



DSTC Privacy Notice Parents/Carers

Author	Mrs S Wells, Business Manager		
Approved by	Principal	Signed	
Reviewed Date	September 2026		
Next Review Date	September 2027		

Under UK data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how our school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about parents and carers of students at our school.

We, Dartford Science and Technology College are the 'data controller' for the purposes of UK data protection law.

- Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about you includes, but is not restricted to:
 - Contact details and contact preferences (such as your name, address, email address and telephone numbers)
 - Bank details
 - Details of your family circumstances
 - Details of any safeguarding information including court orders or professional involvement
 - Records of your correspondence and contact with us
 - Details of any complaints you have made
 - Information about your use of our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers)
- We may also collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) information about you that falls into 'special categories' of more sensitive personal data. This includes, but is not restricted to:
 - Information about any health conditions you have that we need to be aware of
 - Photographs and CCTV images captured in school

We collect and use the data listed above to:

- a) Report to you on your child's attainment and progress
- b) Keep you informed about the running of the school (such as emergency closures) and events
- c) Process payments for school services and clubs
- d) Provide appropriate pastoral care
- e) Protect pupil welfare
- f) Administer admissions waiting lists
- g) Assess the quality of our services
- h) Carry out research
- i) Comply with our legal and statutory obligations
- j) Make sure our information and communication systems, equipment and facilities (e.g. school computers) are used appropriately, legally and safely

We will only use your personal information for the purposes for which we have collected it, unless we reasonably consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the original purpose. If we need to use your personal information for an unrelated purpose, we will notify you and explain the legal basis which allows us to do so.

Please note that we may process your personal information without your knowledge or consent, in compliance with the above rules, where this is required or permitted by law.

Where you have given us consent to do so, we may send you marketing information by email or text promoting school events, campaigns, charitable causes or services that may be of interest to you.

You can withdraw consent or 'opt out' of receiving these emails and/or texts at any time by selecting the 'Unsubscribe' link at the bottom of any such communication, or by contacting us (see 'Contact us' below).

We do not currently process any parents' or carers' personal data through automated decision-making or profiling. If this changes in the future, we will amend any relevant privacy notices in order to explain the processing to you, including your right to object to it.

The lawful basis on which we use this information

We collect and use student information under Article 6 Section 1(e) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. 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 3 times a year. More information can be found at:

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

For 'special category' data, we only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and 1 of the following conditions for processing as set out in UK data protection law:

- We have obtained your explicit consent to use your personal data in a certain way

- We need to perform or exercise an obligation or right in relation to employment, social security or social protection law
- We need to protect an individual's vital interests (i.e. protect your life or someone else's life), in situations where you're physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by you
- We need to process it for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation
- We need to process it for health or social care purposes, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health or social work professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to process it for public health reasons, and the processing is done by, or under the direction of, a health professional or by any other person obliged to confidentiality under law
- We need to process it for archiving purposes, scientific or historical research purposes, or for statistical purposes, and the processing is in the public interest

For criminal offence data, we will only collect and use it when we have both a lawful basis, as set out above, and a condition for processing as set out in UK data protection law. Conditions include:

- We have obtained your consent to use it in a specific way
- We need to protect an individual's vital interests (i.e. protect your life or someone else's life), in situations where you're physically or legally incapable of giving consent
- The data concerned has already been made manifestly public by you
- We need to process it for, or in connection with, legal proceedings, to obtain legal advice, or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal rights
- We need to process it for reasons of substantial public interest as defined in legislation

We will only collect and use your data when the law allows us to. While the majority of information we collect about you is mandatory, there is some information that can be provided voluntarily.

Whenever we seek to collect information from you, we make it clear whether you must provide this information (and if so, what the possible consequences are of not complying), or whether you have a choice.

Most of the data we hold about you will come from you, but we may also hold data about you from:

- Local authorities
- Government departments or agencies

- Your children
- Police forces, courts or tribunals
- Other schools and trusts

We keep personal information about you while your child is attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary to comply with our legal obligations or to meet our regulatory requirements.

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal information being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed.

We will dispose of your personal data securely when we no longer have a legal requirement to retain it.

We do not share information about you with any third party without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

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

Our local authority, Kent County Council – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information with it, such as safeguarding concerns and information about exclusions, as well as:

- Government departments or agencies
- Department for Education
- Our regulator, [e.g. Ofsted]
- Suppliers and service providers:
- Financial organisations
- Our auditors
- Survey and research organisations
- Health authorities
- Security organisations
- Health and social welfare organisations
- Professional advisers and consultants
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts, tribunals

Where we transfer your personal data to a third-party country or territory, we will do so in accordance with UK data protection law.

In cases where we have to set up safeguarding arrangements to complete this transfer, you can get a copy of these arrangements by contacting us.

Use of AI

DSTC staff will ensure that only the selected AI websites and apps are used to support them in their role or teaching practice. DSTC staff are authorised to use the following AI websites, these have been vetted and a DPIA has been completed : Privacy notices for each platform are linked. Please review these links for information. No personal or identifiable data will ever be shared with these platforms.

Google Gemini - useful for creating text.

https://support.google.com/gemini/answer/13594961?hl=en-GB#privacy_notice

Seneca - online learning platform.

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/privacy>

Diffit - classroom resource creation tool. Privacy notice

<https://web.diffit.me/privacy-policy>

Notebook LM - summarise complex documents, answer specific questions based on source material.

notebooklm.in/google-privacy-data-security-policies-for-notebooklm/

Requesting access to your personal data

You have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that we hold about you.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you, we will (unless there's a really good reason why we shouldn't):

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding it, how we are using it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know whether any automated decision-making is being applied to the data (decisions made by a computer or machine, rather than by a person), and any consequences of this
- Give you a copy of the information in an understandable form
- You may also have the right for your personal information to be shared with another organisation in certain circumstances.
- If you would like to make a request, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

Your other rights regarding your data

Under data protection law, you have certain rights regarding how your personal information is used and kept safe. For example, you have the right to:

- Say that you don't want your personal information to be used
- Object to the processing of personal data that is likely to cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Stop it being used to send you marketing materials

- Say that you don't want it to be used for automated decisions (decisions made by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In some cases, have it corrected if it's inaccurate
- In some cases, have it deleted or destroyed, or restrict its use
- Withdraw your consent, where you previously provided consent for your personal information to be collected, processed and transferred for a particular reason
- In some cases, be notified of a data breach
- Claim compensation if the data protection rules are broken and this harms you in some way
- We may refuse your information rights request for legitimate reasons, which depend on why we're processing it. Some rights may not apply in these circumstances:
- Your right to have all personal data deleted or destroyed doesn't apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task
- Your right to receive a copy of your personal data, or have your personal data transmitted to another controller, does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests
- The right to object to the use of your private data doesn't apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is

If you believe your personal data has been processed unfairly, unlawfully, inaccurately, or without your rights being respected, you have the right to make a complaint.

- **How to complain:** You may submit a complaint verbally, in writing, by email, or via the school office.
- **Our process:** We will acknowledge your complaint within 5 working days, investigate the matter, and we aim to resolve all complaints within 20 working days.
- **Escalation:** If the matter remains unresolved, you may escalate your complaint to the Principal or, as a last resort, contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

To exercise any of these rights, please contact us on the information below.

Last updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated on 1st September 2026

Contact

Our DPO is Invicta Law and they may be contacted via DPO@csLtd.org.uk In the first instance if you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact: Data Protection Lead via Office@dstc.kent.sch.uk

If you need more information about how our local authority and/or DfE collect and use your information, please visit:

Public Communications Unit
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT
Telephone:0370 000 2288

Email: <http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus>