

# **KINGSDOWN SECONDARY SCHOOL**

## **DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

### **General Statement**

Kingsdown Secondary School recognizes it has a duty under Every Child Matters to share information with other agencies who are working to promote positive outcomes for children and young people and a statutory obligation to share information if it believes a child is at risk of significant harm. However the school is also cognizant of its responsibilities under data protection legislation.

The Proprietor (MRCS Ltd) of the school has overall responsibility for ensuring that records are maintained, including security and access arrangements, in accordance with Education Regulations and all other statutory provisions.

The Headteacher and Proprietor of this School intend to comply fully with the requirements and principles of the Data Protection Act 1984 and the Data Protection Act 1998. All staff involved with the collection, processing and disclosure of personal data are aware of their duties and responsibilities within these guidelines.

At the start of each school year or on admission to the school parents/carers will be asked to check the personal data held about them and their children and requested to update such information whenever there are changes. During the Autumn term of each school year parents/carers will also be issued with a Fair Processing Notice (based on the model provided by the DCSF) which will inform them of third parties with whom data is going to be shared. All pupils aged over 13 will receive their own copy of the FPN (Appendix A) Further details will be available from the School Office or on the website.

### **Enquiries**

Information about the school's Data Protection Policy is available from the school office. General information about the Data Protection Act can be obtained from the Data Protection Commissioner (Information Line 01625 545 745, website [www.dataprotection.gov.uk](http://www.dataprotection.gov.uk)).

### **Fair Obtaining and Processing**

Kingsdown School undertakes to obtain and process data fairly and lawfully by informing all data subjects of the reasons for data collection, the purposes for which the data are held, the likely recipients of the data and the data subjects' right of access. Information about the use of personal data is printed on the appropriate collection form. If details are given verbally, the person collecting will explain the issues before obtaining the information.

**“processing”** means obtaining, recording or holding the information or data or carrying out any or set of operations on the information or data.

**“data subject”** means an individual who is the subject of personal data or the person to whom the information relates.

**“personal data”** means data, which relates to a living individual who can be identified. Addresses and telephone numbers are particularly vulnerable to abuse, but so can names and photographs be, if published in the press, Internet or media.

**“parent”** has the meaning given in the Education Act 1996, and includes any person having parental responsibility or care of a child.

## **Registered Purposes**

The Data Protection Registration entries for the School are available for inspection, by appointment, at the school office. Explanation of any codes and categories entered is available from Lisa Courtney who is the person nominated to deal with Data protection issues in the School. Registered purposes covering the data held at the school are listed on the school's Registration and data collection documents. Information held for these stated purposes will not be used for any other purpose without the data subject's consent.

## **Data Integrity**

The school undertakes to ensure data integrity by the following methods:

### **Data Accuracy**

Data held will be as accurate and up to date as is reasonably possible. If a data subject informs the School of a change of circumstances their computer record will be updated as soon as is practicable. A printout of their data record will be provided to data subjects every twelve months so they can check its accuracy and make any amendments.

Where a data subject challenges the accuracy of their data, the School will immediately mark the record as potentially inaccurate, or 'challenged'. In the case of any dispute, we shall try to resolve the issue informally, but if this proves impossible, disputes will be referred to the Governing Body for their judgement. If the problem cannot be resolved at this stage, either side may seek independent arbitration. Until resolved the 'challenged' marker will remain and all disclosures of the affected information will contain both versions of the information.

### **Data Adequacy and Relevance**

Data held about people will be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose for which the data is being held.

## **Length of Time**

Data held about individuals will not be kept for longer than necessary for the purposes registered. It is the duty of Lisa Courtney to ensure that obsolete data are properly erased from ICT systems once a pupil has left the school. Paper files will be held until the ex pupil has reached the age of 25 in case the records are required by the placing LA.

## **Subject Access**

The Data Protection Acts extend to all data subjects a right of access to their own personal data. In order to ensure that people receive only information about themselves it is essential that a formal system of requests is in place. Where a request for subject access is received from a pupil, the school's policy is that:

- ◆ Requests from pupils will be processed as any subject access request as outlined below and the copy will be given directly to the pupil, unless it is clear that the pupil does not understand the nature of the request.
- ◆ Requests from pupils who do not appear to understand the nature of the request will be referred to their parents or carers.
- ◆ Requests from parents in respect of their own child will be processed as requests made on behalf of the data subject (the child) and the copy will be sent in a sealed envelope to the requesting parent.

