



## **DATA PROTECTION POLICY & PRIVACY NOTICE**

**This Policy includes the EYFS, Junior School and Senior School**

### **Links to other policies:**

Complaints Policy

### **WHO WE ARE**

Moorland School is an independent school whose principle place of business is at Moorland School, Ribblesdale Avenue, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2JA. We are a company limited by guarantee (number 06749037). Our activities comprise secondary and primary education in a boarding setting.

Under the Data Protection Act 2018 Moorland School identifies itself as a data controller.

### **POLICY PURPOSE**

This policy is intended to provide information about how Moorland School ("the school") will use (or "process") personal data about individuals including its staff its current, past and prospective pupils, and their parents, carers or guardians (referred to in this policy as "parents").

This information is provided in accordance with the rights of individuals under Data Protection Law to understand how their data is used. Staff, parents and pupils are all encouraged to read this Privacy Notice and understand the school's obligations to its entire community.

This Privacy Notice applies alongside any other information the school may provide about a particular use of personal data, for example when collecting data via an online or paper form.

This Privacy Notice also applies in addition to the school's other relevant terms and conditions and policies, including:

- any contract between the school and its staff or the parents of pupils;
- the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children;
- the school's retention of records policy;
- the school's safeguarding policy, pastoral policy, or health and safety policy, including as to how concerns or incidents are recorded; and
- the school's IT policies, including its Acceptable Use policy and eSafety policy.

Anyone who works for, or acts on behalf of, the school (including staff, volunteers, governors and service providers) should also be aware of and comply with this Privacy Notice, which also provides further information about how personal data about those individuals will be used.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR DATA PROTECTION**

The School has appointed the Business Manager as Data Protection Coordinator who will deal with all your requests and enquiries concerning the school's uses of your personal data (see section on 'Your Rights' below) and endeavour to ensure that all personal data is processed in compliance with this policy and Data Protection Law. The Data Protection Coordinator can be contacted on 01729 421035 or at

[dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk).

## WHY THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO PROCESS PERSONAL DATA

In order to carry out its ordinary duties to staff, pupils and parents, the school may process a wide range of personal data about individuals (including current, past and prospective staff, pupils or parents) as part of its daily operation.

Some of this activity the school will need to carry out in order to fulfil its legal rights, duties or obligations – including those under a contract with its staff, or parents of its pupils. Other uses of personal data will be made in accordance with the school's legitimate interests, or the legitimate interests of another, provided that these are not outweighed by the impact on individuals, and provided it does not involve special or sensitive types of data.

The school expects that the following uses may fall within that category of its (or its community's) "legitimate interests":

- For the purposes of pupil selection (and to confirm the identity of prospective pupils and their parents);
- To provide education services, including musical education, physical training or spiritual development, career services, and extra-curricular activities to pupils, and monitoring pupils' progress and educational needs;
- Maintaining relationships with alumni and the school community, including direct marketing or fundraising activity;
- For the purposes of management planning and forecasting, research and statistical analysis, including that imposed or provided for by law (such as diversity or gender pay gap analysis and taxation records);
- To enable relevant authorities to monitor the school's performance and to intervene or assist with incidents as appropriate;
- To give and receive information and references about past, current and prospective pupils, including relating to outstanding fees or payment history, to/from any educational institution that the pupil attended or where it is proposed they attend; and to provide references to potential employers of past pupils;
- To enable pupils to take part in national or other assessments, and to publish the results of public examinations or other achievements of pupils of the school;
- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral care;
- To monitor (as appropriate) use of the school's IT and communications systems in accordance with the school's IT Acceptable Use Policy;
- To send you information to keep you up to date with what is happening at the School. For example, by sending you information about events and activities taking place (including fundraising events) and the School newsletter
- To make use of photographic images of pupils in school publications, on the school website and (where appropriate) on the school's social media channels in accordance with the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children. We may take photographs or videos of you at School events to use on social media and on the School website. This is to show prospective parents and pupils what we do here and to advertise the School. We may continue to use these photographs and videos after your child has left the School;
- For security purposes; and
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the school's purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the school.

In addition, the school may need to process special category personal data (concerning health, ethnicity, religion, biometrics or sexual life) or criminal records information (such as when carrying out DBS checks) in accordance with rights or duties imposed on it by law, including as regards safeguarding and employment, or from time to time by explicit consent where required. These reasons may include:

- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral (and where necessary, medical) care, and to take appropriate action in the event of an emergency, incident or accident, including by disclosing

details of an individual's medical condition where it is in the individual's interests to do so: for example, for medical advice, social services, insurance purposes or to organisers of school trips;

- To provide educational services in the context of any special educational needs of a pupil;
- To provide spiritual education in the context of any religious beliefs;
- In connection with employment of its staff, for example DBS checks, welfare or pension plans;
- For legal and regulatory purposes (for example child protection, diversity monitoring and health and safety) and to comply with its legal obligations and duties of care.

