



General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Data Retention Policy

Date Policy Formally Agreed By Governors: May 2018

Next Review Date: May 2020

Person Responsible for Implementation and Monitoring: Head teacher

Statement of intent

Ruston C.E. Primary School is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of its information and ensuring that all records within the school are only accessible by the appropriate individuals. In line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the school also has a responsibility to ensure that all records are only kept for as long as is necessary to fulfil the purpose(s) for which they were intended.

This document complied with the requirements set out in the GDPR, which will come into effect on 25 May 2018. The government has confirmed that the UK's decision to leave the EU will not affect the commencement of the GDPR.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- General Data Protection Regulation (2016)
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Limitation Act 1980 (as amended by the Limitation Amendment Act 1980)

This policy will be implemented in accordance with the following school policies:

- Data Protection Policy
- Freedom of Information Policy
- E-Safety Policy

2. Responsibilities

The school as a whole has a responsibility for maintaining its records and record-keeping systems in line with statutory requirements.

The data protection officer (DPO) is responsible for the management of records of the school.

The DPO is responsible for promoting compliance with this policy and reviewing the policy on an annual basis, in conjunction with the school governors.

The DPO is responsible for ensuring that all records are stored securely, in accordance with the retention periods outlined in this policy and are disposed of correctly.

3. Management of pupil records

Pupil records are specific documents that are used throughout a pupil's time in the education system - they are passed to each school a pupil attends and includes all personal information relating to them, e.g. date of birth, home address, as well as their progress and achievement.

The following information is stored on the front of a pupil record, and will be easily accessible:

- Forename, surname, gender and date of birth
- Unique pupil number
- Note of the date when the file was opened
- Note of the date when the file was closed, if appropriate

The following information is stored inside the front cover of a pupil record, and will be easily accessible:

- ethnic origin, religion and first language (if not English)
- any preferred names
- position in their family, e.g. eldest sibling
- emergency contact details and the name of the pupil's doctor
- any allergies or other medical conditions that are important to be aware of
- names of parents, including their home addresses and telephone numbers
- name of the school, admission number, the date of admission and the date of leaving, where appropriate
- any other agency involvement, e.g. speech and language therapist

The following information is stored in a pupil record, and will be easily accessible:

- admissions form
- details of any SEND
- if the pupil has attended an early years setting, the record of transfer
- privacy notice - only the most recent notice will be included
- annual written reports to parents
- national curriculum and agreed syllabus record sheets
- notes relating to major incidents and accidents involving the pupil
- any information about an education and healthcare (EHC) plan and support offered in relation to the EHC plan
- any notes indicating child protection disclosures and reports
- any information relating to exclusions
- any correspondence with parents or external agencies relating to major issues, e.g. mental health

- notes indicating that records of complaints made by parents or the pupil

The following information is subject to shorter retention periods and therefore, will be stored separately in a personal file for the pupil in the school office:

- absence notes
- parental and, where appropriate, pupil consent forms for educational visits, photographs and videos, etc.
- correspondence with parents about minor issues, e.g. behaviour

Hard copies of disclosures and reports relating to child protection are stored in a sealed envelope, in a securely locked filing cabinet in the school office - a note indicating this is marked in the pupils file.

Hard copies of complaints made by parents or pupils are stored in a file in the headteacher's office - a note indicating this is marked on the pupil's file.

Actual copies of accident and incident information are stored separately on the school management information system and held in line with the retention periods outlined in this policy - a note indicating this is marked on the pupil's file. An additional copy may be placed in the pupil's file in the event of a major accident or incident.

The school will ensure that no pupil records are altered or amended before transferring them to the next school that the pupil will attend.

The only exception to the above is if any records placed on the pupil's file have a shorter retention period and may need to be removed in such cases, the person responsible for disposing records, will remove these records.

Electronic records relating to a pupil's record will also be transferred to the pupil's next school. Section 10 of this policy outlines how electronic records will be transferred.

The school will not keep any copies of information stored within a pupil's record, unless there is ongoing legal action at the time during which the pupil leaves the school. The responsibility of these records will then transfer to the next school that the pupil attends.

