

# Privacy Notice for Parents and Carers

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust



**St Thomas Aquinas**  
Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

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## 1. Introduction

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how our Trust 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 **pupils at our school**.

This privacy notice applies while we believe your child is not capable of understanding and exercising their own data protection rights.

Once your child is able to understand their rights over their own data (generally considered to be age 12, but this has to be considered on a case-by-case basis), you should instead refer to our privacy notice for pupils to see what rights they have over their own personal data. This can be found on our school website under Data Protection.

Our trust,

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

Unit 5, Charnwood Edge Business Park,

Cossington,

LE7 4UZ

0116 2968171

is the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our data protection officer is Antoinette Bouwens (see 'Contact us' below).

## 2. The personal data we hold

Personal data that we may collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) about your child includes, but is not restricted to:

- Contact details, contact preferences, date of birth, identification documents
- Results of internal assessments and externally set tests
- Pupil and curricular records
- Exclusion information
- Attendance information
- Safeguarding information
- Details of any support received, including care packages, plans and support providers

We may also collect, use, store and share (when appropriate) information about your child that falls into "special categories" of more sensitive personal data. This includes, but is not restricted to, information about:

- Any medical conditions we need to be aware of, including physical and mental health
- Photographs and CCTV images captured in school
- Characteristics, such as ethnic background or special educational needs

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

## 3. Why we use this data

We use the data listed above to:

- a) Support pupil learning

- b) Monitor and report on pupil progress
- c) Provide appropriate pastoral care
- d) Protect pupil welfare
- e) Assess the quality of our services
- f) Administer admissions waiting lists
- g) Carry out research
- h) Comply with the law regarding data sharing

### **3.1 Use of your child’s personal data for marketing purposes**

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

You can withdraw consent or ‘opt out’ of receiving these emails and/or texts at any time by contacting us (see ‘Contact us’ below).

### **3.2 Use of your child’s personal data in automated decision making and profiling**

We do not currently process any 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.

## **4. Our lawful basis for using this data**

We will only collect and use your child’s information when the law allows us to. We need to establish a ‘lawful basis’ to do this.

Our lawful bases for processing your personal information for the reasons listed in section 3 above are:

#### *Legal Obligation under article 6(1)(C) of the Data Protection Act 2018*

For example:

- The School/Trust might need to use your information to report a concern about your child’s wellbeing to Children’s Services. We will also have to disclose your information to third parties such as the courts, the local authority, Department for Education or the police where legally obliged to do so.
- To enable secure and regulated access to our services such as the Library, catering facilities, trip management and school resources. This includes the processing of biometric data.

#### *Vital interests’ under article 6(1)(D) of the Data Protection Act 2018 For example:*

- We process your child’s contact information in an emergency when it is in your best interests for us to do so (e.g. if you were seriously hurt).
- We process your and other authorised adults contact information in an emergency when it is in your best interests for us to do so (e.g. if you or they were seriously hurt).

#### *Public interest under article 6(1)(E) of the Data Protection Act 2018*

For example:

- Providing your child and others with an education
- Safeguarding and looking after your welfare and development, and the welfare and development of others. This includes equal opportunities monitoring and includes the use of your biometric data;

- Ensuring the security of the Trust's site and data which involves different forms of CCTV, photos and video recording (biometric data);
- Facilitating the efficient operation of the Trust.
- Ensuring that we comply with all our legal obligations

#### *Legitimate Interest under article 6(1)(F) of the Data Protection Act 2018*

For example:

- To support the smooth running of the school and the appropriate deployment of staff;
- The use of biometric data to identify you as a registered student, for example, on your ID card and in our management information system;
- The use of biometric data to identify you in critical communications around medical conditions and medical treatment, and in appropriate pastoral interventions;
- The use of biometric data to look after your welfare, and the welfare of others by, where deemed necessary, by monitoring activities through CCTV and surveillance technology.

Where you have provided us with consent to use your child's 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.

### **4.1 Our basis for using special category data**

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

- › We have obtained your explicit consent to use your child's 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 child's 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 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 child's 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

## 5. Collecting this data

While the majority of information we collect about your child 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 your child will come from you, but we may also hold data about your child from:

- Local authorities
- Government departments or agencies
- Police forces, courts, tribunals

## 6. How we store this data

We keep personal information about your child while they are attending our school. We may also keep it beyond their attendance at our school if this is necessary. Our record retention schedule sets out how long we keep information about pupils.