### **TYPES OF PERSONAL DATA PROCESSED BY THE SCHOOL**

This will include by way of example:

- names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and other contact details;
- bank details and other financial information, e.g. about parents who pay fees to the school;
- past, present and prospective pupils' academic, disciplinary, admissions and attendance records (including information about any special needs), and examination scripts and marks;
- where appropriate, information about individuals' health, and contact details for their next of kin;
- references given or received by the school about pupils, and information provided by previous educational establishments and/or other professionals or organisations working with pupils; and
- images of pupils (and occasionally other individuals) engaging in school activities, and images captured by the school's CCTV system (in accordance with the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children).

### **HOW THE SCHOOL COLLECTS DATA**

Generally, the school receives personal data from the individual directly (including, in the case of pupils, from their parents). This may be via a form, or simply in the ordinary course of interaction or communication (such as email or written assessments).

However, in some cases personal data may be supplied by third parties (for example another school, or other professionals or authorities working with that individual) or collected from publicly available resources.

### **OUR LEGAL GROUNDS FOR USING YOUR INFORMATION**

This section contains information about the legal basis that we are relying on when handling your information.

**Legitimate interests** This means that the processing is necessary for legitimate interests except where the processing is unfair to you. The School relies on legitimate interests for most of the ways in which it uses your information. Specifically, the School has a legitimate interest in:

- Providing educational services to your child;
- Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of your child (and other children);
- Promoting the objects and interests of the School. This includes fundraising. It also includes making sure that we are able to enforce our rights against you, for example, so that we can contact you if unpaid school fees are due;
- Facilitating the efficient operation of the School; and
- Ensuring that all relevant legal obligations of the School are complied with.

In addition your personal information may be processed for the legitimate interests of others. For example another school will have a legitimate interest in knowing if you have not paid School fees that are due to us. If you object to us using your information where we are relying on our legitimate interests as explained above please speak to the Business Manager.

**Necessary for a contract** We will need to use your information in order to perform our obligations under our contract with you. For example, we need your name and contact details so that we can update you on your child's progress and so that we can contact you if there is a concern.

**Legal obligation** Where the School needs to use your information in order to comply with a legal obligation, for example to report a concern to Children's Services. We may also have to disclose your information to third parties such as the courts, the local authority or the police where legally obliged to do so. Vital interests For example, to prevent someone from being seriously harmed or killed.

**Public interest** The School considers that it is acting in the public interest when providing education.

The School must also comply with an additional condition where it processes special categories of personal information. These special categories are as follows: personal information revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic information, biometric information, health information, and information about sex life or orientation.

**Substantial public interest** The processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

**Vital interests:** To protect the vital interests of any person where that person cannot give consent, for example, if they are seriously hurt and are unconscious.

**Legal claims:** The processing is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims. This allows us to share information with our legal advisors and insurers.

**Medical purposes** This includes medical treatment and the management of healthcare services.

#### **WHO HAS ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA AND WHO THE SCHOOL SHARES IT WITH**

Occasionally, the school will need to share personal information relating to its community with third parties, such as professional advisers (lawyers and accountants) or relevant authorities (police or the local authority). This includes sharing information with our alumni.

For the most part, personal data collected by the school will remain within the school and will be processed by appropriate individuals only in accordance with access protocols (i.e. on a 'need to know' basis).

Particularly strict rules of access apply in the context of:

- medical records held and accessed only by the school medical staff; and
- pastoral or safeguarding files.

However, a certain amount of any SEN pupil's relevant information will need to be provided to staff more widely in the context of providing the necessary care and education that the pupil requires.

Staff, pupils and parents are reminded that the school is under duties imposed by law and statutory guidance (including Keeping Children Safe in Education) to record or report incidents and concerns that arise or are reported to it, in some cases regardless of whether they are proven, if they meet a certain threshold of seriousness in their nature or regularity.

This may include file notes on personnel or safeguarding files, and in some cases referrals to relevant authorities such as the LADO or police, to monitor child protection, safeguarding, SEND, attendance, behaviour, and other related matters. For further information about this, please view the school's Safeguarding Policy.

Finally, in accordance with Data Protection Law, some of the school's processing activity is carried out on its behalf by third parties, such as IT systems, web developers or cloud storage providers. This is always subject to contractual assurances that personal data will be kept securely and only in accordance with the school's specific directions.

#### **HOW LONG WE KEEP PERSONAL DATA**

The school will retain personal data securely and only in line with how long it is necessary to keep for a legitimate and lawful reason. Typically, the legal recommendation for how long to keep ordinary staff and pupil personnel files is up to seven years following departure from the school. However, incident reports and safeguarding files will need to be kept much longer, in accordance with specific legal requirements. If you have any specific queries about how this policy is applied, or wish to request that personal data that you no longer believe to be relevant is considered for erasure, please contact [dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk). However, please bear in mind that the school may have lawful and necessary reasons to hold on to some data.

#### **KEEPING IN TOUCH AND SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL**

The school will use the contact details of parents, alumni and other members of the school community to keep them updated about the activities of the school, or alumni and parent events of interest, including by sending updates and newsletters, by email and by post. Unless the relevant individual objects, the school may also contact parents and/or alumni by post and email in order to promote and raise funds for the school and provide information about school-related events.

