Widford Lodge

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Privacy Notice for pupils and parents of Widford Lodge School Ltd

This policy applies to all pupils at Widford Lodge School including those in the EYFS

Reviewed and Approved by the Proprietor: September 2026
Review Date: September 2027

This privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989.

Following Brexit, Regulation (EU) 2016/679, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is retained EU law and known as UK GDPR. The UK GDPR sits alongside an amended version of the Data Protection Act 2018 that relate to general personal data processing, powers of the Information Commissioner and sanctions and enforcement. The GDPR as it continues to apply in the EU is known as EU GDPR.

Who Collects This Information

Widford Lodge is a "data controller." This means that we are responsible for deciding how we hold and use personal information about pupils and parents. Under data protection legislation, we are required to notify you of the information contained in the privacy notice. This notice does not form part of any contract to provide services and we may update this notice at any time.

It is important that you read this notice with any other policies mentioned within this privacy notice, so that you are aware of how and why we are processing your information, what your rights are under data protection legislation and the procedures we take to protect your personal data.

Data protection principles – We will comply with the data protection principles when gathering and using personal information, as set out in our data protection policy.

The Categories of Pupil Information That We Collect, Process, Hold and Share

We may collect, store and use the following categories of personal information about you:

- Personal information such as name, pupil number, date of birth, gender and contact information;
- Emergency contact and family lifestyle information such as names, relationship, phone numbers and email addresses;
- Characteristics (such as ethnicity, language, nationality and country of birth);
- Attendance details (such as sessions attended, number of absences and reasons for absence);
- Performance and assessment information;
- Behavioural information (including exclusions);
- Images of pupils engaging in school activities and images captured by the school's CCTV system;
- Information about the use of our IT, communications and other systems, and other monitoring information;

We may also collect, store and use the following more sensitive types of personal information: information about your race or ethnicity, religious or philosophical beliefs; information about your health, including any medical conditions and sickness records; and special educational needs information.

Collecting This Information

Whilst the majority of 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 pupil information to us or if you have a choice in this.

It is important that the personal information we hold about you is accurate and current. Please keep us informed if your personal information changes during your working relationship with us.

How We Use Your Personal Information

We hold pupil data and use it for: -

- Pupil selection (and to confirm the identity of prospective pupils and their parents);
- Providing education services and extra-curricular activities to pupils, and monitoring pupils' progress and educational needs;
- Assessing performance and to set targets;
- Safeguarding pupils' welfare and providing appropriate pastoral (and where necessary medical) care;
- Supporting teaching and learning;
- Giving and receiving information and references about past, current and prospective pupils;
- Managing internal policy and procedure;
- Enabling pupils to take part in assessments, to publish the results of examinations and to record pupil achievements;
- Facilitating the booking of parents' evening appointments and gaining consent and payment for school trips and activities via School Cloud and Gateway;
- Carrying out statistical analysis for diversity purposes;
- Legal and regulatory purposes (for example child protection, diversity monitoring and health and safety) and to comply with legal obligations and duties of care;
- Enabling relevant authorities to monitor the school's performance and to intervene or assist with incidents as appropriate;
- Monitoring use of the school's IT and communications systems in accordance with the school's IT security policy;
- Making use of photographic images of pupils in school publications, on the school website and on social media channels;
- Security purposes including CCTV;
- To provide support to pupils after they leave the school; and
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the school's purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the school.

The Lawful Basis on Which We Use This Information

We will only use your information when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we will use your information in the following circumstances: -

- Consent: the individual has given clear consent to process their personal data for a specific purpose;
- Contract: the processing is necessary for a contract with the individual;
- Legal obligation: the processing is necessary to comply with the law (not including contractual obligations);
- Vital interests: the processing is necessary to protect someone's life.
- Public task: the processing is necessary to perform a task in the public interest or for official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law; and
- The Education Act 1996: for Departmental Censuses. More information can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools.

We need all the categories of information in the list above primarily to allow us to comply with legal obligations. Please note that we may process information without knowledge or consent, where this is required or permitted by law.

How we use particularly sensitive personal information

Special categories of particularly sensitive personal information, such as information about your health, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation require higher levels of protection. We need to have further justification for collecting, storing and using this type of personal information. We have in place an appropriate policy document and safeguards which we are required by law to maintain when processing such data. We may process special categories of data in the following circumstances:

- In limited circumstances, with your explicit written consent
- Where we need to carry out our legal obligations in line with our data protection policy
- Where it is needed in the public interest, such as for equal opportunities monitoring
- Where it is necessary to protect you or another person from harm.

