



# ABBOT'S WAY SCHOOL

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*"Inspirational learning with a difference"*

## **PRIVACY NOTICE**

### **How we use student information**

Effective Date:	August 2023
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Reviewed:	Gareth Wright / Hellen Lush

## **Privacy Notice - How we use student information**

### **Why do we collect and use student information?**

We collect and use student information to ensure that students are safeguarded and achieve the best possible outcomes from their time in school. We also need this information to fulfil the contracts we hold with parents and local authorities.

Therefore we use student data:

- to support student learning
- to monitor and report on student progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing

### **The categories of student information that we collect, hold and share include:**

- Personal information (such as name, unique student number, address, letters from parents and reports from previous schools or therapeutic professionals eg SaLT, Ed Psych and OT)
- Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth and learning needs)
- Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- Medical information (such as diagnosis, prescribed medication and related reports from medical professionals)

### **Collecting student information**

Whilst the majority of student information you provide 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 student information to us or if you have a choice in this.

### **Storing student data**

We hold student data for six years

### **Who do we share student information with?**

We routinely share student information with:

- schools that the student's attend after leaving us
- your local authority (if applicable)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- the local GP
- other professionals associated with you

### **Why we share student information**

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

We share students' data with the Department for Education (DfE) on a statutory basis.

### **Data collection requirements:**

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (for example; via the school census) go to

<https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

## **The National Pupil Database (NPD)**

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education and contains information about students in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department. 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.

We are required by law, to provide information about our students to the DfE as part of statutory data collections such as the school census. Some of this information is then stored in the NPD. The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

To find out more about the student information we share with the department, for the purpose of data collections, go to

<https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

To find out more about the NPD, go to

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>.

The department may share information about our students from the NPD with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children in England by:

- conducting research or analysis
- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The Department has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data. Decisions on whether DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and 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 student information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of the data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information about the department's data sharing process, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

For information about which organisations the department has provided student information, (and for which project), please visit the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-student-database-requests-received>

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

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

Under the General Data Protection Regulation, parents and students 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 -

**The Joint Heads at Abbot's Way School** by emailing: [office@abbotswayschool.com](mailto:office@abbotswayschool.com)

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 the Data Protection regulations

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance.

**Contact:**

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

**The Joint Heads at Abbot's Way School** by emailing: [office@abbotswayschool.com](mailto:office@abbotswayschool.com)