A copy of the retention policy is held on the Trust website: <https://www.aquinas-cmat.org>

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

We will dispose of your child's personal data securely when we no longer need it.

## 7. Who we share data with

We do not share information about your child 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 your child with:

- schools and/or post-16 provision that the pupil attends after leaving us this includes assessment information and relevant safeguarding information
- our local authority, in order to comply with our legal obligations for statutory data returns such as School Census
- NHS Trust for delivery of child health services, such as inoculation programmes and school nurses. They also use information about pupils for data research and statistical purposes.
- NHS Digital for analysing and presenting a range of health & social care data, including height and weight of pupils
- Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and Learning Records Service (LRS)
- Contractors providing IT and other services
- Charities and voluntary organisations
- Police forces, courts and tribunals

## National Pupil Database

We are required to provide information about pupils to the Department for Education as part of statutory data collections such as the school census.

Some of this information is then stored in the [National Pupil Database](#) (NPD), which is owned and managed by the Department and provides evidence on school performance to inform research.

The database is held electronically so it can easily be turned into statistics. The information is securely collected from a range of sources including schools, local authorities and exam boards.

The Department for Education may share information from the NPD with third parties, such as other organisations which promote children's education or wellbeing in England. These third parties must agree to strict terms and conditions about how they will use the data.

For more information, see the Department's webpage on [how it collects and shares research data](#).

You can also [contact the Department for Education](#) with any further questions about the NPD.

## Connexions

We have to provide information about you to the Department for Education (a government department) as part of data collections such as the school census.

Once our pupils reach the age of 13, we also pass pupil information to our local authority (including Connexions) and / or provider of youth support services as they have responsibilities in relation to the education or training of 13-19 year olds under section 507B of the Education Act 1996.

This enables them to provide services as follows:

- youth support services
- careers advisers

The information shared is limited to the child's name, address and date of birth. However where a parent or guardian provides their consent, other information relevant to the provision of youth support services will be shared. This right is transferred to the child / pupil once they reach the age 16.

## 7.1 Transferring data internationally

We may share personal information about your child with the following international third parties outside of the European Economic Area, where different data protection legislation applies:

- Other schools or educational establishments
- App or cloud server providers

Where we transfer your child's personal data to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area, we will do so in accordance with 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.

## 8. Your rights

### 8.1 How to access personal information that we hold about your child

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

If you make a subject access request, and if we do hold information about your child, we will (subject to any exemptions that apply):

- › 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 child's personal information to be transmitted electronically to another organisation in certain circumstances.

If you would like to make a request, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

Once your child is able to understand their rights over their own data (generally considered to be age 12, but this has to be considered on a case-by-case basis), we will need to obtain consent from your child for you to make a subject access request on their behalf.

## 8.2 Your right to access your child's educational record

Parents, or those with parental responsibility, also have the right to access their child's educational record (which includes most information about a pupil). This right applies as long as the pupil is aged under 18.

There are certain circumstances in which this right can be denied, such as if releasing the information might cause serious harm to the physical or mental health of the pupil or another individual, or if it would mean releasing exam marks before they are officially announced.

To make a request, please contact Antoinette Bouwens (see under section 10 Contact us).

## 8.3 Your other rights regarding your child's data

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

- › Object to our use of your child's personal data
- › Prevent your child's data being used to send direct marketing
- › Object to and challenge the use of your child's 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
- › In certain circumstances, have the personal data we hold about your child deleted or destroyed, or restrict its processing
- › In certain circumstances, be notified of a data breach
- › Make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office
- › Claim compensation for damages caused by a breach of the data protection regulations

To exercise any of these rights, please contact us (see 'Contact us' below).

Once your child is able to understand their rights over their own data (generally considered to be age 12, but this has to be considered on a case-by-case basis), we will need to obtain consent from your child for you to make these requests on their behalf.

## 9. 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.

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

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

## 10. 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**:

Antoinette Bouwens

[abouwens@aquinas-cmat.org](mailto:abouwens@aquinas-cmat.org)

0116 296 8171