

PRIVACY NOTICE

How we use Pupil Information

Who processes your information?

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School is the data controller of the personal information you provide to us.

This means the school determines the purposes for which, and the manner in which, any personal data relating to pupils and their families is to be processed. Accordio Ltd acts as a representative for the school with regard to its data controller responsibilities; they can be contacted on 01304 897986 or GDPR@accordio.co.uk.

In some cases, your data will be outsourced to a third party processor; however, this will only be done where it is lawful for us to do so. Where the school outsources data to a third party processor, the same data protection standards that St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School upholds are imposed on the processor.

Accordio Ltd is the data protection officer. Their role is to oversee and monitor the school's data protection procedures, and to ensure they are compliant with the GDPR. The data protection officer can be contacted on 01304 897986 or GDPR@accordio.co.uk.

Why do we collect and use pupil information

We collect and use pupil information under section 537A of the Education Act 1996, and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. We also comply with Article 6(1)(c) and Article 9(2)(b) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

We use the pupil data:

- to support pupil learning
- to monitor and report on pupil progress
- to provide appropriate pastoral care
- to assess the quality of our services
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing

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

- Personal information (such as name, date of birth, unique pupil 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)
- Exclusion information
- National curriculum assessment results
- Special educational needs information
- Relevant medical and dietary information
- Safeguarding and child protection information

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 information

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School keeps information about you on computer systems and also sometimes on paper.

We hold your education records securely until you change school. Your records will then be transferred to your new school, where they will be retained until you reach the age of 25, after which they are safely destroyed.

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 is the only way we can make sure you stay safe and healthy or we are legally required to do so.

Who do we share pupil information with?

We routinely share pupil information with:

- schools or colleges that the pupils attend after leaving us
- our local authority (Medway Council) and their commissioned providers of local authority services (for example, the School Nursing team)
- the Department for Education (DfE)

Why we share pupil information

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

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 DfE (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>

Requesting access to your personal data

Under data protection legislation, parents and pupils have the right to be informed about how we use their personal data and 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 Data Protection Officer.

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:

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

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

Headteacher - office@st-thomascanterbury.medway.sch.uk

Data Protection Officer - GDPR@accordio.co.uk