



## **Privacy Notice for Parents / Carers of Learners attending Dacorum Education Support Centre**

Dacorum Education Support Centre collects data and information about parents / carers of our learners so that we can operate effectively as a Centre. This privacy notice explains how and why we collect parent / carer data, what we do with it and what rights parents have.

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 learner, with whom the learner lives or whether the learner has contact with that parent), and also includes non-parents who have parental responsibility for the learner, or with whom the learner lives. It is therefore possible for a learner to have several “parents” for the purposes of education law. This privacy notice also covers other members of learner’s families who we may process data about from time to time, including, for example, siblings, aunts and uncles and grandparents.

### **Why do we collect and use parent / carer information?**

We collect and use parent / carer information under the following lawful bases:

- 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 parents / carers is sensitive personal data, we will only process it where:

- a. we have explicit consent;
- b. 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; and / or
- c. processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest, on the basis of domestic law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, where we respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

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

We use the parent / carer data to support our functions of running a Centre, in particular:

- a. to decide who to admit to the Centre;

- b. to maintain a waiting list for referrals to our services;
- c. to support learner learning;
- d. to monitor and report on learner 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 learners and others in the Centre, including our safeguarding / child protection obligations;
- i. for the safe and orderly running of the Centre;
- j. to promote the Centre;
- k. to send you communications that may be of interest to you, and which may include information about Centre events or activities, news, campaigns, appeals, other fundraising activities;
- l. in order to respond to investigations from our regulators or to respond to complaints raised by our stakeholders;
- m. in connection with any legal proceedings threatened or commenced against the Centre.

**The categories of parent / carer information that we collect, hold and share include:**

- a. Personal information (such as name, address, telephone number and email address);
- b. Information relating to your identity, marital status, employment status, religion, ethnicity, language, medical conditions and free school meal / pupil premium eligibility / entitlement to certain benefits, information about court orders in place affecting parenting arrangements for learners;

From time to time and in certain circumstances, we might also process personal data about parents / carers, some of which might be sensitive personal data, information about criminal proceedings / convictions or information about child protection / safeguarding. This information is not routinely collected about parents / carers and is only likely to be processed by the school in specific circumstances relating to particular learners, for example, if a child protection issue arises or if a parent / carer 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 parents / carers before learners join the Centre and update it during the learner's time on the roll as and when new information is acquired.

**Collecting parent / carer information**

Whilst the majority of information about parents / carers provided to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain parent / carer information to us or if you have a choice in this. Where appropriate, we will

ask parents / carers for consent to process personal data where there is no other lawful basis for processing it, for example where we wish to ask your permission to use your information for marketing purposes or to request voluntary contributions. Parents / carers may withdraw consent given in these circumstances at any time.

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

### **Storing parent / carer data**

A significant amount of personal data is stored electronically, for example, on our database, SIMS. Some information may also be stored in hard copy format.

Personal data may be transferred to other countries if, for example, we are arranging a school trip to a different country. Appropriate steps will be taken to keep the data secure.

We will only retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, insurance or reporting requirements.

In some circumstances we may anonymise your personal information so that it can no longer be associated with you, in which case we may use such information without further notice to you. Once you are no longer a parent / carer we will retain and securely destroy your personal information in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

### **Who do we share parent / carer information with?**

We routinely share parent / carer information with:

- schools that learners attend after leaving us;
- our local authority Hertfordshire County Council;
- a learner's home local authority (if different);
- the Department for Education (DfE);
- Centre Management Committee members;
- 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 Teaching Regulation Authority;
- 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 legal advisors;
- our insurance providers / the Risk Protection Arrangement;
- external providers involved in the education of our learners

Some of the organisations referred to above are joint data controllers. This means we are all responsible to you for how we process your data.

In the event that we share personal data about parents / carers with third parties, we will provide the minimum amount of personal data necessary to fulfil the purpose for which we are required to share the data.

### **Requesting access to your personal data**

Under data protection legislation, parents / carers have the right to request access to information about them that we hold (“Subject Access Request”). To make a request for your personal data contact Data Protection Officer, contact details can be found at the end of this privacy notice.

The legal timescales for the Centre to respond to a Subject Access Request is one calendar month. As the Centre has limited staff resources outside of term time, we encourage parents / carers to submit Subject Access Requests during term time and to avoid sending a request during periods when the Centre is closed or is about to close for the holidays where possible. This will assist us in responding to your request as promptly as possible.

### **No fee usually required**

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal information (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request for access is manifestly unfounded or excessive. Alternatively, we may refuse to comply with the request in such circumstances.

### **What we may need from you**

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access the information (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is another appropriate security measure to ensure that personal information is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it.

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.



## **RIGHT TO WITHDRAW CONSENT**

In the limited circumstances where you may have provided your consent to the collection, processing and transfer of your personal information for a specific purpose, you have the right to withdraw your consent for that specific processing at any time. To withdraw your consent, please contact the Data Protection Officer (DPO). Once we have received notification that you have withdrawn your consent, we will no longer process your information for the purpose or purposes you originally agreed to, unless we have another legitimate basis for doing so in law.

## **DATA PROTECTION OFFICER**

We have appointed a data protection officer (DPO) to oversee compliance with this privacy notice. If you have any questions about this privacy notice or how we handle your personal information, please email [dpo@desc.herts.sch.uk](mailto:dpo@desc.herts.sch.uk) or call 01442 247476 (Option 2). You have the right to make a complaint at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the UK supervisory authority for data protection issues.

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.

## **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.