



Information Governance Policy

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July 2026	BW	15	Reviewed and updated in line with the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, including complaints handling, subject access clarification, automated decision-making safeguards, recognised legitimate interests, international transfers and storage/access technologies. Page 14 / 21 – redaction method changed to advise use of ****

1. Information Governance Policy

This document is a statement of the aims and principles of the Enquire Learning Trust (the Trust) for ensuring the management of information.

The Information Governance Policy (IGP) addresses the following areas:

- Governance and Compliance – i.e. the actions the Trust and its academies will undertake to ensure compliance with the IGP.
- Data Protection Policy – i.e. the confidentiality, integrity and availability of personal data and sensitive personal data relating to governors, employees, pupils, and parents / carers.
- Induction – i.e. information about the process to follow to induct all new employees into The Enquire Learning Trust
- Information Security Policy – i.e. the technical and organisational measures to be adopted by the Trust to manage the security of information.
- Freedom of Information Policy – i.e. managing public access to information created and held by the Trust.
- Records Management Statement – i.e. to the extent that the issues are not addressed by 1.2-1.4, the IGP also addresses records management (e.g. record retention and disposal; record keeping).

The following policies involve the collection and use of information, but are separate policy areas covered by their own separate policies:

- Safeguarding
- Online Safety
- Preventing Radicalisation
- Finance
- Procurement Policy
- Induction Policy
- Home Working
- Social Media

Governance and Compliance

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, the following governance arrangements and accountabilities will be in place with regards the IGP:

Board of Trustees

- The Board of Trustees will agree the IGP and related policies and are ultimately accountable for compliance across the Trust and its Academies. Information Governance is included within the formal remit of the Trust Committees.

Trust Directors – i.e. central leadership team

- The Trust Directors will allocate a role to be responsible for leading on compliance with the IGP across the Trust and its Academies:
 - This role should have sufficient understanding, or otherwise be able to access such understanding, of the information governance legislation that affects the IGP.
 - This role will be the named point of contact with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and for any queries about the IGP made by employees and/or the public.
 - The Data Protection Officer (DPO) will be allocated this role.
 - The Director of Information Technology will be responsible for ensuring technological measures are put in place in each academy and the Trust centrally.
 - The Trust DPO, Deputy DPO and Director of IT meet termly to discuss Information Governance and any changes required.

Academy Principal

- The Principal of an academy will be accountable for compliance with the IGP for their academy.
 - The Principal may delegate day-to-day activity to their Vice Principal or Academy Business Manager.

Data Champions & all employees

- Data Champions in each academy have been identified and appropriately trained and will be the first point of contact for all employees.
- The Data Champion will report on their academy's compliance with the IGP to the Trust Directors as required by the Board of Trustees.
- The Trust and all employees or others who process or use information which is the responsibility of the Trust must adhere to the IGP and related policies and guidance at all times.

Status of this policy

- The IGP does not form part of the contract of employment for employees, but it is a condition of employment that employees will abide by the rules and policies made by the Trust and academies. Any failures to follow the IGP and the related policies and procedures may result in actions from the discipline policy.
- Breaches of the Information Governance Policy may be deemed to constitute gross misconduct dependent on the severity of the breach, and breaches may therefore result in dismissal.
- The Principal of each academy has overall accountability and may be subjected to the Discipline Policy if there is no evidence to support appropriate training and development has taken place for staff.
- Where appropriate a Notice of Concern maybe issued with support from HR.

Notifications under the UK GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 and Freedom of Information Act 2000

- The Trust as a corporate body is registered as a Data Controller with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). Academies that are members of the Trust are also named in the registration as joint Data Controllers.
- As such, the Trust shall maintain one notification for the Trust and academies. The registration number is: ZA004552. Annual renewal date: 11 September
- The Notification shall be reviewed annually by the DPO and updated whenever a new academy joins the Trust.
- The Trust will keep this policy, privacy notices and associated procedures under review to reflect changes introduced by the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, which amends but does not replace the UK GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018 and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations.

2. Data Protection Policy

The Enquire Learning Trust and its academies need to keep personal data about its employees, pupils and other users to allow it to monitor performance, achievements, health and safety, to process data so that employees can be safely recruited and paid, to manage the professional development of employees and to discharge other functions associated with the provision of education. In addition, there may be legal requirement to collect and process personal data to ensure that the Trust and its academies comply with statutory obligations.

The Enquire Learning Trust is the Data Controller.

The Trust is committed to ensuring the appropriate use and management of personal information at all times. The Trust and its academies will therefore adhere to the following guiding principles and detailed requirements:

- **Transparency:** inform individuals why the information is being collected; when their information is shared, and why and with whom it was shared.
- **Rights:** right to object, to erasure, for data processing.
- **Quality:** check the quality and the accuracy of the information it holds; not retain it for longer than is necessary, and ensure that when obsolete, information is destroyed appropriately and securely.
- **Security:** ensure that clear and robust safeguards are in place to protect personal information from loss, theft and unauthorised disclosure, irrespective of the format in which it is recorded.
- **Sharing:** share information with others only when it is legally appropriate to do so.
- **Subject Access Requests and other disclosures:** set out procedures to ensure compliance with the duty to respond to requests for access to personal information, known as Subject Access Requests.
- **Training and Awareness:** ensure our employees are aware of and understand our policies and procedures.
- **Reporting of Actual or Suspected Breaches:** ensure the Trust is aware of an actual or suspected breach of the IGP, in order for it to be able to quickly assess the situation and take actions to reduce any risks.
- The identification and appointment to the role of the Data Protection Officer.

Transparency

Fair collection – general statement

The Trust and its academies will only process personal data where:

- The consent of the individual has been obtained;
- Where the processing is necessary to comply with its legal and/or contractual obligations;
- It is the public task;
- It is necessary for the protection of someone's vital interests, or
- It is necessary for the Trust's legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of others.

The Trust and its academies will only process "sensitive personal data" about ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or similar beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex life, criminal proceedings or convictions, where a further condition is also met. Usually this will mean that the individual has provided explicit consent, or that the processing is legally required for employment purposes.

Fair collection – Privacy statements

The Trust and its academies will publish Privacy Notices on the Trust and academy websites – see Appendix 1, to provide any further information deemed necessary to ensure individuals are informed about the collection and use of their personal information. This must include details of how individuals can complain about possible non-compliance with this policy or the Data Protection Act and provide a named contact.

Privacy notices will also explain how individuals can raise a data protection complaint directly with the Trust or academy before escalating a concern to the Information Commissioner's Office. Where personal data is re-used for scientific research and providing a direct privacy notice would involve disproportionate effort, the Trust will ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place and that clear information about the processing is made publicly available.