Should you wish to limit or object to any such use, or would like further information about them, please contact [dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk) in writing. You always have the right to withdraw consent, where given, or otherwise object to direct marketing. However, the school may need nonetheless to retain some of your details (not least to ensure that no more communications are sent to that particular address, email or telephone number).

## **YOUR RIGHTS**

Individuals have various rights under Data Protection Law to access and understand personal data about them held by the school, and in some cases ask for it to be erased or amended or for the school to stop processing it, but subject to certain exemptions and limitations.

Any individual wishing to access or amend their personal data, or wishing it to be transferred to another person or organisation, or who has some other objection to how their personal data is used, should put their request in writing to [dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk).

The school will endeavour to respond to any such written requests as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within statutory time-limits, which is one month in the case of requests for access to information. The school will be better able to respond quickly to smaller, targeted requests for information. If the request is manifestly excessive or similar to previous requests, the school may ask you to reconsider, but only where Data Protection Law allows it.

You should be aware that certain data is exempt from the right of access. This may include information which identifies other individuals, or information which is subject to legal professional privilege. The school is also not required to disclose any pupil examination scripts (though examiners' comments may fall to be disclosed), nor any confidential reference given by the school for the purposes of the education, training or employment of any individual.

## **PUPIL REQUESTS**

Pupils can make subject access requests for their own personal data, provided that, in the reasonable opinion of the school, they have sufficient maturity to understand the request they are making (see section 'Whose Rights' below). Indeed, while a person with parental responsibility will generally be entitled to make a subject access request on behalf of younger pupils, the information in question is always considered to be the child's at law.

A pupil of any age may ask a parent or other representative to make a subject access request on his/her behalf. Moreover (if of sufficient age) their consent or authority may need to be sought by the parent making such a request. Pupils at in Year 9 and above e.g. aged 13 and above are generally assumed to have this level of maturity, although this will depend on both the child and the personal data requested, including any relevant circumstances at home. Slightly younger children may however be sufficiently mature to have a say in this decision.

All information requests from, or on behalf of, pupils – whether made under subject access or simply as an incidental request – will therefore be considered on a case by case basis.

## **CONSENT**

Where the school is relying on consent as a means to process personal data, any person may withdraw this consent at any time (subject to similar age considerations as above). Please be aware however that the school may have another lawful reason to process the personal data in question even without your consent.

That reason will usually have been asserted under this Privacy Notice, or may otherwise exist under some form of contract or agreement with the individual (e.g. an employment or parent contract, or because a purchase of goods, services or membership of an organisation such as the alumni or parents' association has been requested).

## **WHOSE RIGHTS**

The rights under Data Protection Law belong to the individual to whom the data relates. However, the school will often rely on parental consent to process personal data relating to pupils (if consent is required) unless, given the nature of the processing in question, and the pupil's age and understanding, it is more appropriate to rely on the pupil's consent

Parents should be aware that in such situations they may not be consulted, depending on the interests of the child, the parents' rights at law or under their contract, and all the circumstances. In general, the school will assume that pupils' consent is not required for ordinary disclosure of their personal data to their parents, e.g. for the purposes of keeping parents informed about the pupil's activities, progress and behaviour, and in the interests of the pupil's welfare, unless, in the school's opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise.

However, where a pupil seeks to raise concerns confidentially with a member of staff and expressly withholds their agreement to their personal data being disclosed to their parents, the school may be under an obligation to maintain confidentiality unless, in the school's opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise; for example, where the school believes disclosure will be in the best interests of the pupil or other pupils, or if required by law.

Pupils are required to respect the personal data and privacy of others, and to comply with the school's IT: acceptable use policy and the school rules. Staff are under professional duties to do the same and this is covered in the Staff Code of Conduct.

## **DATA ACCURACY AND SECURITY**

The school will endeavour to ensure that all personal data held in relation to an individual is as up to date and accurate as possible. Individuals must please notify [dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk) of any significant changes to important information, such as contact details, held about them.

An individual has the right to request that any out-of-date, irrelevant or inaccurate or information about them is erased or corrected (subject to certain exemptions and limitations under Data Protection Law): please see above for details of why the school may need to process your data, of who you may contact if you disagree.

The school will take appropriate technical and organisational steps to ensure the security of personal data about individuals, including policies around use of technology and devices, and access to school systems. All staff and governors will be made aware of this policy and their duties under Data Protection Law and receive relevant training.

## **THIS POLICY**

The school will update this Privacy Notice from time to time. Any substantial changes that affect your rights will be provided to you directly as far as is reasonably practicable.

## **QUERIES AND COMPLAINTS**

Any comments or queries on this policy should be directed to the Business Manager at [dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk](mailto:dfrost@moorlandschool.co.uk).

If an individual believes that the school has not complied with this policy or acted otherwise than in accordance with Data Protection Law, they should utilise the school complaints procedure and should also notify the Business Manager. The school can also make a referral to or lodge a complaint with the

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), although the ICO recommends that steps are taken to resolve the matter with the school before involving the regulator.

*Reviewed and updated by Deborah Frost, May 2020*

*Next Review Date: May 2021*