

POLICY

POLICY TYPE

MAT Policy to adopted in full across all schools	
LGC Policy to be reviewed and approved locally	✓



*"Share the Love of God,
every day in everything
we learn, do and say"*

Approval Date:	2026/27 – AUTUMN TERM
Review Date:	2028/29 – AUTUMN TERM

ST PHILOMENA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUPIL PRIVACY POLICY

Why do we collect and use student information

We collect and use student information under section 537A of the Education Act 1996, and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. We also comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We use the student data:

- to support teaching and learning
- to monitor and report on student progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to support students to decide what to do after they leave school

Categories of student information that we collect, hold and share include:

- Personal information (such as name, unique student number and contact details)
- Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, nationality, country of birth and free school meal eligibility)
- Attendance information (such as sessions attended, number of absences and absence reasons)
- National curriculum assessment results
- Special educational needs information
- Relevant medical information

Collecting student information

Whilst the majority of student information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation, we will inform you whether you are required to provide certain student information to us or if you have a choice in this.

Storing student information

We keep information about you on computer systems and also sometimes on paper. We hold education records securely and retain them from the student's date of birth until they reach the age of 25, after which they are safely destroyed.

There are strict controls on who can see the information. We will not share student data if the student has advised us that they do not want it shared unless it is the only way we can make sure that the student stays safe and healthy or we are legally required to do so.

Who do we share information with?

We routinely share student information with:

- schools or colleges that the students attend after leaving us
- our local authorities and their commissioned providers of local authority services

- the Department for Education (DfE)
- the National Health Service (NHS)
- our online payments system (where applicable)
- our Cashless Catering System (where applicable)
- our Educational Visits System
- our Alumni database system

Why we share student information

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

We share students' data with the Department for Education (DfE) on a statutory basis. This data sharing underpins school funding and educational attainment policy and monitoring.

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the DfE (for example, via the school census), go to:

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

The National Student Database (NPD)

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education and contains information about students in schools in England.

It provides evidence on educational performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the Department.

It is held in electronic format for statistical purposes. This information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and awarding bodies.

We are required by law to provide information about our students to the DfE as part of statutory data collections such as the school census and early years census.

Some of this information is then stored in the NPD. The law that allows this is the Education (Information About Individual Students) (England) Regulations 2013.

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

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

To find out more about the NPD, go to:

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

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

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

The Department has robust processes in place to ensure the confidentiality of our data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access and use of the data.

Decisions on whether the DfE releases data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of:

- who is requesting the data
- the purpose for which it is required
- the level and sensitivity of data requested
- the arrangements in place to store and handle the data

To be granted access to student information, organisations must comply with strict terms and conditions covering confidentiality, handling of data, security arrangements and retention and use of the data.

For more information about the department's data sharing process, please visit:
<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>

Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, parents and students have the right to request access to information about them that we hold.

To make a request for your personal information, or be given access to your child's educational record, contact the Trust's Data Protection Officer; contact details are provided at the end of this notice.

You also have the right to:

- object to processing of personal data that is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- prevent processing for the purpose of direct marketing
- object to decisions being taken by automated means
- in certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data rectified, blocked, erased or destroyed
- claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the Data Protection regulations

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance or directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at:

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Further information

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

Data Protection Officer

St Oscar Romero Catholic Academy Trust

DPO@OscarRomero.co.uk