Fair collection – Multi-purpose parental consent

The Trust and its academies will use a consent form to collect and record individual consent and parental / guidance consent for the use of data for any academy purpose – see Appendix 2. This form will also be issued via the parent app on Bromcom.

Consent when obtained will be recorded into Bromcom and this used for enquiry purposes to review and monitor consent given, and information held.

This information will be gathered at the point of child / pupil starting at the academy and will remain in place until leaving the academy. Parents will be reminded by the academy of how to withdraw consent, through newsletters, pupil reports and the academy website.

Monitoring

The Trust will monitor use of networks and systems to observe compliance with its policies. This is done irrespective of whether you use a Trust owned or personal device, to access or use Trust information, network or systems. More details on the Trusts monitoring policy can be found within the Employee Privacy Statement – see Privacy Notice folder.

Systems that will be monitored by the Trust are:

- Content Filter – All Internet activity
- Email – All email activity
- Office 365 cloud – examples: OneDrive, Teams and other systems within Office 365 activity

Use of employee information

The Trust and its academies will process data about employees for legal, personnel, administrative and management purposes in order to enable it to meet its legal obligations as an employer, for example to compensate employees, monitor performance and to confer benefits in connection with employment.

Where the Trust relies on legitimate interests as a lawful basis, it will complete and retain an appropriate assessment unless the processing falls within a recognised legitimate interest introduced by the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025. Recognised legitimate interests will only be used where they are relevant to the Trust's functions and where the processing remains necessary and proportionate.

The Trust and its academies may process sensitive personal data relating to employees as specified within the Trust's Employees Privacy Statement – see Privacy Notice folder.

Rights

The UK GDPR provides the following rights for individuals:

Where the Trust uses automated decision-making or profiling that has a legal or similarly significant effect on an individual, it will ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place. These safeguards include providing meaningful information about the decision, enabling the individual to make representations, allowing them to challenge the decision and providing access to human intervention. Special category data will not be used for significant automated decision-making unless a lawful condition applies.

1. The right to be informed
2. The right of access
3. The right to rectification
4. The right to erasure
5. The right to restrict processing

6. The right to data portability
7. The right to object
8. Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling

Quality

Adequate, relevant and non-excessive processing

Personal data will only be processed to the extent that it is necessary for the Trust and/or academy specific purposes.

Accurate data

The Trust and its academies will undertake reasonable measures to maintain the accuracy of personal information it processes.

- The Trust and its academies ask that individuals including parents and pupils to inform them of any changes to their personal details or if they become aware of any inaccuracies in the personal data held about them. This can be done via the Bromcom app.
- All employees are responsible for checking that any information that they provide to the academy in connection with their employment is accurate and up to date, and for informing the academy of any changes to information that they have provided (e.g. change of address) either at the time of appointment or subsequently – the academy cannot be held responsible for any errors unless the employee has informed the academy of such changes.
- All employees are responsible for maintaining accurate and up to date records.

Data retention

The Trust and its academies have a duty to retain some employees and pupil personal data for a period of time following their departure from the academy, mainly for legal reasons, but also for other purposes such as being able to provide references or academic transcripts. Different categories of data will be retained for different periods of time.

The Trust and its academies will not keep your personal data for longer than is necessary for the purpose it was originally collected for. This means that data will be destroyed or erased from our systems when it is no longer required.

The Trust and its academies will adopt and adhere to the Information and Records Management Society's School Record Retention and Disposal Toolkit, and from this a bespoke Retention Policy has been created – see Appendix 4. The Trust and its academies will also implement measures to ensure the annual review of records against the retention schedule as outlined in the Retention Policy.

Upon leaving the Trust, pupil files, both electronically via the school to school service, and paper-based should be transferred to the new school, or given back to the LA if the pupils are missing from education, leaving the country or moving to a private school. All available information should be transferred within 20 days.

IT Asset Management

All IT equipment will be securely disposed of via Trust approved provider. Collections will be made on a termly basis in line with the Trust Hardware Refresh programme. (All equipment to be refreshed every 5 years).

Security

All employees are responsible for ensuring that data security is maintained in line with the following requirements, the wider Information Governance Policy (IGP), and any related academy policies and procedures.

The Trust and its academies will ensure that appropriate technical and organisational measures are taken against unlawful or unauthorised processing of personal data, and against the accidental loss of, or damage to, personal data, as follows:

- See the Information Security Policy below for technical measures to be followed.
- All employees will read and sign to state they will comply with the ELT Acceptable Use Policy in the ELT Online Safety Policy. This will be reviewed annually, with renewed signatures required.
- Organisational measures:
 - Each academy will define an Access Control Policy – see Appendix 6 for Template, outlining the roles within the academy and the systems, applications and information they need to access in order to fulfil their role.
 - Access to all personal information should be based on restricted privileges – based on job functions and a clear process for defining the level of access. Access should be overseen and managed by School Leaders. Users should be removed or deleted from systems when they leave or access isn't required.
 - Paper records must be kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer, or safe, and only made available where there is relevant/appropriate purpose to do so.
 - If personal data is held on a laptop, mobile device or other removable storage media, media must itself be kept in a locked filing cabinet, drawer, or otherwise secured when not in use.
 - Lock computers if logged in when leaving the computer for any short period of time (a maximum of 5 minutes is advised).
 - Log out the computer if logged in when leaving it for an extended period of time (more than 30 minutes is advised).
 - When viewing personal information on screen or at your desk, consider who may be able to view the information and use the locked screen function when away from your desk.
 - All employees are to work within the Remote Working Policy that outlines the measures each employee needs to take to ensure secure, home working.

- At the end of the working day or when a desk will be left unattended for a period of time all sensitive or confidential documents must be secured in a lockable cupboard or desk, operating a clear desk policy.

Use of third-party suppliers (Data Processors)

The procurement of third-party service providers (data processors) who will handle the Trusts personal information in the course of providing their service on behalf of the Trust or an academy within the Trust will:

- require assurances from the data processor on how they propose to handle the personal information – by either a letter of assurance, or contract agreement.
- result in a contract that meets the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation and the DPO is involved throughout this process.

This will be achieved by using the following documents:

- ELT Procurement Policy and associated documents – Supplementary Policy

A Data Processing Agreement (DPA) will be signed by both parties before a contract can be entered into unless this is included in the terms and conditions of the company. Where the company act as a Data Controller, a Data Sharing Agreement will be put in place. The Trust DPO will provide these documents and sign to agree the use of this service.

