

St. Thomas CE Primary School

A Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School
Let your Light Shine in the Glory of God

Molyneux Road, Chequerbent, Westhoughton, Bolton, Lancashire BL5 3HP
Tel: (01942) 634666 Email: office@st-thomas.bolton.sch.uk



St Thomas CE Primary School Privacy Notice (How we use pupil information)

Why do we collect and use pupil information?

We collect and use pupil information under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Article 6, where: the processing is necessary for the school to perform a task in the public interest or for our official functions.

We use the pupil data:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to protect pupil welfare
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing
- to support a pupil and/ or their family with outside agencies
- to administer admissions waiting lists
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing

The categories of pupil information that we collect, hold and share include (but is not restricted to):

- Personal information (such as name, date of birth, unique pupil number and address)
- 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)
- Assessment information (such as annual progress data, end of Key Stage data, Phonics screening, pupil progress groups)
- Medical information (such as administration of medicines, allergy information, physical disabilities)
- Behavioural information such as receiving Yellow / Red cards, behaviour charts and exclusions

Collecting pupil information

Whilst the majority of pupil 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.

Storing pupil data

We keep personal information about pupils while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary in order to comply with our legal obligations.

Our Information Management Policy sets out how long we keep information about pupils. When it is no longer required this information is then destroyed. A copy of this policy is available on request from the School Office.



Who do we share pupil information with?

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

Where it is legally required or necessary (and it complies with data protection law) we may share personal information about pupils with:

- Our local authority
- The Department for Education
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for
- Health authorities
- Police forces, courts, tribunals
- Professional bodies
- Schools that the pupil's attend after leaving us

Why we share pupil information

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

We are required to share information about our pupils with our local authority (LA) and the Department for Education (DfE) under section 3 of The Education (Information About Individual Pupils) (England) Regulations 2013.

Data collection requirements:

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (for example; via the school census) go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

The National Pupil Database (NPD)

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 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 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 pupil 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-pupil-database-user-guide-and-supporting-information>.

The department may share 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 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 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 department'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 department 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

Under data protection legislation, parents and pupils 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 school via office@st-thomas.bolton.sch.uk

As a school we would then liaise with our Data Protection Officer, Mr Shane Williams (Global Policing)

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; and
- 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/>

Contact:

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

- Mrs Linney, our Headteacher, via the school office.

If you cannot access these websites, please contact the LA on:

Information Management Unit,
Department of People, Bolton Council
1st Floor, Town Hall, Bolton, BL1 1UA
website: www.bolton.gov.uk
email: ec.imu@bolton.gov.uk