## **Processing Subject Access Requests**

Requests for access must be made in writing using the Form Appendix B.

Pupils, parents or staff may ask for a Data Subject Access form, available from the School Office. Completed forms should be submitted to Lisa Courtney. Provided that there is sufficient information to process the request, an entry will be made in the Subject Access log book, showing the date of receipt, the data subject's name, the name and address of requester (if different), the type of data required (eg Student Record, Personnel Record), and the planned date of supplying the information (normally not more than 40 days from the request date). Should more information be required to establish either the identity of the data subject (or agent) or the type of data requested, the date of entry in the log will be date on which sufficient information has been provided.

Note: In the case of any written request from a parent regarding their own child's record, access to the record will be provided within 15 school dates in accordance with the current Education (Pupil Information) Regulations.

## Authorised Disclosures

The School will, in general, only disclose data about individuals with their consent. However there are circumstances under which the School's authorised officer may need to disclose data without explicit consent for that occasion.

These circumstances are strictly limited to:

- ◆ Pupil data disclosed to authorised recipients related to education and administration necessary for the school to perform its statutory duties and obligations.
- ◆ Pupil data disclosed to authorised recipients in respect of their child's health, safety and welfare.
- ◆ Pupil data disclosed to parents in respect of their child's progress, achievements, attendance, attitude or general demeanour within or in the vicinity of the school.
- ◆ Staff data disclosed to relevant authorities eg in respect of payroll and administrative matters.
- ◆ Unavoidable disclosures, for example to an engineer during maintenance of the computer system. In such circumstances the engineer would be required to sign a form promising not to disclose the data outside the school.
- ◆ Only authorised and trained staff are allowed to make external disclosures of personal data. Data used within the school by administrative staff, teachers and welfare officers will only be made available where the person requesting the information is a professional legitimately working within the school who **need to know** the information in order to do their work. The school will not disclose anything on pupils' records which would be likely to cause serious harm to their physical or mental health or that of anyone else – including anything which suggests that they are, or have been, either the subject of or at risk of child abuse.

A “**legal disclosure**” is the release of personal information from the computer to someone who requires the information to do his or her job within or for the school, provided that the purpose of that information has been registered.

An “**illegal disclosure**” is the release of information to someone who does not need it, or has no right to it, or one which falls outside the School's registered purposes.

## Data and Computer Security

Kingsdown School undertakes to ensure security of personal data by the following general methods (precise details cannot, of course, be revealed):

### **Physical Security**

Appropriate building security measures are in place, such as alarms, window bars, deadlocks and computer hardware cable locks. Only authorised persons are allowed in the computer room. Disks, tapes and printouts are locked away securely when not in use. Visitors to the school are required to sign in and out, to wear identification badges whilst in the school and are, where appropriate, accompanied.

### **Logical Security**

Security software is installed on all computers containing personal data. Only authorised users are allowed access to the computer files and password changes are regularly undertaken. Computer files are backed up (ie security copies are taken) regularly.

### **Procedural Security**

In order to be given authorised access to the computer, staff will have to undergo checks and will sign a confidentiality agreement. All staff are trained in their Data Protection obligations and their knowledge updated as necessary. Computer printouts as well as source documents are shredded before disposal.

Overall security policy for data is determined by the Managing Director and is monitored and reviewed regularly, especially if a security loophole or breach becomes apparent. The School's security policy is kept in a safe place at all times.

Any queries or concerns about security of data in the school should in the first instance be referred to Lisa Courtney

Individual members of staff can be personally liable in law under the terms of the Data Protection Acts. They may also be subject to claims for damages from persons who believe that they have been harmed as a result of inaccuracy, unauthorised use or disclosure of their data. A deliberate breach of this Data Protection Policy will be treated as disciplinary matter, and serious breaches could lead to dismissal.

Further details on any aspect of this policy and its implementation can be obtained from:

Date of issue/revision: March 2009

## **APPENDIX A FAIR PROCESSING NOTICE TO BE ISSUED IN THE AUTUMN TERM OR ON ADMISSION**

Kingsdown Secondary School processes personal data about its pupils and is a “data controller” in respect of this for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. It processes this data to:

- support its pupils’ teaching and learning;
- monitor and report on their progress;
- provide appropriate pastoral care, and
- assess how well the school as a whole is doing.

This data includes contact details, national curriculum assessment results, attendance information, characteristics such as ethnic group, special educational needs and any relevant medical information.