A central log of all DPAs and DSAs will be available; this will be kept up to date and accessible by all Academies via the UKGDPR Sharepoint Site.

Data Protection Impact Assessments

When the need for a new system and/or service is identified, either by an academy or the Trust, the following must apply:

- Each academy must have a robust internal process for checking, vetting and quality assuring all new electronic systems and applications, this would include involvement from the curriculum lead (if applicable), Principal and Academy Business Manager. This information would need to be included in this [DPIA Form](#)
- A clearly defined rationale for commissioning a new system or service is shared with the Director of Business Development and Operations – including proposal, estimated cost, benefit and desired outcomes.
- If the new system or service involves the sharing, processing or storage of data then a Data Protection Impact Assessment is completed and submitted to the Trust's Data Protection Officer, Director of Business Development and Operations.
- This information will be reviewed by the DPO, Director of ICT and Director of Business and Operations and shared with the Trust Leadership Team. Should the risk be deemed significant by this party then approval will be required.
- If the decision is to proceed with the procurement, the Central Team will conduct the process in line with the Procurement Policy and Scheme of Delegation.

- As part of due diligence, a Request for Quotation will be available to prospective bidders setting out the specification, timeline, evaluation criteria and conditions of the award. The Request for Quotation also includes a requirement for bidders to submit policies and procedures relating to Data Protection and Health and Safety, method statements on data security, data sharing and data processing, and a Freedom of Information Disclosure Notice.
- Any contract that involves the sharing and/or processing of data will only be let on the receipt of a signed contract that includes UK GDPR compliant terms and conditions.

Any agreement, contract or lease with a supplier must be authorised by either the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Business Development and Operations or the Chief Finance Officer. This does not include general orders for goods and services.

All IT purchases must involve the Director of Information and Technology.

A signature on an agreement or contract, or even an email response indicates that the Trust or academy accepts the suppliers Terms and Conditions which may not be favourable and/or in line with this policy. The DPO **must** provide approval before any signature or email response is provided.

Sharing

Where personal data is transferred internationally, the Trust will ensure that the transfer is permitted under UK data protection law and that an appropriate transfer mechanism, assessment or safeguard is in place. The DPO must be consulted before any new international transfer or supplier arrangement involving personal data is approved.

All employees must contact their Data Champion for advice before releasing any personal information if they are unclear about the procedures or protocols to follow. Employees must:

- Be able, if asked, to justify their sharing of personal information
- Maintain security to the level expected by the classification of the personal information, whether the sharing is in person, made verbally, by email, fax, or post.
- Not use removable media devices – such as USB drives and memory sticks – to share information.
- Where information can be anonymised, use pseudonymisation techniques with unique identifiers so that the identity of the people within the information you're sharing, is hidden, or if possible, redact completely.

In all cases, follow the steps below:

Before sharing or sending the personal information

Be satisfied:

- Of the identity of the recipient; this includes both internal colleagues, external third parties and individuals.
- Of the contact details of the recipient – e.g. email address; fax number; phone number.

- Of the recipient's need to know and/or their entitlement to the personal information – seeking written proof where necessary.
- That they are authorised to share the personal information.
- If in doubt, the personal information should not be shared. Instead, further details and assurance must be sought. For example,
 - Return the intended recipient's call using a known telephone number.
 - Verify the intended recipient's email address by checking against a known source.
 - Verify the intended recipient's postal address by checking against a known source (e.g. seeking copies of formal, official headed documentation).
- Always consider the amount of information to be shared, and that what is being shared is factual.
- Ensure that where data has been redacted, it is clear - update the content with anonymised references such as (*****).

The personal information to be shared must

- Only be that required to fulfil the purpose or purposes behind the proposed sharing, or
- Only be that defined on any court order or other document compelling disclosure, and otherwise be accurate.

A secure means of disclosure must be used.

Employees must protect the interests of the individual subject to the personal information – for example, their confidentiality and privacy – and The Trust's interests.

Disclosing information by email

- Emails are encrypted when containing personal or confidential information. When sending emails to Trust or ELT academies, all emails will automatically be encrypted if the academy is on the Trust email platform.
- Sending emails outside of the organisation when the content contains data of a personal or sensitive nature, you must have **ENCRYPT:** prefixed in the email Subject to enforce encryption
- Emails being sent are checked to ensure recipients addresses are correct, and valid.

Disclosing information by post

- Post containing personal or confidential information is sent Recorded or Special Delivery
- Recipient's addresses are checked to be correct and valid before sending any post
- Post that is sent Recorded or Special Delivery is recorded on an internal system in case of loss, or delivered in error

Disclosing information verbally

- Discussing personal information in conversations,
- Using telephones or
- Recording information on voicemail, answering machines, video or audio devices.

Employees must:

- Use any private offices, rooms or spaces provided by the Trust and/or their Academy, or otherwise take due care to ensure they are not overheard by anyone who has no need to access the information being discussed. For example, calls must not be made or taken in confined public places or on public transport.

Disclose information Online/FTP site

- Any requests to share personal or confidential information via online means, or FTP upload sites are checked with the Trust's Director of Information Technology for compliance first
- Confirmation from recipients is required upon sending any data via online methods to ensure they themselves have received this and no-one else in error.

Class Lists

Class lists in any format, i.e. full names, first names only, etc. **must not** be issued to parents.

Recordings

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Photographs and videos of children must not be taken or shared on social media sites by visitors to the academy (unless this has been agreed prior to the event with the consent of parents and the academy). Therefore, the use of personal mobile phones, other electronic devices and photographic equipment is prohibited during academy activities such as performances, assemblies, sports events and any other activity directed by the principal or their representative at the activity.

Any person to be seen using a mobile phone or other device to take photographs and/or recordings of children will be asked to leave the academy and further action may be taken.

The Trust understands that children, parents and carers are extremely proud of the achievements that children receive in the academy and therefore the academy will provide an opportunity to have individual photographs of your own child at the event.

Sharing Exemptions

Where possible individuals should at least, be aware that personal data about them has been or is going to be shared – even if their consent for the sharing is not needed. However, in certain limited circumstances the Data Protection Act 2018 provides for personal data, even sensitive data, to be shared without the individual even knowing about it.

You can share without an individual's knowledge in cases where, for example, personal data is processed for:

- The prevention or detection of crime;
- The apprehension or prosecution of offenders;
- The safeguarding of a child or individual; or
- The assessment or collection of tax or duty.

Where the Trust shares data under the above exemptions, the DPO will be informed and keep a log centrally.

