



Meller Educational Trust
Aspiration, Compassion
& Excellence

Data Protection Privacy Notice - Students

Meller Educational Trust

Approved by: Trust Board

Date:

Last reviewed on:

-

Next review due by:

1. Privacy notice for students

Under data protection law you have a legal right to be informed about how the Meller Educational Trust (the Trust) and its schools use any personal information that we hold about you. To comply with this, we provide a 'privacy notice' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to you where we are processing your personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about you.

The Meller Educational Trust is the legal entity for schools within the Trust. The Trust is the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law. The Bushey Academy and Francis Combe Academy are part of this multi academy trust.

Our data protection officer is David Hughes (see 'Contact us' below).

2. The personal data we hold

We hold some personal information about you to make sure we can help you learn and look after you at school.

For the same reasons, we get information about you from some other places too – like other schools, the local council and the government.

This information includes:

- Your contact details
- Your test results
- Your attendance records
- Your characteristics, like your ethnic background or any special educational needs
- Any medical conditions you have
- Details of any behaviour issues or exclusions
- Photographs
- CCTV images

3. Why we use this data

We use this data to help run the school, including to:

- Get in touch with you and your parents when we need to
- Check how you're doing in exams and work out whether you or your teachers need any extra help
- Track how well the school as a whole is performing
- Look after your safety and wellbeing

4. Our legal basis for using this data

We will only collect and use your information when the law allows us to. Most often, we will use your information where:

- We need to comply with the law

- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide you with an education)

Sometimes, we may also use your personal information where:

- You, or your parents/carers have given us permission to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect your interests (or someone else's interest)

Where we have got permission to use your data, you or your parents/carers may withdraw this at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for permission, and explain how to go about withdrawing consent.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your information overlap, and there may be several grounds which mean we can use your data.

5. Collecting this information

While in most cases you, or your parents/carers, must provide the personal information we need to collect, there are some occasions when you can choose whether or not to provide the data.

We will always tell you if it's optional. If you must provide the data, we will explain what might happen if you don't.

6. How we store this data

We will keep personal information about you while you are a student at our schools. We may also keep it after you have left the school, where we are required to so by law.

We have a records management policy (called a Retention Policy) which sets out how long we must keep information about students.

This policy can be found on the schools and Trust website (www.mellereducationaltrust.org) and can also be requested from your tutor or reception staff.

7. Data sharing

We do not share personal information about you with anyone outside the school without permission from you or your parents/carers, unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary for another reason allowed under data protection law, we may share personal information about you with:

- Our local authority – to meet our legal duties to share certain information with it, such as concerns about students' safety and exclusions
- The Department for Education – if required for statutory purposes, such as student, child and workforce data
- Your family and representatives – if requested and subject to any exceptions requested by such parties, providing regulations are not breached in putting such exceptions in place.
- Educators and examining bodies – to meet contractual needs relating to exams, coursework and educational assessment
- Our regulator (the organisation or "watchdog" that supervises us e.g. Ofsted) – if required by statute
- Suppliers and service providers – so that they can provide the services we have contracted them for

- Financial organisations (e.g. Squid, ParentPay who provide payment services.) This will be subject to consent.
- Central and local government – where required by legislation
- Our auditors – under statutory access requirements, but only insofar as is necessary for them to fulfil their statutory duties
- Health authorities – for safeguarding reasons or where consent is in place
- Health and social welfare organisations - for safeguarding reasons or where consent is in place
- Professional advisers and consultants - with consent or to fulfil their role working with individual students. They will not retain such data beyond the contracted period, other than where parental consent exists (such as school counselling services)
- Police forces, courts, tribunals or other security organisations – where regulations permit

We will seek consent to share certain information with the following:

- Survey and research organisations – to inform educational research
- Charities and voluntary organisations – such as the school’s fundraising body

Note: the Trust consists of Francis Combe Academy, Bushey Academy and central staff. Data may be shared between staff throughout the Trust in order to perform an official task or where there is a legal obligation. This applies to existing schools and schools joining the Trust in the future. The actions and safeguards within this privacy notice will be observed throughout the Trust in controlling, processing or sharing data.

8. National Pupil Database

We are required to provide information about you to the Department for Education (a government department) as part of data collections such as the school census.

Some of this information is then stored in the [National Pupil Database](#), which is managed by the Department for Education and provides evidence on how schools are performing. This, in turn, supports research.

The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information it holds is collected securely from schools, local authorities, exam boards and others.

The Department for Education may share information from the database with other organisations which promote children’s education or wellbeing in England. These organisations must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use your data.

You can find more information about this on the Department for Education’s webpage on [how it collects and shares research data](#).

You can also [contact the Department for Education](#) if you have any questions about the database.

9. Youth support services

Once you reach the age of 13, we are legally required to pass on certain information about you to the relevant local authority¹, as it has legal responsibilities regarding the education or training of 13-19 year-olds.

¹ Hertfordshire County Council for The Bushey Academy and Francis Combe Academy

This information enables it to provide youth support services, post-16 education and training services, work opportunities and careers advice.

We may need to share personal data with third party organisations making and organising work experience.

Your parents/carers, or you once you're 16, can contact our data protection lead to ask us to only pass your name, address and date of birth to the relevant local authority¹.

10. Transferring data internationally

Where we share data with an organisation that is based outside the European Economic Area, we will protect your data by following data protection law.

11. Your rights

How to access personal information we hold about you

You can find out if we hold any personal information about you, and how we use it, by making a **'subject access request'**, as long as we judge that you can properly understand your rights and what they mean.

If we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and using it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your parents
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know if we are using your data to make any automated decisions (decisions being taken by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Give you a copy of the information

You may also ask us to send your personal information to another organisation electronically in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a subject access request please contact, in the first instance, the Data Protection Lead at your school using the details at 'Contact us' below.

12. Your other rights over your data

You have other rights over how your personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Say that you don't want it to be used if this would cause, or is causing, harm or distress
- Stop it being used to send you marketing materials
- Say that you don't want it used to make automated decisions (decisions made by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Have it corrected, deleted or destroyed if it is wrong, or restrict our use of it
- Claim compensation if the data protection rules are broken and this harms you in some way

To exercise any of these rights, please contact the data protection lead at your school.

13. Complaints

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously. If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with the Data Protection Lead in your Academy in the first instance. Your data protection lead is:

- For Bushey Academy, Michael Chapman - MChapman@thebusheyacademy.org
- Francis Combe Academy, Jacqueline Hurst, email: J.Hurst@franciscombeacademy.org.uk

If your complaint is not dealt with to your satisfaction then you should refer it to the chair of governors of the school's Local Governing Body. They will review whether the school has acted in accordance with the data protection policy.

Should a satisfactory resolution not be reached, then your complaint will be referred to the Data Protection Officer for the Trust. We will make every endeavour to resolve your complaint but recognise that you also have the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. They can be contacted by calling 0303 123 1113 or reporting a concern at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>. Alternatively, you can write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

14. Contact us

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact our Trust's **data protection officer**:

- David Hughes, Director of Finance and Operations: david.hughes@mellereducationaltrust.org

Each school has a Data Protection Lead, and they can be contacted in the first instance regarding any issues or concerns relating to data protection. The Leads are:

- For Bushey Academy, Michael Chapman - MChapman@thebusheyacademy.org
- Francis Combe Academy, Jacqueline Hurst, email: J.Hurst@franciscombeacademy.org.uk

This notice is based on the [Department for Education's model privacy notice](#) amended for students and to reflect the way we use data in our Trust.