This data may only be used or passed on for specific purposes allowed by law. From time to time the school is required to pass on some of this data to local authorities, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), and to agencies that are prescribed by law, such as the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), Ofsted, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), the Department of Health (DH), Primary Care Trusts (PCT), and organisations that require access to data in the Learner Registration System as part of the MIAP (Managing Information Across Partners) programme and Connexions (see below) All these are data controllers in respect of the data they receive, and are subject to the same legal constraints in how they deal with the data.

We also supply basic information to ContactPoint when requested to do so. This only includes the name and address of the child, contact details for their parents or carers (with parental responsibility) and the contact details of the school.

Pupils, as data subjects, have certain rights under the Data Protection Act, including a general right to be given access to personal data held about them by any data controller. The presumption is that by the age of 12 a child has sufficient maturity to understand their rights and to make an access request themselves if they wish. A parent would normally be expected to make a request on a child’s behalf if the child is younger.

If you wish to access your personal data, or that of your child please ask the school for a copy of the Access to Personal Data Request Form. If you want to know what information other organizations hold about you or your child then please contact the relevant organisation in writing direct. Details of these organisations can be found on the following website [www.kingsdownsse.com](http://www.kingsdownsse.com) or for those pupils/parents where this is not practical, a hard copy can be obtained from the school – Lisa Courtney, 112 Orchard Road, Sanderstead, Surrey CR2 9LQ.

For pupils of 13 years and over, the school is legally required to pass on certain information to Connexions services providers on request. Connexions

is the government's support service for all young people aged 13 to 19 in England. This information includes the name and address of the pupil and parent, and any further information relevant to the Connexions services' role. However parents, or the pupils themselves if aged 16 or over, can ask that no information beyond name and address (for pupil and parent) be passed on to Connexions. If as a parent, or as a pupil aged 16 or over, you wish to opt-out and do not want Connexions to receive from the school information beyond name and address, then please contact the school

Your attention is drawn to (Layer 2) of this Fair Processing Notice, which gives supplementary information about the processing of pupil data by the organisations mentioned above, and gives greater details of how the pupil data is processed and the rights of parents and pupils. Either can be obtained by **looking at the school website or contacting the school.**

**APPENDIX B**

**ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA REQUEST**

**DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998 Section 7.**

Enquirer's Surname.....  
Enquirer's ForeNames.....  
Enquirer's Address  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Telephone Number .....

Are you the person who is the subject of the records you are enquiring about  
YES / NO  
(i.e. the "Data Subject")?

If NO,

Do you have parental responsibility for a child who is the "Data Subject" of the  
YES / NO records you are enquiring about?

If YES,

Name of child about whose personal data records you are enquiring  
.....

Description of Concern / Area of Concern

Description of Information or Topic(s) Requested ( In your own words)

Additional information.



Please despatch Reply to: *(if different from enquirer's details as stated on this form)*

Name

Address

Postcode

#### DATA SUBJECT DECLARATION

I request that the School search its records based on the information supplied above under Section 7 (1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 and provide a description of the personal data found from the information described in the details outlined above relating to me (or my child/children) being processed by the School. I understand that there will be a fee of £40 to cover the costs of this and enclose a cheque for that amount.

I agree that the reply period will commence when I have supplied sufficient information to enable the School to perform the search.

I consent to the reply being disclosed and sent to me at my stated address (or to the Despatch Name and Address above who I have authorised to receive such information).

Signature of "Data Subject" (or Subject's Parent)

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Name of "Data Subject" (or Subject's Parent)

(PRINTED).....

Dated

.....

## APPENDIX C

### **FAIR PROCESSING NOTICE LAYER 2 TO BE PLACED ON SCHOOL WEBSITE OR SENT HOME ON REQUEST.**

This notice gives additional information to the notice sent to you in the Autumn Term or on admission to the school and provides further information about the processing of pupils' personal data by the other organisations mentioned in that notice.

Kingsdown Secondary School processes personal data about its pupils and is a "data controller" in respect of this for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. It processes this data to:

- support its pupils' teaching and learning;
- monitor and report on their progress;
- provide appropriate pastoral care, and
- assess how well the school as a whole is doing

This information includes contact details, national curriculum assessment results, attendance information, characteristics such as ethnic group, special educational needs and any relevant medical information.