The school will, wherever possible, avoid sending a pupil record by post. Where a pupil record must be sent by post, it will be sent by registered post, with an accompanying list of the files included. The school it is sent to is required to sign a copy of the list to indicate that they have received the files and return this to the school.

4. Retention of pupil records and other pupil-related information.

The table below outlines the schools retention periods for individual pupil records and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will be destroyed in line with retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Admissions		
Register of admissions	Three years after the date on which the entry is made	Information is reviewed and the register may be kept permanently
Proof of address (supplied as part of the admissions process)	The current academic year, plus one year	Securely disposed of
Supplementary information submitted, including religious and medical information etc. (where the admission was successful)	Added to the pupil's record	Securely disposed of
Supplementary information submitted, including religious and medical information etc. (where the admission was not successful)	Until the appeals process has been completed	Securely disposed of
Pupils' educational record		
Pupils' educational records	Whilst the pupil remains at the school	Transferred to the next destination - if this is an independent Academy/School, home-schooling or outside of the UK, the file will be kept by the LA and retained for the statutory period.
Child protection information held on a pupil's record	Stored in a sealed envelope for the same length of time as the pupil's record	Securely disposed of - shredded
Child protection records held in a separate file	25 years after the pupil's date of birth	Securely disposed of - shredded
Attendance		
Attendance registers	Last date of entry on to the register, plus three years	Securely disposed of
Letters authorising absence	Current academic year, plus two years	Securely disposed of
SEND		

SEND files, reviews and individual education plans	25 years after the pupil's date of birth (as stated on the pupil's record)	Information is reviewed and the file may be kept for longer than necessary if it is required for the School to defend themselves in a failure to provide sufficient education' case
Statement of SEN maintained under section 324 of the Education Act 1996 or an EHC plan maintained under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (and any amendments to the statement or plan)	25 years after the pupil's date of birth (as stated on the pupil's record)	Securely disposed of unless it is subject to a legal hold
Information and advice provided to parents regarding SEND	25 years after the pupil's date of birth (as stated on the pupil's record)	Securely disposed of unless it is subject to a legal hold
Accessibility strategy	25 years after the pupil's date of birth (as stated on the pupil's record)	Securely disposed of unless it is subject to a legal hold
Curriculum management		
SATs results	25 years after the pupil's date of birth (as stated on the pupil's record)	Securely disposed of
Published admissions number (PAN) reports	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Valued added and contextual data	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Self-evaluation forms	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Pupils work	Returned to pupils at the end of the academic year, or retained for the current academic year, plus one year	Securely disposed of
Extra-curricular activities		
Parental consent forms for school trips where no major incident occurred	Until the conclusion of the trip	Up to 22 years after the pupil's date of birth
Parental consent for school trips where a major incident occurred	25 years after the pupil's date of birth on the pupil's record (permission slips of all pupils on the trip will also be held to	Securely disposed of

	show that the rules had been followed for all pupils)`	
Family liaison officers and home-school liaison assistants		
Day books	Current academic year, plus two years	Reviewed and destroyed if no longer required
Reports for outside agencies	Duration of the pupils time at school	Securely disposed of
Annual Referral forms	Whilst the referral is current	Securely disposed of
Contact data sheets	Current academic year	Reviewed and destroyed if no longer active
Contact database entries	Current academic year	Reviewed and destroyed if no longer active
Group registers	Current academic year, plus two years	Securely disposed of

5. Retention of staff records

The table below outlines the school retention period for staff records and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will also be destroyed in line with the retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Operational		
Staff members personal file	Termination of employment plus six years	Securely disposed of
Timesheets	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Annual appraisal and assessment records	Current academic year, plus five years	Securely disposed of
ID card photo	Duration of the staff members time at the school	Securely disposed of, two weeks after termination of contract
School email account	Duration of the staff members time at the school	Account suspended immediately after termination of contract. Account removed 1 year after.
Recruitment		
Records relating to the appointment of a new	Date of appointment, plus six years	Securely disposed of