Court Orders

When a court order is received, it is necessary to provide the information (about the subject only) requested by the court. It should not be treated as a subject access request, although for the purpose of reporting, please complete a Subject Access Request via Sharepoint for the Trust DPO.

As with all sharing of data it should be done lawfully, fairly and transparently, unless an exemption applies.

In regards to your academy receiving a court order, the information is required to be disclosed by law or in connection with legal proceedings and an exemption exists for this purpose.

The exemptions in the Data Protection Act 2018 can relieve you of some of your obligations for things such as:

- The right to be informed;
- The right of access;
- Dealing with other individual rights;
- Reporting personal data breaches; and
- Complying with the principles.

Some exemptions apply to only one of the above but others can exempt you from several things.

Therefore, you would still need a lawful basis to share the data, which would likely be legal obligation, and then you could then proceed with the sharing of data without considering the fairness or transparency principles. This would allow you to share the personal data without redacting information.

All information shared will be in full in relation to the data subject.

Information Classification

The Trust understands that our academies need to retain and dispose of records in accordance to current guidance and legislation. The guidance below will help you around best practice:

As a minimum, personal data includes all data falling in to either category A or B below:

Category A - Any information that links one or more identifiable living person with private information about them.

There should be restrictions on a data set that includes:

- One or more of the pieces of information through which an individual may be identified i.e.
- Name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Driving licence number
- Date of birth
- Photograph

Combined with:

- Information about the individual whose release could harm or distress, including:
- Bank/financial/credit card details
- National Insurance number
- Passport number/information on immigration status

- Tax, benefit or pension records
- Place of Work
- Academy attendance / records
- Material related to social services (including child protection) or housing case work
- Conviction / prison/ court records/evidence
- Groups/affiliations/politics, race, religion, trade union, health, sexual life as defined by the Data Protection Act (Section 2)

Data Mapping Risk Register & Action Plans

Each academy and the Trust identify the information and systems used that hold personal and/or sensitive information. This is recorded onto a Data Mapping Risk Register – See Appendix 11, which will also be used as an Action Plan and allow the academy and Trust to:

- Review the spreadsheet annually, or when new systems are implemented
- Ensure the following details are recorded, and that the people involved in the use/processing of the system/information, are aware of their responsibilities:
 - Author
 - Type of information and purpose,
 - Department
 - Data types
 - Where is it stored
 - Who has access
 - Retention period
 - Disposal method
 - Data processors involved
- Check compliancy with regards to storage, access, retention and disposal as outlined in the Data Mapping Risk Register.

The Trust will audit each academies' Data Mapping Risk Register annually, and/or via the Trust DPO's scheduled enquiries, and raise any concerns direct to the academies and the Audit and Risk Committee, to resolve within agreed timescales, as well as reviewing and auditing our own central Data Mapping Risk Register.

Category B - Any source of information about 100 identifiable individuals or more, other than information sources from the public domain.

This is a minimum standard. Information on smaller numbers of individuals may justify restricted value because of the nature of the individuals, source, or extent of information.

Information is classified as being one of the following:

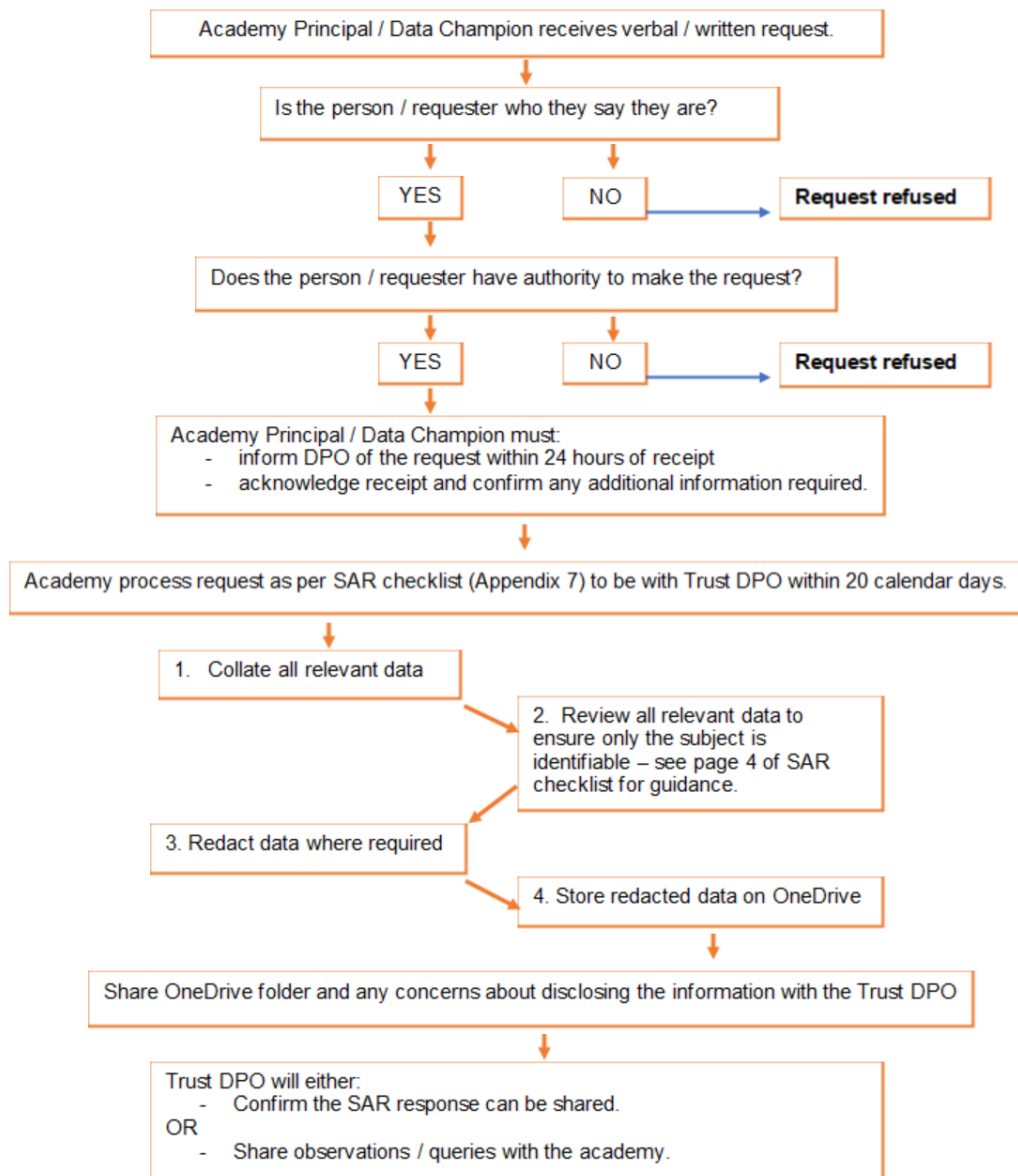
Classification	Definition / Risk	Risk	Example	Access Method	Disposal
Public	Information clearly of interest to the public and in the public domain	No risk to the academy or individual	Academy prospectus Academy holiday dates General letters home Information also held on academy Website	Anonymous, no authentication required	
Internal	Information that is considered to be of no interest to the public and that is not published	No risk to the academy or individual	Minutes from staff briefings Tracking sheets Internal process documents	Username and password	Secure disposal (paper based) Hardware disposal through appropriate channels and with support from ICT provider (computer based)
Personal Data	Likely to cause some discomfort, stress, embarrassment or financial loss to an individual or embarrassment to Trust/academy.	Likely to cause prolonged distress to many people Likely to cause serious risk to any parties personal safety.	See Definition of Personal Data Bromcom Reports	2 levels of authentication – different usernames & passwords or Remote Working access	Secure disposal (paper based) Hardware disposal through appropriate channels with support from ICT provider (computer based)
Confidential	Information that could seriously undermine the organisation, damage security, operations, finance of economic and commercial interest	Likely to cause a serious crime prosecution to collapse. Likely to cause a financial loss to the Trust/academy in excess of £10,000 Likely to cause a serious illness or injury to any party Likely to cause loss of reputation for the academy	Payroll details Department self evaluation reviews Banking details Bids/Tenders Employment records i.e. disciplinary	2 levels of authentication – different usernames & passwords or Remote Working access	Secure disposal (paper based) Hardware disposal through appropriate channels and ICT provider (computer based)

