



Whole School Data Protection Policy

St Joseph's School is registered under the Data Protection Act.

General Statement of the School's Duties

This document is a statement of the aims and principles of the School, for ensuring the confidentiality of sensitive information relating to staff, pupils, parents and governors

Data Protection Controller

The St Joseph's School has appointed the Bursar as the Data Protection Controller (DPC) who will endeavour to ensure that all personal data is processed in compliance with this Policy and the Principles of the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Principles

St Joseph's School needs to keep certain information about its employees, students and other users to allow it to monitor performance, achievements, and health and safety, for example. It is also necessary to process information at times so that staff can be recruited and paid, pupil courses organised and legal obligations to funding bodies and government complied with.

To comply with the law, information must be collected and used fairly, stored safely and not disclosed to any other person unlawfully. To do this, St Joseph's School must comply with the Data Protection Principles which are set out in the Data Protection Act 1998 (the 1998 Act). In summary these state that personal data shall:

- Be obtained and processed fairly and lawfully and shall not be processed unless certain conditions are met.
- Be obtained for a specified and lawful purpose and shall not be processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose.
- Be adequate, relevant and not excessive for that purpose.
- Be accurate and kept up to date.
- Not be kept for longer than is necessary for that purpose.
- Be processed in accordance with the data subject's rights.
- Be kept safe from unauthorised access, accidental loss or destruction.

St Joseph's School and all staff or others who process or use personal information must ensure that they follow these principles at all times. In order to ensure that this happens, the School has developed this Data Protection Policy.

Status of this Policy

This policy does not form part of the contract of employment for staff, but it is a condition of employment that employees will abide by the rules and policies made by the School from time to time. Any failures to follow the policy can therefore result in disciplinary proceedings.



The Data Controller and the Designated Data Controllers

The School as a body corporate is the Data Controller under the 1998 Act, and the Governors are therefore ultimately responsible for implementation. However, the Designated Data Controllers will deal with day to day matters.

The School has three Designated Data Controllers: They are the Data Manager, the Registrar and the receptionists.

Any member of staff, parent or other individual who considers that the Policy has not been followed in respect of personal data about himself or herself or their child should raise the matter with the appropriate Designated Data Controller, who would be: The Bursar. He can be contacted on bursar@stjosephscornwall.co.uk.

Responsibilities of Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- Checking that any information that they provide to the School in connection with their employment is accurate and up to date.
- Informing the School of any changes to information that they have provided, e.g. change of address, either at the time of appointment or subsequently.

The School cannot be held responsible for any errors unless the staff member has informed the School of such changes. A worker has the right to request that inaccurate information about them is erased.

If and when, as part of their responsibilities, staff collect information about other people (e.g. about a pupil's course work, opinions about ability, references to other academic institutions, or details of personal circumstances), they must comply with the guidelines for staff set out in the Schools Data Protection Code of Practice.

Data Security

All staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- Any personal data that they hold is kept securely.
- Personal information is not disclosed either orally or in writing or via Web pages or by any other means, accidentally or otherwise, to any unauthorised third party.

Staff should note that unauthorised disclosure will usually be a disciplinary matter, and may be considered gross misconduct in some cases.

Personal information must either:

- Be kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer, or safe; or



- If it is computerised, be coded, encrypted or password protected both on a local hard drive and on a network drive that is regularly backed up; and
- If a copy is kept on a stick, disk or other removable storage media, that media must itself be kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer, or safe.

Rights to Access Information

All staff, parents and other users are entitled to:

- Know what information the School holds and processes about them or their child and why.
- Know how to gain access to it.
- Know how to keep it up to date.
- Know what the School is doing to comply with its obligations under the 1998 Act.

This Policy document and the School's Data Protection Code of Practise address in particular the last three points above. To address the first point, the School will, upon written request, provide all staff and parents and other relevant users with a statement regarding the personal data held about them. This will state all the types of data the School holds and processes about them, and the reasons for which they are processed.

All staff, parents and other users have a right under the 1998 Act to access certain personal data being kept about them or their child either on computer or in certain files. Any person who wishes to exercise this right should make a written request and submit it to the Designated Data Controller.

The School will make a charge of £10 on each occasion that access is requested, although the School has discretion to waive this.

The School aims to comply with requests for access to personal information as quickly as possible, but will ensure that it is provided within 40 days, as required by the 1998 Act and in 21 days to provide a reply to an access to information request.

Subject Consent

In many cases, the School can only process personal data with the consent of the individual.

In some cases, if the data is sensitive, as defined in the 1998 Act, express consent must be obtained. Agreement to the School processing some specified classes of personal data is a condition of acceptance of employment for staff. This included information about previous criminal convictions.

Jobs will bring the applicants into contact with children. The School has a duty under the Children Act 1989 and other enactments to ensure that staff are suitable for the job.

The School has a duty of care to all staff and students and must therefore make sure that employees and those who use School facilities do not pose a threat or danger to other users.