headteacher		
Records relating to the appointment of new members of staff (unsuccessful candidates)	Date of appointment of successful candidate, plus six months	Securely disposed of
Records relating to the appointment of new members of staff (successful candidates)	Relevant information added to the member of staff's personal file and other information retained for six months	Securely disposed of
DBS certificates	Up to six months	Securely disposed of
Proof of identity as part of the enhanced DBS check	After identity has been proven	Reviewed and a note kept of what was seen and what has been checked - if it is necessary to keep a copy this will be placed on the staff member's personal file, if not, securely disposed of
Evidence of right to work in the UK	Added to staff personal file or, if kept separately, termination of employment, plus no longer than two years	Securely disposed of
Disciplinary and grievance procedures		
Child protection allegations, including where the allegation is unproven	Added to staff personal file, and until the individual's normal retirement age, or 10 years from the date of the allegation - whichever is longer If allegations are malicious, they are removed from personal files	Reviewed and securely disposed of - shredded
Oral warnings	Date of warning, plus six months	Securely disposed of - if placed on staff personal file, removed from file
Written warning - Level 1	Date of warning, plus six months	Securely disposed of - if placed on staff personal file, removed from file
Written warning - level 2	Date of warning, plus 12 months	Securely disposed of - if placed on staff personal file, removed from file
Final warning	Date of warning, plus 18 months	Securely disposed of - if placed on staff personal file,

		removed from file
Records relating to unproven incidents	Conclusion of the case, unless the incident is child protection related and is disposed of as above	Securely disposed of

6. Retention of senior leadership and management records

The table below outlines the schools retention periods for senior leadership and management records, and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will also be destroyed in line with the retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Governing board		
Agendas for governing board meetings	One copy alongside the original set of minutes - all others disposed of without retention	Securely disposed of
Original, signed copies of the minutes of governing board meetings	Permanent	Securely disposed of
Inspection copies of the minutes of governing board meetings	Date of meeting, plus three years	Shredded if they contain any sensitive and personal information
Reports presented to the governing board	Minimum of six years, unless they refer to individual reports - these are kept permanently	Securely disposed of or, if they refer to individual reports, retained with the signed, original copy of minutes
Meeting papers relating to the annual parents' meeting	Date of meeting, plus a minimum of six years	Securely disposed of
Instruments of government, including articles of association	Permanent	Securely disposed of
Trusts and endowments managed by the governing board	Permanent	Retained in the school whilst it remains open, then provided to the county archives service when the school closes
Action plans created and administered by the governing	Duration of the action plan, plus three years	Securely disposed of

board		
Policy documents created and administered by the governing board	Duration of the policy, plus three years	Securely disposed of
Records relating to complaints dealt with by the governing board	Date of the resolution of the complaint, plus a minimum of six years	Reviewed for further retention in case of contentious disputes, then securely disposed of
Annual reports created under the requirements of The Education (Governors' Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002	Date of report, plus 10 years	Securely disposed of
Proposals concerning changing the status of the school	Date proposal accepted or declined, plus three year	Securely disposed of
Headteacher and senior leadership team (SLT)		
Log books of activity in the school maintained by the headteacher	Date of last entry, plus a minimum of six years	Reviewed and offered to the county archives service if appropriate
Minutes of SLT meetings and the meetings of other internal administrative bodies	Date of the meeting, plus three years	Reviewed and securely disposed of
Reports created by the headteacher or SLT	Date of the report, plus a minimum of three years	Reviewed and securely disposed of
Records created by the headteacher and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	Current academic year, plus six years	Reviewed and securely disposed of
Records created by the headteacher and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	Date of correspondence, plus three years	Reviewed and securely disposed of
Professional development plan	Duration of the plan, plus six years	Securely disposed of
School development plan	Duration of the plan, plus three years	Securely disposed of

7. Retention of health and safety records

The table below outlines the schools retention periods for health and safety records, and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will also be destroyed in line with the retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Health and safety		
Health and safety policy statements	Duration of policy, plus three years	Securely disposed of
Health and safety risk assessments	Duration of risk assessment, plus three years	Securely disposed of
Records relating to accidents and injuries at work	Date of incident, plus 12 years. In the case of serious accidents, a retention period of 15 years is applied	Securely disposed of
Accident reporting - adults	Date of the incident, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Accident reporting - pupils	25 years after the pupil's date of birth, on the pupil's record	Securely disposed of
Control of substances hazardous to health	Current academic year, plus 40 years	Securely disposed of
Information relating to areas where employees and persons are likely to come into contact with asbestos	Date of last action, plus 40 years	Securely disposed of
Information relating to areas where employees and persons are likely to come into contact with radiation	Date of last action, plus 50 years	Securely disposed of
Fire precautions log books	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of