Subject Access Requests, other disclosures and data breaches

Subject Access Requests

All employees, parents and other users have a right to access personal data being kept about them. Parents may also wish to submit requests on behalf of their child.

Subject Access Requests can be made verbally or in writing. Please follow the Subject Access Request Checklist (Appendix 7) and Flowchart below:



To notify the DPO, please complete the SAR form on the [UKGDPR SharePoint](#)

The Trust/academy aims to comply with requests for access to personal data as quickly as possible, but will ensure that it is provided within the statutory **30 calendar day timescale**.

Where a Subject Access Request is unclear or further information is reasonably required to identify the requester, locate the information requested or clarify the scope of the request, the DPO may pause the response period while awaiting that clarification. The request will be progressed promptly once sufficient information has been received.

The DPO will maintain a log of all Subject Access Requests, including the nature of the disclosure, the requester and the request. This log will be maintained to monitor compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection, including the statutory 30 day response timescale. All SAR requests made during school holidays should be responded to as above.

SAR Redaction

For any document that you will be submitting as part of the SAR process that includes any names you must redact these and update the content with anonymised references such as (*****). Where documents are in PDF format, please copy the text and paste into Word then follow the above process.

Data protection complaints

Individuals may raise a data protection complaint directly with the Trust or academy if they are concerned about how their personal data has been handled. Complaints may be received through any reasonable route, including in writing, by email, by telephone, through an online form or in person. Employees who receive a data protection complaint must notify the DPO as soon as possible.

The DPO will acknowledge receipt of the complaint within 30 days, make appropriate enquiries without undue delay, keep the individual informed where necessary and provide the outcome of the complaint without undue delay. The DPO will maintain a central log of data protection complaints, outcomes and any learning or corrective action required.

Other disclosures

Requests made by other organisations will be subject to the checks outlined in the Sharing section above, an example of this would be receiving a court order, i.e. requesting information in relation to an ongoing case.

All disclosures must be shared with the DPO within 24 hours of receiving the request. A log will be kept centrally by the DPO.

Where disclosure requires access to archived systems, approval must be sought from the Trust DPO.

Publication of academy employee's personal information

Certain items of personal information relating to academy employees will be made available via searchable directories on the public website and may be disclosed in response to Freedom of information requests, in order to meet the legitimate needs of researchers, visitors and public interests in transparency. See the Freedom of Information section outlined in the policy.

Processing in line with other individual rights

In addition to Subject Access, the Trust and its academies recognise all individuals have the following rights

The Trust recognises that the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 clarifies how individuals' data protection rights should be handled, including requests relating to access, rectification, erasure, objection, restriction, portability and automated decision-making. Requests should be directed to the DPO and handled without undue delay.

- Prevent the processing of data for direct-marketing purposes.
- Ask to have inaccurate data amended.
- Prevent processing that is likely to cause unwarranted substantial damage or distress.
- Challenge a significant decision made solely by automated processing, make representations about that decision and request human intervention.
- Object to any decision that significantly affects them, being taken solely by a computer or other automated process.

All requests by individuals to use these rights should be directed to the DPO.

Data Breaches

Reporting of actual or suspected breaches

All employees are responsible for notifying the Principal and Data Champion if there is an actual or suspected breach of the IGP.

- On finding or causing a breach, or potential breach, the employees or data processor must immediately notify the Principal, Data Champion and DPO, within 2 hours, this allows for cover to be arranged for teaching staff
- All breaches or potential breaches must be recorded via the [Data Breach Form via Sharepoint](#).
- Cyber breaches would include phishing emails being clicked and accessed, requests for sharing information from unknown parties that were then actioned and ransomware that becomes active on your devices.
- Data processors must adhere to timescales set out and agreed to in the SLAs/Contracts/DPAs signed up to.
- The DPO will investigate the report and determine whether a breach has occurred. To decide, the DPO will consider whether personal data has been accidentally or unlawfully:
 - Lost
 - Stolen
 - Destroyed
 - Altered
 - Disclosed or made available where it should not have been
 - Made available to unauthorised people

- The DPO will alert the Principal and CEO of the Trust
- The DPO will make all reasonable efforts to contain and minimise the impact of the breach, assisted by relevant employees or data processors where necessary. (Actions relevant to specific data types are set out at the end of this procedure)
- The DPO will assess the potential consequences, based on how serious they are, and how likely they are to happen.
- The DPO will assess the risk with the Principal to decide whether the breach must be reported to the ICO. This must be judged on a case-by-case basis. To decide, the DPO will consider whether the breach is likely to negatively affect people's rights and freedoms, and cause them any physical, material or non-material damage (e.g. emotional distress), including through:
 - Loss of control over their data including Safeguarding, Child Protection, and personal and sensitive information of both employees and pupils.
 - Discrimination
 - Identify theft or fraud
 - Financial loss
 - Unauthorised reversal of pseudonymisation (for example, key-coding)
 - Damage to reputation
 - Loss of confidentiality
 - Any other significant economic or social disadvantage to the individual(s) concerned

If it is likely that there will be a risk to people's rights and freedoms, the DPO must notify the ICO within 72 hours.

