

Privacy Notice for Pupils and their Families

Schools are currently required to inform pupils and their families about how their personal data may be collected and used. This privacy notice may be revised to include further information on processing individuals' personal data, in order to be compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Who processes your information?

Holy Cross Catholic High School (referred to as 'the school' or 'we' throughout the rest of this privacy notice) is the Data Controller of the personal information you provide to us. This means the school determines the purposes for which, and the manner in which, any personal data relating to pupils and their families is to be processed.

In some cases, your data will be outsourced to a third-party processor; however, this will only be done with your consent, unless the law requires the school to share your data. Where the school outsources data to a third-party processor, the same data protection standards that school upholds are imposed on the Data Processor.

Mrs S Cooper is the Data Protection Officer. Her role is to oversee and monitor the school's data protection procedures, and to ensure they are compliant with the GDPR. The Data Protection Officer can be contacted on 01257 262093 or s.cooper@holycross.lancs.sch.uk.

Why do we collect and use your information?

School holds the legal right to collect and use personal data relating to pupils and their families, and we may also receive information regarding them from their previous school, Local Authority and/or the Department for Education (DfE). The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational settings and local authorities via various statutory data collections. We are required to share information about our pupils with the Department for Education (DfE) either directly or via our local authority for the purpose of those data collections, under:

We collect and use personal data in order to meet legal requirements and legitimate interests set out in the GDPR and UK law, including those in relation to the following:

- Article 6 and Article 9 of the GDPR
- Education Act 1996
- Section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013

In accordance with the above, the personal data of pupils and their families is collected and used for the following reasons:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil attainment progress

- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to keep children safe (food allergies, or emergency contact details)
- safeguard pupils to support health and safety outcomes
- to meet the statutory duties placed upon us for the Department for Education (DfE) data collections

Collecting pupil information

The categories of pupil information that we process include:

- personal identifiers and contacts (such as name, unique pupil number, contact details and address)
- characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, and free school meal eligibility)
- safeguarding information (such as court orders and professional involvement)
- special educational needs (including the needs and ranking)
- medical and administration (such as doctors' information, child health, dental health, allergies, medication and dietary requirements)
- attendance (such as sessions attended, number of absences, absence reasons and any previous schools attended)
- assessment and attainment (such as key stage 1 and phonics results, post 16 courses enrolled for and any relevant results)
- behavioural information (such as exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place)

Pupil data is essential for the school's operational use. Whilst the majority of the personal data you provide to the school is mandatory, some is provided on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the data protection legislation, 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 pupil data

Personal data relating to pupils at school and their families is stored in line with the school's GDPR Data Protection Policy, this can be found on the school's website.

In accordance with the GDPR, the school does not store personal data indefinitely; data is only stored for as long as is necessary to complete the task for which it was originally collected. This is usually a minimum of five years from entry in Y7 to completion in Y11.

The categories of pupil information that we process include:

The school is required to share pupils' data with the DfE on a statutory basis, this includes the following:

- Personal information
- Characteristics
- Safeguarding information
- Information relating to Special Educational Needs
- Medical and administration
- Attendance information

- Assessment & attainment information
- Special Educational Needs
- Behavioural information
- Post-16 destinations and course enrolments

School will not share your personal information with any third parties without your consent, unless the law allows us to do so. The school routinely shares pupils' information with:

- Pupils' destinations upon leaving the school
- Exam boards
- Social Services
- The Local Authority
- The NHS & School Nurse
- Youth Support Services (Aged 13+)
- The Archdiocese of Liverpool
- Educational Visits providers/tour operators
- ParentPay
- Gillman and Soame (School Photographers)
- The Department for Education (DfE)

The information that we share with these parties includes the following:

- Personal information and contacts (such as name, UPN, contact details and address)
- Characteristics eg ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth, FSM eligibility)
- Attendance information eg number of absences and absence reason, persistent absences and reason and any previous schools attended
- Assessment and attainment information eg National Curriculum assessment results
- Relevant medical information (such as doctors information, child health, dental health, allergies, medication and dietary requirements)
- Behavioural information eg exclusions and any relevant alternative provision put in place
- Information relating to Special Educational Needs
- Safeguarding information (such as court orders and professional involvement)
- Post-16 destinations, courses enrolled on and any relevant results
- Finger printing for cashless system

How Government uses your data

The pupil data that we lawfully share with the Department for Education (DfE) through data collections:

- underpins school funding, which is calculated based upon the numbers of children and their characteristics in each school.
- informs 'short term' education policy monitoring and school accountability and intervention (for example, school GCSE results or Pupil Progress measures).
- supports 'longer term' research and monitoring of educational policy (for example how certain subject choices go on to affect education or earnings beyond school)

Data collection requirements

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

Much of the data about pupils in England goes on to be held in the National Pupil Database (NPD). The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education (DfE) 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 for Education (DfE).

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.

To find out more about the NPD, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice/national-pupil-database-npd-privacy-notice>

The DfE has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of any data shared from the NPD is maintained.

Sharing by the Department for Education

The law allows the Department for Education (DfE) to share pupils' personal data with certain third parties, including:

- schools and local authorities
- researchers
- organisations connected with promoting the education or wellbeing of children in England
- other government departments and agencies
- organisations fighting or identifying crime

For more information about the Department for Education's (DfE) NPD data sharing process, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

Organisations fighting or identifying crime may use their legal powers to contact the Department for Education (DfE) to request access to individual level information relevant to detecting that crime.

For information about which organisations the Department for Education (DfE) has provided pupil information, (and for which project) or to access a monthly breakdown of data share volumes with Home Office and the Police please visit the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-external-data-shares>

How to find out what personal information the Department for Education (DfE) holds about you

Under the terms of the [Data Protection Act 2018](#), you are entitled to ask the Department for Education (DfE):

- 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 for Education (DfE), you should make

a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education's (DfE) 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 the Department for Education (DfE): <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>

Youth support services (Pupils aged 13+)

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we also pass pupil information to our local authority and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- youth support services
- careers advisers

The information shared is limited to the child's name, address and date of birth. However, where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

For more information about services for young people, please visit our local authority website.

What are your rights - 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. To make a request for your personal information, or be given access to your child's educational record, contact:

Mrs S Cooper, Data Protection Officer, on 01257 262093 or s.cooper@holycross.lancs.sch.uk

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 the Department

for Education (DfE), please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

Withdrawal of consent

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:

Mrs S Cooper, Data Protection Officer, on 01257 262093 or s.cooper@holycross.lancs.sch.uk

Updating this privacy notice

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically if we change how we collect and process data. The school will inform you when this privacy notice has changed; however, we also recommend that you revisit this privacy notice periodically. This version was last updated in September 2026.

Where can you find out more information?

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

Mrs S Cooper, Data Protection Officer, on 01257 262093 or s.cooper@holycross.lancs.sch.uk