From time to time the school is required to pass on some of this data to local authorities, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), (which also has responsibility for ContactPoint <sup>1</sup> - see below) and to agencies that are prescribed by law, such as the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), Ofsted, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), the Department of Health (DH), Primary Care Trusts (PCT), and organisations that require access to data in the Learner Registration System as part of the MIAP (Managing Information Across Partners) programme. All these are data controllers for the information they receive. The data must only be used for specific purposes allowed by law.

The Children Act 2004 Information Database (England) Regulations 2007 requires maintained schools to supply basic contact information to ContactPoint

The **Local Authority (LA)** uses information about children for whom it provides services to carry out specific functions for which it is responsible, such as the assessment of any special educational needs the child may have. It also uses the information to derive statistics to inform decisions on (for example) the funding of schools, and to assess the performance of schools and set targets for them. The statistics are used in such a way that individual children cannot be identified from them. The LA is also required to maintain the accuracy of the information held on ContactPoint about children and young people in their area. **You should contact your LA for details of their Data Processing Officer.** Please contact the school if you are not sure who your LA is or need any help finding out who this officer is.

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<sup>1</sup> ContactPoint is a directory that will help people who work with children and young people to quickly find out who else is working with the same child, making it easier to deliver more coordinated support

The **Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)** uses information about pupils to administer the national curriculum assessments portfolio throughout Key Stages 1 to 3. This includes both assessments required by statute and those that are optional. The results of these are passed on to DCSF to compile statistics on trends and patterns in levels of achievement. The QCA uses the information to evaluate the effectiveness of the national curriculum and the associated assessment arrangements, and to ensure that these are continually improved.

[www.qca.org.uk](http://www.qca.org.uk) **Data Protection Officer, QCA, 83 Piccadilly, LONDON, W1J 8QA;**

**Ofsted** uses information about the progress and performance of pupils to help inspectors evaluate the work of schools, to assist schools in their self-evaluation, and as part of Ofsted's assessment of the effectiveness of education initiatives and policy. Ofsted also uses information about the views of children and young people, to inform children's services inspections in local authority areas. Inspection reports do not identify individual pupils.

[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk) **Data Protection Officer, Alexandra House, 33 Kingsway, London WC2B 6SE;**

The **Learning and Skills Council (LSC)** uses information about pupils for statistical purposes, to evaluate and develop education policy and monitor the performance of the education service as a whole. The statistics (including those based on information provided by the QCA) are used in such a way that individual pupils cannot be identified from them. On occasion information may be shared with other Government departments or agencies strictly for statistical or research purposes only. The LSC or its partners may wish to contact learners from time to time about courses, or learning opportunities relevant to them.

[www.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.lsc.gov.uk) **Data Protection Officer, Cheylesmore House, Quinton Road, Coventry, Warwickshire CV1 2WT**

**Learner Registration System (LRS)** The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) also administers the Managing Information Across Partners (MIAP) Programme on behalf of the MIAP membership. More information about MIAP membership can be found at [www.miap.gov.uk](http://www.miap.gov.uk) ....

LSC is responsible for the development and operation of the Learner Registration Service (LRS) and also the creation of a learner record.

For pupils of 14 years and over and for pupils registering for post-14 qualifications, the school will pass on certain identification information to the LRS to create and maintain a unique learner number (ULN), and achievement information to the MIAP Service to create and maintain a learner record.

The Learner Registration Service will enable organisations allowed by law and detailed at [www.miap.gov.uk](http://www.miap.gov.uk) to access the ULN and contain it in their systems, thereby saving individuals having to supply the same information repeatedly to different organisations.

Details of how an individual may opt-out of sharing achievement data in their learner record with those organisations detailed at [www.miap.gov.uk](http://www.miap.gov.uk), can also be found at [www.miap.gov.uk](http://www.miap.gov.uk)

[www.miap.gov.uk](http://www.miap.gov.uk) **Data Protection Officer ,Cheylesmore House,  
Quinton Road, Coventry, Warwickshire CV1 2WT**

**Primary Care Trusts (PCT)** use information about pupils for research and statistical purposes, to monitor the performance of local health services and to evaluate and develop them. The statistics are used in such a way that individual pupils cannot be identified from them. Information on the height and weight of individual pupils may however be provided to the child and its parents and this will require the PCTs to maintain details of pupils' names for this purpose for a period designated by the Department of Health following the weighing and measuring process. PCTs may also provide individual schools and LAs with aggregate information on pupils' height and weight.