8. Retention of financial records

The table below outlines the schools retention periods for financial records and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will also be destroyed in line with the retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Payroll and pensions		
Maternity pay records	Current academic year, plus	Securely disposed of

	three years	
Records held under Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Risk management and insurance		
Employer's liability insurance certificate	Closure of the school, plus 40 years	Securely disposed of
Asset management		
Inventories of furniture and equipment	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Burglary, theft and vandalism report forms	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Accounts and statements including budget management		
Annual accounts	Current academic year, plus six years	Disposed of against common standards
Loans and grants managed by the school	Date of last payment, plus 12 years	Information is reviewed then securely disposed of
All records relating to the creation and management of budgets	Duration of the budget, plus three years	Securely disposed of
Invoices, receipts, order books, requisitions and delivery notices	Current financial year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Records relating to the collection and banking of monies	Current financial year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Records relating to the identification and collection of debt	Current financial year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
Contract management		
All records relating to the management of contracts under seal	Last payment on the contract, plus 12 years	Securely disposed of
All records relating to the management of contracts under signature	Last payment on the contract, plus six years	Securely disposed of
All records relating to the monitoring of contracts	Current academic year, plus two years	Securely disposed of
School fund		
Cheque books, paying in books, ledgers, invoices, receipts,	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of

bank statements and journey books		
School meals		
Free school meals registers	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of
School meals registers	Current academic year, plus three years	Securely disposed of
School meals summary sheets	Current academic year, plus three years	Securely disposed of

9. Retention of other school records

The table below outlines the schools retention periods for any other records held by the school, and the action that will be taken after the retention period, in line with any requirements.

Electronic copies of any information and files will also be destroyed in line with the retention periods below.

Type of file	Retention period	Action taken after retention period ends
Maintenance		
All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by contractors	Current academic year, plus six years	Securely disposed of against common standards
Operational Administration		
Newsletters and other items with short operation use	Current academic year, plus one year	Securely disposed of against common standards
Visitors' books and signing-in sheets	Current academic year, plus six years	Reviewed then securely disposed of
Records relating to the creation and management of parent-teacher associations and/or old pupil associations	Current academic year, plus six years	Reviewed then securely disposed of

10. Storing and protecting information

The DPO will undertake a risk analysis to identify which records are vital to school management and these records will be stored in the most secure manner.

Where possible, backed-up information will be stored off the school premises, using a central backup service operated by the LA.

Confidential paper records are kept in a locked filing cabinet or drawer, with restricted access.

Confidential paper records are not left unattended or in clear view when held in a location with general access.

Digital data is coded, encrypted or password-protected, both on a local hard drive and on a network drive that is regularly backed-up off-site.

Where data is saved on removable storage or a portable device, the device is kept in a locked and fireproof filing cabinet, drawer or safe when not in use.

Memory sticks are not used to hold personal information. Unless they are password protected and fully encrypted.

All electronic devices are password-protected to protect the information on the device in case of theft.

Where possible, the school enables electronic devices to allow the remote blocking or deletion of data in case of theft.

Staff and governors do not use their personal laptops or computers for school purposes.

All members of staff are provided with their own secure login and password, and every computer regularly prompts users to change their password.

When replying to group emails, only replying to the sender. Not copying in others unless applicable.

Circular emails to parents are sent blind carbon copy (bcc), so email addresses are not disclosed to other recipients.

When sending confidential information by fax, members of staff always check that the recipient is correct before sending.

Where personal information that could be considered private or confidential is taken off the premises, to fulfil the purpose of the data in line with the GDPR, either in an electronic or paper format, staff take extra care to follow the same procedures for security, e.g. keeping devices under lock and key. The person taking the information from the school premises accepts full responsibility for the security of the data.

Before sharing data, staff always ensure that:

- They have consent from data subjects to share it
- Adequate security is in place to protect it
- The data recipient has been outlined in a privacy notice

All staff members will implement a 'clear desk policy' to avoid unauthorised access to physical records containing sensitive or personal information. All confidential information will be stored in a securely locked filing cabinet or drawer with restricted access.

