

Heathlands

C of E Primary School

Helping everyone shine their light

Policy	Governor Privacy Notice
Author	Jo Chipperfield – School Business Manager
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To be reviewed by	December 2026

Privacy Notice for Governors

Privacy Notice (How we use school governor information)

The categories of governor information that we process include:

- personal identifiers, contacts and characteristics (such as name, date of birth, contact details and address)
- governance details (such as role, start and end dates and governor ID)

Why we collect and use governor information

The personal data collected is essential, in order for the school to fulfil their official functions and meet legal requirements. We collect and use governor information, for the following purposes:

- a) To meet the statutory duties placed upon us
- b) Enable the development of a comprehensive picture of governance and how it is deployed
- c) To enable appropriate checks to be completed
- d) Enable individuals to be kept informed of governance training, book training and relevant information
- e) To inform relevant authorities/organisations of a member/trustee/governor/clerk appointment
- f) To undertake our responsibilities for safeguarding children
- g) To communicate with you
- h) To comply with the law regarding data sharing

Our Legal Obligations

We must make sure that information we collect and use about governors is in line with the GDPR and Data Protection Act. This means that we must have a lawful reason to collect the data, and that if we share that with another organisation or individual, we must have a legal basis to do so.

The lawful basis for schools to collect information comes from a variety of sources, such as:

- Article 6 and Article 9 of the GDPR (academies and maintained schools)
- under section 538 of the Education Act 1996, maintained school governing bodies have a legal duty to provide governance information (maintained schools)
- under the Academies Financial Handbook academy trusts have a legal duty to provide governance information (academies)
- The Constitution of Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools Statutory Guidance, August 2017, stipulates that governor and associate member information is published on the school website; (name, category of governor, term of office, appointed by, any office held [such as chair, vice-chair, safeguarding lead] summary of relevant business interests, and attendance at meetings) (maintained schools)
- under the Companies Act 2006 academy trusts have a legal duty to provide information on members and directors to Companies House (academies)

Collecting governor information

We collect personal information via induction materials, copies of identification and completed forms.

Governor data is essential for the school's operational use. Whilst the majority of personal information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it may be requested on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with GDPR, we will inform you at the point of collection, whether you are required to provide certain information to us or if you have a choice in this.

Storing governor information

We hold data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please see the School's Data Retention Policy.

Who we share governor information with

We routinely share this information with:

- our local authority (where applicable)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- other governors on the same governing board
- Disclosure & Barring Service
- the clerk to the board
- Governor Services

Why we share governor information

We do not share information about our governors with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Local Authority

We are required to share appointment and resignation information about governors with the local authority in order that the Local Authority can monitor the School's governance arrangements.

Department for Education

The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational settings and local authorities. We are required to share information about our governors with the Department for Education (DfE), under:

[For use by maintained schools only:] We are required to share information about our governors with the Department for Education (DfE) under [section 538 of the Education Act 1996](#)

[For use by academies and free schools only:] We are required to share information about our governors with the (DfE) under the requirements set out in the [Academies Financial Handbook](#)

[For use by pupil referral units only:] We are required to share information about our governors with the Department for Education (DfE) under [section 538 of the Education Act 1996](#)

All data is entered manually on the GIAS system and held by DfE under a combination of software and hardware controls which meet the current [government security policy framework](#).

For more information, please see 'How Government uses your data' section.

The Clerk to the Board

In case of emergency or an Ofsted inspection it is necessary for the school office to hold details of any individuals involved in the governance of the school. The school Single Central Record will record that appropriate checks have been carried out for everyone involved in the governance of the school.

Other members/trustees/governors on the same Governing Board (or in the same MAT)

For ease of communication and with your consent contact details may be shared with other governors on the board.

Disclosure and Barring Service

All maintained school governors are required to have an enhanced criminal records certificate from the DBS. Further details on DBS checks and Section 128 checks in schools are within the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, you have the right to request access to information about you that we hold. To make a request for your personal information, contact Laura Benns or Val Walsom, School Business Managers at the School.

You also have the right to:

- to ask us for access to information about you that we hold
- to have your personal data rectified, if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- to request the deletion or removal of personal data where there is no compelling reason for its continued processing
- to restrict our processing of your personal data (i.e. permitting its storage but no further processing)
- to object to direct marketing (including profiling) and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics
- not to be subject to decisions based purely on automated processing where it produces a legal or similarly significant effect on you

If you have a concern or complaint 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/>

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by DfE, please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

Withdrawal of consent and the right to lodge a complaint

Where we are processing your personal data with your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent. If you change your mind, or you are unhappy with our use of your personal data, please let us know by contacting Laura Benns or Val Walsom, School Business Managers.

Last updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated in Feb 2025.

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact the School's Data Protection Officer: SBM Financial Services, 12 Park Lane Business Centre, Park Lane, Langham, Colchester, CO4 5WR, Tel: 01206 671103, email: info@sbmservices.co.uk.

How Government uses your data

The governor data that we lawfully share with the DfE via GIAS:

- will increase the transparency of governance arrangements
- will enable schools and the department to identify more quickly and accurately individuals who are involved in governance and who govern in more than one context
- allows the department to be able to uniquely identify an individual and in a small number of cases conduct checks to confirm their suitability for this important and influential role

Data collection requirements

To find out more about the requirements placed on us by the Department for Education including the data that we share with them, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-database-of-governors>

Note: Some of these personal data items are not publically available and are encrypted within the GIAS system. Access is restricted to a small number of DfE staff who need to see it in order to fulfil their official duties. The information is for internal purposes only and not shared beyond the department, unless the law allows it.

How to find out what personal information DfE hold about you

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018, you're entitled to ask the Department:

- if they are processing your personal data
- for a description of the data they hold about you
- the reasons they're holding it and any recipient it may be disclosed to
- for a copy of your personal data and any details of its source

If you want to see the personal data held about you by the Department, you should make a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department's personal information charter that is published at the address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>

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