<http://www.nhs.uk/England/AuthoritiesTrusts/Pct/Default.aspx>

The **Department of Health (DH)** uses aggregate information (at school year group level) about pupils' height and weight for research and statistical purposes, to inform, influence and improve health policy and to monitor the performance of the health service as a whole. The DH will base performance management discussions with Strategic Health Authorities on aggregate information about pupils attending schools in the PCT areas to help focus local resources and deliver the Public Service Agreement target to halt the year on year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010, in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole. The Department of Health will also provide aggregate PCT level data to the Healthcare Commission for performance assessment of the health service.

[www.dh.gov.uk](http://www.dh.gov.uk) **Data Protection Officer at Skipton House 80 London  
Road London SE1 6LH;**

The **Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF)** uses information about pupils for research and statistical purposes, to inform, influence and improve education policy and to monitor the performance of the education service as a whole. The DCSF will feed back to LAs and schools information about their pupils for a variety of purposes that will include data checking exercises, use in self-evaluation analyses and where information is missing because it was not passed on by a former school.

DCSF, with the participation of LAs, operates the database known as ContactPoint. ContactPoint is an online directory available to authorised staff who need it to do their jobs. It is designed to allow practitioners to find out who else is working with the child or young person, making it easier to deliver more coordinated support. Schools are under a statutory duty to pass onto ContactPoint certain information. This consists of basic information about the child or young person, the contact details of the school and the contact address and telephone numbers for the parents or carers, with parental responsibility<sup>2</sup>, of the child or young person.

The DCSF will also provide Ofsted with pupil data for use in school inspection. Where relevant, pupil information may also be shared with post 16 learning institutions to minimise the administrative burden on application for a course and to aid the preparation of learning plans.

Pupil information may be matched with other data sources that the Department holds in order to model and monitor pupils' educational progression; and to provide comprehensive information back to LAs and learning institutions to support their day to day business. The DCSF may also use contact details from these sources to obtain samples for statistical surveys: these surveys may be carried out by research agencies working under contract to the Department and participation in such surveys is usually voluntary. The Department may also match data from these sources to data obtained from statistical surveys.

Pupil data may also be shared with other Government Departments and Agencies (including the Office for National Statistics) for statistical or research purposes only. In all these cases the matching will require that individualised data is used in the processing operation, but that data will not be processed in such a way that it supports measures or decisions relating to particular individuals or identifies individuals in any results. This data sharing will be approved and controlled by the Department's Chief Statistician.

The DCSF may also disclose individual pupil information to independent researchers into the educational achievements of pupils who have a legitimate need for it for their research, but each case will be determined on its merits and subject to the approval of the Department's Chief Statistician.

[www.DCSF.gov.uk](http://www.DCSF.gov.uk)      **Data Protection Officer, DCSF, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, LONDON, SW1Y 3BT**

Pupils, as data subjects, have certain rights under the Data Protection Act, including a general right of access to personal data held on them, with parents exercising this right on their behalf if they are too young to do so themselves. If you wish to access the personal data held about your child, then please contact the relevant organisation in writing:

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<sup>2</sup> All natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility (as defined in the Children Act 1989) for a child or young person; and any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person. Having care of a child or young person means that a person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child, is considered to be a parent in education law

Pupils, as data subjects, have certain rights under the Data Protection Act, including a general right of access to personal data held on them. If you wish to access your personal data, or you wish your parents to do so on your behalf, then please contact the relevant organisation in writing:

For pupils of 13 years and over, the school is legally required to pass on certain information to Connexions services providers on request. Connexions is the government's support service for all young people aged 13 to 19 in England. This information includes the name and address of the pupil and parent, and any further information relevant to the Connexions services' role. However parents, or the pupils themselves if aged 16 or over, can ask that no information beyond name and address (for pupil and parent) be passed on to Connexions. If as a parent, or as a pupil aged 16 or over, you wish to opt-out and do not want Connexions to receive from the school information beyond name and address, then please contact the school

The LA and DCSF may supply to Connexions services providers information which they have about children, but will not pass on any information they have received from the school if parents (or the children themselves if aged 16 or over) have notified the school that Connexions should not receive information beyond name and address.

<sup>1</sup> [ContactPoint](#) is a directory that will help people who work with children and young people to quickly find out who else is working with the same child, making it easier to deliver more coordinated support

<sup>2</sup> All natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility (as defined in the Children Act 1989) for a child or young person; and any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person. Having care of a child or young person means that a person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child, is considered to be a parent in education law