Data Protection Impact Assessment – School Data Usage

Introduction

Article 35 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) requires that a Data Protection Impact Assessment is carried out where there is a likelihood of "high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons" [Article 35 (1)].

Schools processing is considered unlikely to be classified as having such high risk, however we have carried out this assessment to ensure that we are fully compliant.

Each of the following sections provides the requisite portions of the Article 35 (7) requirements for a Data Protection Impact Assessment. Note that as part of data governance improvements the school is, with the Local Authority, carrying out further work in this area to provide risk assessment at the individual system level

Description of the envisaged processing operations

Data is used in the school in accordance with our published privacy statement. Specifically, we process data in order to:

- deliver education
- contact the right people about issues
- ensure a healthy, safe environment for learning
- carry out our functions as an employer

We are required to carry out the function of delivering education by the various laws including the Education Act, and all our data usage is consequential upon that requirement.

Processing of data about pupils has the following purposes:

- 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 about data sharing with other organisation (e.g. Department for Education)

We additionally process data about people who are responsible for pupils for the following purposes:

- to contact them, both routinely and in emergencies
- to ensure they are kept aware of pupil's progress as appropriate
- to comply with the law regarding data sharing

We also process data about our school's workforce:

- enable the development of a comprehensive picture of the workforce and how it is deployed
- inform the development of recruitment and retention policies
- maintain safety of staff and pupils
- enable individuals to be paid

Assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the purposes

All data processing is designed to achieve the primary purposes noted above. No processing is carried out that is not required for the purposes.

Assessment of risks to rights and freedoms of data subjects

This, along with the assessment of security measures undertaken, is provided at appendix A

Measures envisaged to address the risks, Rights of Data Subjects

Our use of data is governed by the various acts relating to education and therefore the majority of data use is based on legal basis. We also have responsibilities for child protection and these are covered by the Safeguarding regulations. Consent is only used for data items not covered by these legal areas – generally for optional activities such as clubs and school trips.

Data subject rights are always considered and how to access rights is published in our privacy statement.

Our measures to address risks are addressed by the Article 32(1) measures documented below:

(a) the pseudonymisation and encryption of personal data;

We use encryption where possible for data on end user devices; encryption is always used where electronic data is in transit outside of our school. We do not use pseudonymisation within the school.

Electronic data access by parents and pupils outside the schools takes place on their own equipment; we encrypt in transit, but it is not practicable to force encryption on these personal devices.

(b) the ability to ensure the ongoing confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of processing systems and services;

Confidentiality – all systems have role-based access control and many are also restricted to access only from our school network. There are policy and discipline frameworks in place to provide further controls, and access is logged.

Integrity – we regularly review data on our systems and they are subject to audit. There are also additional verification controls on some systems.

Availability / Resilience – there are service level agreements in place for cloud-based services. For on-site services we use methods such as replication of equipment (e.g. redundant power supplies, RAID) where necessary, and protection for power outages such as uninterruptable power supplies.

(c) the ability to restore the availability and access to personal data in a timely manner in the event of a physical or technical incident;

For cloud services this is dependent on the cloud supplier; we have contractual controls regarding backup and restore as required in these contracts. For on-site services we have regular backups which include testing of backups to ensure recoverability.

(d) a process for regularly testing, assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of technical and organisational measures for ensuring the security of the processing.

Audits are carried out on our systems; backup testing is undertaken. Where risk warrants, external tests such as penetration testing are used.