



## PRIVACY NOTICE - GOVERNANCE VOLUNTEERS

Document Details	
Policy author	Director of Governance and Compliance
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Date for Review	Annual

## Version History

v25.1	Feb 2026	Reviewed - minor formatting amendments
V24.1	August 2024	<p>Amendments to DfE model staff privacy notice applied within this template as follows:</p> <p><b>Requesting access to your personal data</b></p> <p>Updated the wording to match the DfE description of the data protection rights individuals hold and that there may be legitimate reasons why an information request may be refused.</p> <p><b>How Government uses your data – How to find out what data the DfE holds about you</b></p> <p>Added in additional link to where individuals can find out more about submitting an information request to the DfE.</p>
V23.1	October 2023	<i>Amendments to DfE model trustee/governor privacy notice applied within this template.</i>
V22.3	August 2023	<i>Amendments to DfE model trustee/governor privacy notice applied within this template.</i>

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# Governance Volunteers' Privacy Notice (How we use personal information on Get Information about Schools (GIAS))

The categories of governance information that we process include:

- personal identifiers, contacts and characteristics (such as name, date of birth, contact details and address)
- governance details (such as role, start and end dates and governor id)

## Why we collect and use governance information

The personal data collected is essential, in order for the school, academy or academy trust to fulfil their official functions and meet legal requirements. We collect and use governor information, for the following purposes:

- a)** To meet the statutory duties placed upon us
- b)** Enable the development of a comprehensive picture of governance and how it is deployed
- c)** To enable appropriate checks to be completed
- d)** Enable individuals to be kept informed of governance training, book training and relevant information
- e)** To inform relevant authorities/organisations of a member/trustee/governor/clerk appointment
- f)** To undertake our responsibilities for safeguarding children
- g)** To communicate with you
- h)** To comply with the law regarding data sharing

## Our Legal Obligations

We must make sure that information we collect and use about governors is in line with the [UK General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\) 2018](#). This means that we must have a lawful reason to collect the data, and that if we share that with another organisation or individual, we must have a legal basis to do so.

The lawful basis for schools to collect information comes from a variety of sources, such as:

- [Article 6](#) and [Article 9](#) of the UK GDPR
- under the [Academies Trust Handbook](#) academy trusts have a legal duty to provide governance information ([academies](#))
- under the [Companies Act 2006](#) academy trusts have a legal duty to provide information on members and directors to Companies House ([academies](#))

## Collecting governance information

We collect personal information via pre-employment checks and Governor Hub. Governance roles data is essential for the school, academy or academy trust's operational use. Whilst the majority of personal information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it may be requested on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with UK GDPR, we will inform you at the point of collection, whether you are required to provide certain information to us or if you have a choice in this.

## Storing governance information

We hold data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please visit [hopelearningcommunity.org.uk/policies](https://hopelearningcommunity.org.uk/policies)

## Who we share governance information with

We routinely share this information with:

- our local authority (where applicable)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- other governors on the same governing board
- Disclosure & Barring Service
- the clerk to the board
- Governor Services
- Companies House

## Why we share governance information

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

### **Department for Education (DfE)**

The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational providers and local authorities. We are required to share information about our governance roles with the Department for Education (DfE) under the requirements set out in the Academy Trust Handbook.

All data is entered manually on the GIAS service and held by the Department for Education (DfE) under a combination of software and hardware controls which meet the current [government security policy framework](#).

For more information, please see 'How Government uses your data' section.

## **The Clerk to the Board**

In case of emergency or an Ofsted inspection it is necessary for the school office to hold details of any individuals involved in the governance of the school. The school Single Central Record will record that appropriate checks have been carried out for everyone involved in the governance of the school.

## **Other members/trustees/ambassadors or in the same MAT**

For ease of communication and with your consent contact details may be shared with other governors on the board.

## **Disclosure and Barring Service**

All maintained school governors are required to have an enhanced criminal records certificate from the DBS. Further details on DBS checks and Section 128 checks in schools are within the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

## **Companies House**

Academy trusts are required to tell Companies House within 14 days about changes to the Board including new appointments, resignations and change of details.

## **Requesting access to your personal data**

Under data protection legislation, you have the right to request access to information about you that we hold. To make a request for your personal information, contact [governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk](mailto:governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk)

Your rights include:

- the right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data – this is called 'right to be informed'.
- the right to ask us for copies of personal information we have about you – this is called 'right of access', this is also known as a subject access request (SAR), data subject access request or right of access request.
- the right to ask us to change any information you think is not accurate or complete – this is called 'right to rectification'.
- the right to ask us to delete your personal information – this is called 'right to erasure'.
- the right to ask us to stop using your information – this is called 'right to restriction of processing'.
- the 'right to object to processing' of your information, in certain circumstances.
- rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.
- the right to withdraw consent at any time (where relevant).
- the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner](#) if you feel we have not used your information in the right way.

There are legitimate reasons why your information rights request may be refused. For example, some rights will not apply:

- right to erasure does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task.
- right to portability does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests.
- right to object does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't have the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent.

If you have a concern or complaint 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 (ICO) at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by the Department for Education (DfE), please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

## Withdrawal of consent and the right to lodge a complaint

Where we are processing your personal data with your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent. If you change your mind, or you are unhappy with our use of your personal data, please let us know by contacting [governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk](mailto:governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk)

## 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 *February 2026*

## Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact the Director of Governance and Compliance email:[governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk](mailto:governance@hopelearningcommunity.org.uk)

## How Government uses your data

The governance data that we lawfully share with the Department for Education (DfE) via GIAS will:

- increase the transparency of governance arrangements
- enable local authority maintained, academies, academy trusts and the Department for Education (DfE) to identify more quickly and accurately individuals who are involved in governance and who govern in more than one context
- allow the Department for Education (DfE) to be able to uniquely identify an individual and in a small number of cases conduct checks to confirm their suitability for this important and influential role

## Data collection requirements

To find out more about the requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (DfE) including the data that we share with them, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-database-of-governors>.

Some of these personal data items are not publicly available and are encrypted within the GIAS system. Access is restricted to a small number of Department for Education (DfE) and education establishment users with a Department for Education (DfE) Sign-in (DSI) account who need to see it in order to fulfil their official duties. The information is for internal purposes only and not shared beyond the Department for Education (DfE), unless the law allows it.

## How to find out what personal information the Department for Education (DfE) holds about you

Under the terms of the [Data Protection Act 2018](#) you're entitled to ask the Department for Education (DfE):

- if they are processing your personal data
- for a description of the data they hold about you
- the reasons they're holding it and any recipient it may be disclosed to
- for a copy of your personal data and any details of its source

If you want to see the personal data held about you by the Department for Education (DfE), you should make a subject access request (SAR). Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education's (DfE) personal information charter that is published at the address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>.

or

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/requesting-your-personal-information/requesting-your-personal-information#your-rights> To contact DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>.