- The DPO will document the decision (either way), in case it is challenged at a later date by the ICO or an individual affected by the breach. Documented decisions are stored on OneDrive.
- Where the ICO must be notified, the DPO will do this via the 'report a breach' page of the ICO website within 72 hours. As required, the DPO will set out:
 - A description of the nature of the personal data breach including, where possible:
 - The categories and approximate number of individuals concerned
 - The categories and approximate number of personal data records concerned
 - The name and contact details of the DPO
 - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach
 - A description of the measures that have been, or will be taken, to deal with the breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned
- If all the above details are not yet known, the DPO will report as much as they can within 72 hours. The report will explain that there is a delay, the reasons why, and when the DPO expects to have further information. The DPO will submit the remaining information as soon as possible.
- The DPO will also assess the risk to individuals, again based on the severity and likelihood of potential or actual impact. If the risk is high, the DPO will promptly inform, in writing, all individuals whose personal data has been breached. This notification will set out:
 - The name and contact details of the DPO
 - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach

- A description of the measures that have been, or will be, taken to deal with the data breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned.
- The DPO will notify any relevant third parties who can help mitigate the loss to individuals – for example, the police, insurers, banks or credit card companies.
- The DPO will document each breach, irrespective of whether it is reported to the ICO. For each breach, this record will include the:
 - Facts and cause
 - Effects
 - Action taken to contain it and ensure it does not happen again (such as establishing more robust processes or providing further training for individuals)

Records of all breaches will be stored and maintained centrally.

The DPO, Principal and Data Champion will meet to review what happened and how it can be stopped from happening again. This meeting will happen as soon as reasonably possible. A record of any recommendations will be kept by the DPO and shared with the Principal and Data Champion.

Actions to minimise the impact of data breaches

We will take the actions set out below to mitigate the impact of different types of data breach, focusing especially on breaches involving particularly risky or sensitive information. We will review the effectiveness of these actions and amend them as necessary after any data breach.

Sensitive information being disclosed via email (including safeguarding records)

- If special category data (sensitive information) is accidentally made available via email to unauthorised individuals, the sender must attempt to recall the email as soon as they become aware of the error
- Members of staff who receive personal data sent in error must alert the sender and the DPO as soon as they become aware of the error
- The DPO will ask the ICT department to recall any emails
- In any cases where the recall is unsuccessful, the DPO will contact the relevant unauthorised individuals who received the email, explain that the information was sent in error, and request that those individuals delete the information and do not share, publish, save or replicate it in any way
- The DPO will ensure we receive a written response from all the individuals who received the data, confirming that they have complied with this request
- The DPO will carry out an internet search to check that the information has not been made public; if it has, we will contact the publisher/website owner or administrator to request that the information is removed from their website and deleted
- All data shared with Academy Improvement Committee members will be anonymized and no data will be shared via unsecure email. Hard copies will only be provided at the meetings and no copies will be taken off site. This will mitigate against non-anonymised pupil exam results or staff pay information being shared with Academy Improvement Committee members.
- The Trust will ensure that all schools use a secure disposal process for all school laptop containing non-encrypted sensitive personal data being stolen or hacked

Data Protection Officer

Liz Thompson, the Trust's Data Protection Officer will undertake the following tasks, and will be first point of contact for all academy's in reference to all Data Protection related queries, and will:

- Ensure all academies are sufficiently trained to follow the Trust's Information Governance and related policies.
- Inform and advise the Trust, its academies and its employees about their obligations to comply with the UK GDPR and other data protection laws.
- Monitor compliance with the UK GDPR and other data protection laws, including managing internal data protection activities, advise on data protection impact assessments; train employees.
- Be the first point of contact for supervisory authorities and for individuals whose data is processed (employees, customers etc).

Contact details for our Data Protection Officer, are:

Mrs Liz Thompson - Liz.thompson@enquirelearningtrust.org - 01924 792960

The Deputy DPO is Mrs Sara Gartshore – sara.gartshore@enquirelearningtrust.org - 01924 792960

Trust Level Reporting

DPO Enquiries

Internal enquiries and spot checks will be conducted using the following process and documentation:

- Enquiries will take place on a bi-annual basis for each academy unless the enquiry highlights areas of significant concern
- The DPO will share the enquiry report with the Principal and Data Champion within one month of completion
- The academy will have to produce a revised UK GDPR Action Plan which will be agreed by the DPO, Data Champion and Principal.
- The enquiry will cover a range a topics in relation to the Information Governance Policy

Termly

The DPO will report termly to the Audit and Risk Committee on:

- Data Breaches
- Near misses
- FOI
- SAR
- Feedback on internal DPO enquiries
- DPIA's will be submitted for approval from the DPO, feedback is given to the academy following the decision.
- Any academies of concern would be identified by the above committee and a DPO audit carried out

Where a serious breach is reported the DPO will inform the Trustees directly.

Annually

The DPO reports annually to Trustees on the KPIs.

3. Induction, Training and Awareness Overview

The Trust has a set Induction Policy (Supplementary Policy) in place that has been developed to ensure that all employees new to the Trust (or those moving into new roles), including temporary staff, receive a full and thorough induction and introduction to the organisation and individual academy. The Induction Policy should be read in conjunction with the academy staff handbook.

In order to ensure structure to the induction process, the policy includes a checklist that is broken down in to stages so that employees receive a gradual flow of information.

The Trust and academies will ensure that all employees who handle personal information receive sufficient training in data protection and freedom of information.

This training will be based on the volume and sensitivity of personal information their role is required to handle, and the frequency with which they handle such information. The level of training required will be dependent on the individual role will be reflected in the learning journey on the Trust's e-learning package.

Termly training for Data Champions will be delivered by the DPO in relation to specific areas of the IGP. Annual external training delivered by the Trust's legal team takes place during the summer term. The focus for the training will reviewed following feedback from the DPO enquiries and other information available, such as the number of data breaches, SARs or FOIs – See Appendix 10 for UK GDPR Training Schedule

All employees will be made aware of and understand the IGP and related policies and procedures and will undertake refresh policy awareness training every 12 months as a minimum. This training will take place in September during and INSET Day.

