

## **Privacy notice for parents and carers – how we use your personal data**

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the Unity Schools Partnership (“the Trust”) uses any personal data 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.

We, Unity Schools Partnership, Park Road, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 7YD, are the ‘data controller’ for the purposes of data protection law. The Data Protection Officer for the Trust can be contacted at [dpo@unitysp.co.uk](mailto:dpo@unitysp.co.uk).

### **The personal data we hold**

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
- Bank details
- Photographs
- CCTV images

We may also collect, store and use information about you that falls into "special categories" of more sensitive personal data. This includes information about (where applicable):

- Characteristics, such as ethnicity, languages spoken, religious beliefs and eligibility for certain benefits
- Family circumstances
- Physical and mental health, including medical conditions
- Support received, including care packages, plans and support providers

We may also hold data about you that we have received from other organisations, including other schools and social services.

### **Why we use this data**

We use this data to:

- Report to you on your child’s attainment and progress
- Keep you informed about the running of our schools (such as emergency closures) and events
- Process payments for services and clubs
- Provide appropriate pastoral care
- Protect pupil welfare
- Administer admissions waiting lists

- Assess the quality of our services
- Carry out research
- Comply with our legal and statutory obligations

### **Use of your personal data for marketing purposes**

Where you have given us consent to do so, we may send you marketing information promoting events, campaigns, charitable causes or services that may be of interest to you. You can withdraw consent or 'opt out' of receiving these by contacting the data protection lead at your child's school - the school office should be able to provide you with their contact details – or the Trust's data protection officer.

### **Our legal basis for using this data**

We only collect and use your personal data when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we process it where we:

- need to comply with a legal obligation
- need to perform an official task in the public interest
- need to fulfil a contract we have entered into with you

Less commonly, we may also process your personal data in situations where we:

- have obtained consent to use it in a certain way
- need to protect an individual's vital interests (protect their life)

Where you have provided us with consent to use your data, you may withdraw this consent at any time. We will make this clear when requesting your consent, and explain how you would go about withdrawing consent if you wish to do so.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your personal data overlap, and there may be several grounds which justify our use of your data.

### **Collecting this information**

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 will 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.

### **How we store this data**

We keep personal information about you while your child is attending one of our schools. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at one of our schools if this is necessary in order to comply with our legal obligations. Our [records retention policy](#) sets out how long we keep information about parents and carers.

## **Data sharing**

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 data protection law), we may share personal information about you with:

- Local authorities – to meet our legal obligations to share certain information, such as safeguarding concerns and information about exclusions
- Government departments or agencies
- Our regulator, Ofsted
- Suppliers and service providers – to enable them to provide the service we have contracted them for
- 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 and tribunals

## **Transferring data internationally**

If we transfer personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with data protection law.

## **Your rights**

### **How to access personal information that we hold about you**

Individuals have a right to make a 'subject access request' to gain access to personal information that the Trust holds about them.

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and processing 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, and any consequences of this

- Give you a copy of the information in an intelligible form

You may also have the right for your personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact our data protection officer.

### **Your other rights regarding your data**

Under data protection law, individuals have certain rights regarding how their personal data is used and kept safe. You have the right to:

- Object to the use of your personal data if it would cause, or is causing, damage or distress
- Prevent your data being used to send direct marketing
- Object to the use of your personal data for decisions being taken by automated means (by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- In certain circumstances, have inaccurate personal data corrected, deleted or destroyed, or restrict processing
- Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

To exercise any of these rights, please contact our data protection officer.

### **Complaints**

We take any complaints about our collection and use of personal information very seriously.

If you think that our collection or use of personal information is unfair, misleading or inappropriate, or have any other concern about our data processing, please raise this with us in the first instance.

To make a complaint, please contact our data protection officer.

Alternatively, you can make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

- Report a concern online at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>
- Call 0303 123 1113
- Or write to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

### **Contact us**

If you have any questions, concerns or would like more information about anything mentioned in this privacy notice, please contact our **data protection officer** at [dpo@unitysp.co.uk](mailto:dpo@unitysp.co.uk)