

Track & Trace Privacy Notice July 2020
Coronavirus Track and Trace Privacy Notice

Responding to the Coronavirus advice from the Government is an obligation on all schools in England. The development of the NHS 'Track and Trace' scheme is a key part of the government plan to manage Coronavirus.

It may be necessary for us to share that data on request from NHS Track and Trace workers. We will do this and will play our part in making this process as effective as possible. It is likely that we will be asked to provide contact details if a case of Coronavirus or a suspected case arises in our school. There is an obligation to support the government planning. We will provide details as requested to do this.

We will be sharing data on the basis that this is a Public Duty (see below) and that in the case of any health data it is necessary for the public interest, as set out.

Please be assured that we will keep a record of information that we share.

This Privacy Notice should be read in alongside the other GDPR and Data Protection information on our website.

NHS Test and Trace and the law

The law on protecting personally identifiable information, known as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), allows Public Health England to use the personal information collected by NHS Test and Trace.

Public Health England also has special permission from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to use personally identifiable information without people's consent where this is in the public interest. This is known as 'Section 251' approval and includes the use of the information collected by NHS Test and Trace to help protect the public from coronavirus. The part of the law that applies here is Section 251 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and the associated Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002.

Test and Trace

Schools are in a very difficult situation. The tracing process of 'Test and Trace' is made more difficult as schools are public authorities. They have a legal duty to protect and promote the welfare of pupils and a duty of care to staff. It is hoped that additional government guidance will be provided for schools.

As a private individual, compliance with the scheme is optional, you cannot at the present time be forced to provide details. As a school it is more complicated.

If a person in a school has Covid or symptoms they will be sent home as will other people in school who have had contact and who may be at risk.

In school it would be most unusual for any one person to know the details of everyone else who may be affected. It is only the school that will have that data. We would notify individuals about a risk, and in many instances that will be sufficient.

At no point we will we share data without a sound legal basis, but please be aware that we will share data where necessary.