The School may also ask for information about particular health needs, such as allergies to particular forms of medication, or any medical condition such as asthma or diabetes. The School will only use



this information in the protection of the health and safety of the individual, but will need consent to process this data in the event of a medical emergency, for example.

Processing and Sharing Information

Personal data about students, parents/guardians or staff (including sensitive personal data, where appropriate) is processed by the School strictly in accordance with the Data Protection Act in order to:

- Support its pupils' teaching and learning
- Monitor and report on progress
- Publish examination results as separately notified to affected pupils and/or their parents and/or guardians (please see the appendix below concerning exam data)
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Assess how well the school is doing as a whole
- Monitor in a reasonable and proportionate manner pupil communications, internet use, and calls for the purpose of compliance with the schools's rules and strictly in accordance with the school's ICT policy
- Where appropriate, promote the school to prospective pupils (including through the Schools prospectus and website.
- Processing information about a person's health, criminal convictions or race – to give compliance with our own school policies such as the Sick Pay Policy or Equal opportunities and including cooperation with legislated outside agencies where necessary (Law Enforcement, Government, Health as examples).
- Carry on its reasonable purposes relating to the operation of the school.

Where information is considered sensitive under the 1988 Act, staff, students, parents, guardians will be asked to give express consent to the School to process this data. For staff, an offer on employment may be withdrawn if an individual refuses to give consent to this without good reason.

From time to time the school may pass personal data (including sensitive data where appropriate) to third parties including local authorities, other public authorities, independent school bodies (eg. ISC), health professionals who may process data to:

- Enable the school performance to be monitored
- Compile statistical information (normally on an anonymous basis)
- Secure funding
- Safeguard welfare
- For external assessments / educational needs (please see the appendix below concerning exam data)
- Where a reference or other information about a pupil/expupil is requested by another educational establishment or employer.
- Where reasonable necessary for the operation of the school.

The school may also, unless you state otherwise, share information with the alumni association of the school from time to time to share activities and for promotional and marketing purposes.



Publication of School Information

Certain items of information relating to School staff will be made available via searchable directories on the public Web site, in order to meet the legitimate needs of researchers, visitors and enquirers seeking to make contact with the School.

Retention of Data

The School has a duty to retain some staff and pupil personal data for a period of time following their departure from the School, mainly for legal reasons, but also for other purposes such as being able to provide references or academic transcripts.

Different categories of data will be retained for different periods of time. These will be in accordance with the records management

Enforcement

If a worker believes that the School has not complied with this Policy or acted otherwise than in accordance with the Data Protection Act, the worker should utilise the School grievance procedure and should also notify the DPC.

Conclusion

Compliance with the 1998 Act is the responsibility of all members of the School. Any deliberate breach of the Data Protection Policy may lead to disciplinary action being taken, or even to a criminal prosecution



Appendix on Privacy Notices:

Information about pupils in schools in relation to examination entries

Data Protection Act 1998: How we use pupil information

We collect and hold personal information relating to our pupils and may also receive information about them from their previous school, local authority (LA) and/or the Department for Education (DfE). We use this personal data to:

- support our pupils' learning
- monitor and report on their progress
- provide appropriate pastoral care; and
- assess the quality of our services

This information will include their contact details, national curriculum assessment results, attendance information, any exclusion information, where they go after they leave us and personal characteristics such as their ethnic group, any special educational needs they may have as well as relevant medical information. *For pupils enrolling for post 14 qualifications, the Learning Records Service will give us the unique learner number (ULN) and may also give us details about the pupils learning or qualifications.*

*Once our pupils reach the age of 13, the law may require us to pass on certain information to Cornwall LA who have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds if the pupil was no longer educated in the independent sector. We may also share certain personal data relating to children aged 16 and over with post-16 education and training providers in order to secure appropriate services for them. A parent/guardian can request that **only** their child's name, address and date of birth be passed to Cornwall LA by informing the registrar at St. Joseph's School. This right is transferred to the child once he/she reaches the age 16. For more information about services for young people, please go to the Cornwall local authority website*

We will not give information about our pupils to anyone without your consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so. If you want to receive a copy of the information about the pupil that we hold, please contact:

- The registrar at St. Joseph's School on 01566 772580

We may be required, by law, to pass some information about our pupils to the Department for Education (DfE). This information will, in turn, then be made available for use by the LA.

DfE may also share pupil level personal data that we supply to them, with third parties. This will only take place where legislation allows it to do so and it is in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Decisions on whether DfE releases this personal data to third parties are subject to a robust approval process and are 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 level data, requestors must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information on how this sharing process works, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-pupil-database-apply-for-a-data-extract>

For information on which third party organisations (and for which project) pupil level data has been provided to, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received>

If you need more information about how our local authority and/or DfE collect and use your information, please visit:

- our local authority at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning> or
- the DfE website at <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

Authorised by:	Governing Body
Reviewed by:	Ian Barton
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Method of Communication:	School intranet and available on request from school office