Under no circumstances are visitors allowed access to confidential or personal information. Visitors to areas of the school containing sensitive information are supervised at all times.

The physical security of the school buildings and storage systems, and access to them, is reviewed regularly. If an increased risk in vandalism, burglary or theft is identified, this will be reported to the headteacher and extra measures to secure data storage will be put in place.

The school takes its duties under the GDPR seriously and any unauthorised disclosure may result in disciplinary action.

The DPO is responsible for continuity and recovery measures are in place to ensure security of protected data.

Any damage to or theft of data will be managed in accordance with the schools Data Security Breach Incident Management Policy.

11. Accessing information

Riston C.E. Primary School is transparent with data subjects, the information we hold and how it can be accessed.

All members of staff, parents of registered pupils and other users of the school, e.g. visitors and third-party clubs, are entitled to:

- Know what information the school holds and processes about them or their child and why
- Understands how to gain access to it
- Understands how to provide and withdraw consent to information being held
- Understands what the school is doing to comply with its obligations under the GDPR

All members of staff, parents of registered pupils and other users of the school and its facilities have the right, under the GDPR, to access certain personal data being held about them or their child.

The school will adhere to the provisions outlined in the school GDPR Data Protection Policy when responding to requests seeking access to personal information.

12. Digital continuity statement

Digital data that is retained for longer than six years will be named as part of a digital continuity statement.

The DPO will identify any digital data that will need to be named as part of a digital continuity statement.

The data will be archived to dedicated files on the schools server, which is password-protected - this will be backed-up in accordance with section 10 of this policy.

Memory sticks will never be used to store digital data, subject to a digital continuity statement.

The following information will be included within the digital continuity statement:

- A statement of purpose and requirements for keeping records
- The names of individuals for long term data preservation
- A description of the information assets to be covered by the digital preservation statement
- A description of when the record needs to be captured into the approved file formats
- A description of the appropriate supported file formats for long-term preservation
- A description of the retention of all software specification information and licence information
- A description of how access to the information asset register is to be managed in accordance with the GDPR

13. Information audit

The school conducts information audits on an annual basis against all information held by the school to evaluate the information the school is holding, receiving and using, and to ensure that this is correctly managed in accordance with the GDPR. This includes the following information:

- Paper documents and records
- Electronic documents and records
- Databases
- Microfilm or microfiche
- Sound recordings
- Video and photographic records
- Hybrid files, containing both paper and electronic information

The information audit may be completed in a number of ways, including, but not limited to;

- Interviews with staff members with key responsibilities - to identify information and information flows etc.
- Questionnaires to key staff members to identify information and information flows, etc.
- A mixture of the above

The DPO is responsible for completing the information audit. The information audit will include the following:

- The school data needs
- The information needed to meet those needs
- The format in which data is stored

- How long data needs to be kept for
- Vital records status and any protective marking
- Who is responsible for maintaining the original document

The school will consult with staff members involved in the information audit process to ensure that the information is accurate.

Once it has been confirmed that the information is accurate, the school will record all details on the school Information Asset Register.

14. Disposal of data

Where disposal of information is outlined as standard disposal, this will be recycled appropriate to the form of the information, e.g. paper recycling, electronic recycling.

Where disposal of information is outlined as secure disposal, this will be shredded or pulped and electronic information will be scrubbed clean and, where possible, cut. The school will keep a record of all files that have been destroyed.

Where the disposal action is indicated as reviewed before it is disposed, the school will review the information against its administrative value - if the information should be kept for administrative value, and the school will keep a record of this.

If, after the review, it is determined that the data should be disposed of, it will be destroyed in accordance with the disposal action outlined in this policy.

Where information has been kept for administrative purposes, the headteacher will review the information again after three years and conduct the same process. If it needs to be destroyed, it will be destroyed in accordance with the disposal action outlined in this policy. If any information is kept, the information will be reviewed every three subsequent years.

Where information must be kept permanently, this information is exempt from the normal review procedures.

15. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the school in conjunction with the headteacher - the next scheduled review date for this policy is May 2020.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff and the governing board.