Who we share data with

We routinely share information with:

- Schools or trusts that the students attend after leaving us
- The Local Authority – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and information about exclusions
- The Department of Education for statutory data collections such as the school census

We do not share information about you with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary (and it complies with data protection law), we may share personal information about you with:

- The relevant local authority to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and information about exclusions
- Government departments or agencies
- Our regulator, Ofsted
- Suppliers and service providers
- Our auditors
- Health authorities
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Police forces, courts, tribunals

7.1 Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Employees of CET and students enrolled in CET schools will not enter any personal information or intellectual property that is not their own into generative AI tools whilst using CET computer systems or carrying out work for CET. Generative AI tools will not be used for making automated judgements regarding individuals.

7.2 Transferring data internationally

We may share personal information about you with certain third parties who store their data outside of the UK, where different data protection laws apply.

Where we transfer your personal data to a country or territory both, we will follow UK data protection law and we will ensure other protections are used such as Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) or Binding Corporate Rules (BCRs). Details of where each processor stores data and what protection applies is held in the GDPRiS system used by the trust.

8. Your rights

8.1 How to access personal information that we hold about you

You have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that we hold about you.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you, we will (subject to any exemptions that may apply):

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding it, how we are processing it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data, and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

You may also have the right for your personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

8.2 Your other rights regarding your data

Under data protection law, you have certain rights regarding how your personal data is used and kept safe.

For example, you have the right to:

- Object to our use of your personal data where it is likely to cause, or is causing damage or distress
- Prevent your data being used to send direct marketing
- Object to and challenge the use of your personal data for decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected or blocked
- In certain circumstances, have the personal data we hold about you deleted or destroyed, or restrict its processing
- In certain circumstances, be notified of a data breach
- Make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

We may refuse your information rights request for legitimate reasons, which depend on why we're processing it. Some rights may not apply in these circumstances:

- Your right to have all personal data deleted or destroyed doesn't apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task
- Your right to receive a copy of your personal data, or have your personal data transmitted to another controller, does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests
- Right to object to use of your private data doesn't apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't have the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent
- See information on types of lawful basis in section 4 of this privacy notice.

To exercise any of these rights, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

9. Complaints

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concerns about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance. You can make a complaint to us at any time by contacting info@chorustrust.org

When a data protection complaint is lodged with us, we will:

- Acknowledge the complaint within 30 days

- Take appropriate steps to investigate the complaint
- Inform the complainant of the outcome of the complaint without undue delay

Alternatively, you can make a complaint at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

10. Contact us

Our data protection officer is:

- EduDataPro dpo@edudatapro.com

However, our **Director of MIS** has day-to-day responsibility for data protection issues in our trust.

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact them:

- info@chorustrust.org