Supply and agency staff members will be provided with a privacy notice specific to their role whilst in school. This document will provide sufficient details around Information Governance, school policies and processes and who to contact with any questions or concerns around information governance and data protection. Supply and agency staff members are not expected to share any personal or confidential information at any time, save with relevant employees of the academy.

Academies are required to maintain sufficient records to enable the Trust to demonstrate that each employee has;

- Signed and agreed their terms and conditions (contracts) of employment;

- Completed their induction checklist within the Induction Policy
- Completed their annual policy declaration (ALL employees)
- Completed mandatory data protection training, and
- Completed any further training, as required by the role.

Further information on the Trust's process for induction can be found in the Induction Policy, and any queries can be raised with Human Resources.

4. Information Security Policy

Mandated ICT Infrastructure

With affect from September 2016, all academies must adopt the following ICT infrastructure:

1	Microsoft Licensing	Windows 11 Enterprise and Office 365 minimum
2	Anti-Virus	Microsoft Endpoint deployed per academy. Endpoint will be on all devices. Mac devices and Servers will run BitDefender EndPoint
3	Content Filtering & Monitoring	Securly Web Filter and Aware monitoring solution.
4	Remote Working	The Trust's cloud solution means that data is accessible from anywhere on any device. MFA is in place for non-Trust locations or devices to secure the data where possible.
5	Email Filtering	Barracuda Gateway filters all emails from threats to our cloud based via Microsoft Office 365.
6	Backups	All data is backed up daily to Redstor as well as having the inbuilt Microsoft 30 day Recycle Bins now our data is held in our O365 cloud.
7	Mobile Device Management	JAMF MDM is implemented to lock down and control the use of iPad and other mobile devices within each academy.
8	Firewall Security	Each school has a Meraki MX firewall installed, configured uniformly and centrally and deployed Trust wide. Each site is configured within a SDWAN environment to ensure inter-site connectivity is working to allow each of cross-site working and access to resources.
9	Remote Management & Reporting	All centralised ICT infrastructure and key software such as Office 365, Bromcom and Anti Virus will be monitored and automatically reported on to the Trust's Director of Information Technology
10	Internet Connectivity	Every school has a 1GB leased line network connection into school as their primary connectivity. Schools also have a backup FTTC line with auto-failover configured should the primary line have issues to ensure uptime isn't impacted

Transitional arrangements

Upon conversion, all academies will undertake a change to immediately implement the Trust's Operational Services. As part of this implementation, they will join the Trust's domain (MPLS),

and email systems which will then ensure all details within this section of the IGP are relevant immediately.

The Director of Information Technology is responsible for managing transitional arrangements and will report progress to the Trust Directors and Board of Trustees.

All academies will adhere to the Operational Services within three months of joining the Trust.

Trust Devices & Remote Working

Only Trust-owned devices can be used to access the Trust network remotely. All information must be stored on the network and not locally on any device, or external device such as a USB hard disk.

No non-Trust devices (i.e. personally owned devices) are to be used on-premise to access the network or to store Trust data.

Trust-owned devices will be configured to the following minimum standard:

- Windows 11 Enterprise minimum
- Office 365 minimum
- Mac OSX – latest OS version available
- BitLocker Encryption for Windows devices, and FileVault encryption for Mac devices
- Microsoft Endpoint for Windows user devices and BitDefender for Windows Server and Mac devices is used for anti-virus with latest updates deployed automatically
- Latest operating system updates applied automatically via InTune
- Devices bound to the Trust domain
- Added to JAMF MDM where an iOS or OSX device that aren't managed from Endpoint like all Windows devices. Updates to all apps deployed via Jamf are automated.

The Trust realises that access to the email system on personal devices is required. To ensure that access to the email system is done securely, the following policies will be put upon any personal device automatically at the point of registering email upon it:

- A password or passcode to access the device will be enforced
- The ability to remote wipe a device upon loss or theft will be made available
- A review of which employee can access email via this method will be undertaken to ensure that the risk of loss of confidential information is reduced, and Trust/academy owned devices may need to be assigned where needed

Passwords & Responsibilities

Policy for all Employees

All Employees must follow the controls below at all times:

- Never reveal passwords or PIN numbers to anyone – including external ICT employees and their managers.

- Never use the “remember password” function on devices other than your own.
- Never write passwords or PIN numbers down or store them where they are open to theft.
- Never store passwords or PIN numbers in a computer system without encryption.

Strong passwords

All employee passwords must:

- Be a minimum of eight characters long.
- Include three of the following:
 - Uppercase character.
 - Lowercase character.
 - Number.
 - Special character.
- Not include proper names.
- Not include any part of the Employee’s username.

Multi-factor authentication

Access to key Trust systems such as Office 365, email included, and Bromcom when outside of the Trust network will enforce MFA. All employees who have a need to work outside of the Trust network – from home or alternative locations – will have the Microsoft Authenticator app installed on a device to provide MFA when asked.

This setting is enforced for all employees.

Director of Information Technology’s responsibilities

Director of Information Technology of the Trust Directors will ensure the following measures are enforced upon the following Networks, System and Applications:

Measures:

- Passwords must comply with Strong Passwords section above.
- Passwords must be changed every 90 days.
- The last three passwords cannot be re-used.
- The account will “locked out” following four successive incorrect log-on attempts
- Password characters will be hidden by symbols.

The Director of Information Technology is the owner of the Information Security Policy and is responsible for ensuring all academies, and the Trust have appropriate technological measures in place to adhere to what is outlined within it.

Networks, System and Applications:

Identity/Entra Active Directory and Intune – access to all Trust network user & device information
Bromcom & associated products – MCAS
Office 365 – email
Access Finance system
Microsoft SharePoint on which the Trust’s training and sharing sites reside
Microsoft OneDrive on which the Trust ‘Central Share’ resides and each users ‘home drives’

Microsoft Teams where all 'shared data' resides
Web Filtering and Monitoring applications via Securly
JAMF MDM solution
iTrent Payroll system

Any changes – i.e. due to the functionality of Systems or Applications – will be documented and the potential risk assessed by the Director of Information Technology of the Trust Directors before being implemented.

Updates and patches to key systems such as Operating systems and key applications is automated via the management systems we have in place – InTune, JAMF and BitDefender. Rollback is managed by the Trust Director of Information Technology if required and the Cyber Response Plan will be used as a process – even though this wouldn't be because of a threat/breach - to inform key stakeholders and process the rollback with minimum disruption in schools.