Less commonly, we may process this type of information where it is needed in relation to legal claims or where it is needed to protect your interests (or someone else's interests) and you are not capable of giving your consent, or where you have already made the information public.

Sharing Data

We may need to share your data with third parties where it is necessary. There are strict controls on who can see your information. We will not share your data if you have advised us that you do not want it shared unless it's the only way we can make sure you stay safe and healthy or we are legally required to do so.

We share pupil information with: -

- the Department for Education (DfE) - on a statutory basis under section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013;
- The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI);
- Other Schools that pupils have attended/will attend;
- NHS;

- Welfare services (such as social services);
- Law enforcement officials such as police, HMRC;
- Local Authority Designated Officer;
- Professional advisors such as lawyers and consultants;
- Support services (including insurance, IT support, information security);
- Providers of learning software such as spelling frame and ESS/SIMS for our data management system; and
- The Local Authority.

The Department for Education request more regular data sharing on pupil attendance to help support those who are vulnerable and to assist with intervention strategies. Further information on how the Department for Education collects this data will be made available as applicable on the school website.

Information will be provided to those agencies securely or anonymised where possible.

The recipient of the information will be bound by confidentiality obligations, we require them to respect the security of your data and to treat it in accordance with the law.

We may transfer your personal information outside the EU. If we do, you can expect a similar degree of protection in respect of your personal information.

Automated Decision Making

Automated decision making takes place when an electronic system uses personal information to make a decision without human intervention. We are allowed to use automated decision making in limited circumstances.

Pupils will not be subject to automated decision-making, unless we have a lawful basis for doing so and we have notified you.

Retention Periods

Except as otherwise permitted or required by applicable law or regulation, the School only retains personal data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes they collected it for, as required to satisfy any legal, accounting or reporting obligations, or as necessary to resolve disputes.

Information about how we retain information can be found in our Data Retention policy, available on our website.

Security

The school keeps information about pupils on computer systems and sometimes on paper. We have put in place measures to protect the security of your information (i.e. against it being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way).

The National Pupil Database

The NPD is owned and managed by the Department for Education and contains information about pupils in schools in England. It provides invaluable evidence on educational

performance to inform independent research, as well as studies commissioned by the DfE. 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 pupils 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 Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

To find out more about the NPD, go to:

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

The DfE information about our pupils from the NPD with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children in England by:

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

The DfE 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 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: and
- the arrangements in place to store and handle the data

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

For more information about the DfE's data sharing process, please visit:

https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data

For information about which organisations the DfE has provided pupil information, (and for which project), please visit the following website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pupil-database-requests-received

To contact DfE: https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe

Requesting Access to Your Personal Data

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identify and ensure your right to access the information (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is

another appropriate security measure to ensure that personal information is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it.

If you want to request information, please see our data protection policy.

Right to Withdraw Consent

In circumstances where you may have provided your consent to the collection, processing and transfer of your personal information for a specific purpose, you have the right to withdraw your consent for that specific processing at any time. To withdraw your consent, please contact Michelle Cole. Once we have received notification that you have withdrawn your consent, we will no longer process your information for the purpose or purposes you originally agreed to, unless we have another legitimate basis for doing so in law.

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything within this privacy notice or have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, we request that you raise your concern with Michelle Cole in the first instance.

We have appointed a data protection officer (DPO) to oversee compliance with data protection and this privacy notice. If you have any questions about how we handle your personal information which cannot be resolved by Michelle Cole, then you can contact the DPO on the details below: -

Data Protection Officer: Judicium Consulting Limited

Address: 5th Floor, 98 Theobalds Road, London, WC1X 8WB

Email: dataservices@judicium.com

Web: www.judiciumeducation.co.uk

Telephone: 0345 548 7000 (Option 1, then 1)

Lead Contact: Craig Stilwell

You have the right to make a complaint at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office, the UK supervisory authority for data protection issues at https://ico.org.uk/concerns.

Changes to This Privacy Notice

We reserve the right to update this privacy notice at any time, and we will provide you with a new privacy notice when we make any substantial updates. We may also notify you in other ways from time to time about the processing of your personal information.