Academy ICT responsibilities

Where not covered by the Director of Information Technology's responsibilities above, each academy shall ensure its ICT adheres to the following minimum standards:

Ensure that log-on procedures are secure and do not provide unnecessary information (i.e. that could enable unauthorised access or detail the level of access that the login ID provides) for example, provide clues about valid User IDs; the operating system version (and therefore its vulnerabilities) or that the person has administration rights.

Ensure that secure authentication methods are used to access the ICT network and security infrastructure, server and client operating systems and corporate systems such as internet and e-mail.

Ensure that new accounts are created with a temporary password which the user is required to change at first logon with the correct permissions added dependant on whether they're staff, student, generic, or email only accounts – local IT Support will support this process with the academy.

Ensure that the initial password for an employee account will only be given to the new employee.

Ensure that the login procedure is also protected by:

- Not displaying any previous login information e.g. username.
- Limiting the number of unsuccessful attempts and locking the account if exceeded.
- The password characters being hidden by symbols.
- Displaying a general warning notice that only authorised employees are allowed.

Ensure that when leaving your device, it is either locked, or logged out

Ensure all successful and unsuccessful log-on attempts should be logged and monitored.

Ensure System Administration passwords are always available to a senior, nominated officer within an academy who is separate to the System Administrator(s), for example the Principal.

Ensure Operating System access control should apply to all computers and devices that have an operating system e.g. servers, PCs, laptops, tablets.

Ensure Operating System and network domain log-on procedures should also include an enforced "User acknowledgement" statement, confirming compliance with the IGP and Acceptable Use Policy (found in the Online Safety Policy)

Ensure that any leavers have their accounts disabled and removed immediately at the point of leaving. This includes staff and students – local IT Support will support this process with the academy. At the point of disabling the computer account, the email account is also disabled. Likewise, if deleting the account, this then deletes the email account completely.

Backups

Each academy must comply with the Operational Services remit from the Trust to ensure that adequate backups are taken, both onsite and offsite.

As a Trust we backup all user and shared data that now sits in Microsoft Teams. This is in addition to the 30 day recycle bin access you get as standard from Microsoft. For any version changes or 30 day restores the school should liaise with IT Support to restore. Anything that isn't a Microsoft document and/or is over 30 days, please liaise with the Trust Director of IT who will restore from our Redstor platform.

Where there has been substation data deleted that requires a disaster recovery process to restore full systems back to previous days or versions, please contact the Trust Director of IT who will invoke the DR process to restore things back to a period of time where the systems and documents were correct. This process is regularly tested to ensure it can work when required.

All backups performed are securely taken over the Internet to Redstor are encrypted, and would contain all school data, including information pertinent to the running of the academy. i.e. user and shared drive data

Sharing via Email

When sharing personal or sensitive information over email, please follow the process below:

- Emails are encrypted when containing personal or confidential information. When sending emails to Trust or ELT academies, all emails will automatically be encrypted if the academy is on the Trust email platform.
- Sending emails outside of the organisation when the content contains data of a personal or sensitive nature, you must have **ENCRYPT:** prefixed in the email Subject to enforce encryption
- Emails being sent are checked to ensure recipients addresses are correct, and valid.

If you are asked to share information via any other system, authorisation from the Trust's Director of Information Technology is required before proceeding.

The Trust will keep its use of cookies and similar storage or access technologies under review.

Where consent is not required for strictly necessary, statistical or functionality-related technologies permitted by law, the Trust will still provide clear information about their use through relevant privacy and cookie notices.

5. Freedom of Information Policy

Anyone can submit a request for information held by the Trust and its academies using the Freedom of Information Act.

The Trust and each academy should provide an accessible, simple means by which someone can submit a Freedom of Information request via Sharepoint – for example, a page on a website with contact details of either the academy Principal and/or the DPO.

An academy Principal or Data Champion will, upon receipt of a request, will

- Inform the DPO of the request within three working days of receipt of the request by completing a Data Breach form on Sharepoint.
- The DPO will acknowledge receipt
- The information requested is then found and compiled at academy level.
- The proposed response and any concerns about disclosing this information is then shared with the Trust's DPO within **10 working days**.
- The Trust's DPO will respond to all FOI Requests within **20 working days**. Where requests are online the academy will not provide a response until they have shared the details with the DPO to be approved.

The Trust/academy aims to comply with requests for access to personal data where it is appropriate and lawful to do so. This will be within **20 working days** and must be responded to by the Trust DPO.

The DPO will maintain a log of all Freedom of Information Requests to monitor compliance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, including the statutory 20 working day response timescale.

The Trust will adopt the Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme version 1.2 20151023 - See Appendix 9 for a copy of the scheme.

6. Records Management Policy

The Trust will adopt the IRMS file plan for use across the Trust and its academies. This file plan has been specifically adapted to ensure its relevant to the information we control and process within Enquire Learning Trust. This will be structured according to the functions of the Trust and academies – see Appendix 4 – Data Retention Guidance

The Trust will become an IRMS member to ensure the most up to date guidance is available to all its academies. Each time a new version is released, the Trust relevant version of this will be adapted and provided to academies.

The Trust and each academy will keep a log of information that has been disposed of, the date, method, and any receipts from 3rd party contractors used. The Trust template for this document (Data Destruction Schedule – see first tab) can be found here - [Appendix 12 - Data Destruction Schedule and File Transfers Template.xlsx](#). This will be reviewed when a DPO audit is completed.

Each academy will keep a log of files transferred when a child leaves the academy. The Trust template for this document (File Transfers Template – see second tab) can be found here - [Appendix 12 - Data Destruction Schedule and File Transfers Template.xlsx](#)

The Trust have already mandated that a Finance File Plan is put in place per academy. In addition to this, the IRMS guidance can be used to ensure that all other records that are kept, are done so in accordance to this legislation.

The Record Management Policy and associated File Plans will be reviewed periodically.

The Trust offer guidance on the preferred File Plan for personnel records. A copy of the personnel file checklist and associated guidance document is available from Human Resources.

7. Appendices

1. Website Privacy Statements – for parents and pupils
2. Multi-purpose Consent Form
3. *No longer in use*
4. Data Retention Guidance
5. *No longer in use – see Online Safety Policy*
6. Access Control Policy, Guidance, Checklist and Log Template
7. Subject Access Request Checklist
- 7a Subject Access Request Flowchart - now included within IG Policy – see page 19
8. *No longer in use*
9. Freedom of Information Model Publication Scheme
10. UK GDPR Training Schedule
11. Data Mapping Risk Register
12. Data Destruction Schedule and File Transfers Template