



## St Christopher's School Privacy Notice – Pupils, Parents, Carers & Guardians

### 1. WHO ARE WE

St Christopher's School (Hampstead) Ltd is an independent preparatory school and a registered charity – our charity number is 312999. We are a registered company – our company number is 01088993.

### 2. WHAT THIS PRIVACY NOTICE IS FOR

This policy is intended to provide information about how the school will use (or "process") personal data about individuals including: its current, past and prospective pupils; and their parents, carers or guardians (referred to in this policy as "parents"). Collectively, we refer to these individuals in the Privacy Notice as the school's community. However, the school has a separate Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice applicable to its employees and other staff.

This information is provided because Data Protection Law gives individuals rights to understand how their data is used. Staff, parents and pupils are all encouraged to read this Privacy Notice and understand the school's obligations to its entire community.

This **Privacy Notice** applies alongside any other information the school may provide about a particular use of personal data, for example when collecting data via an online or paper form.

This **Privacy Notice also** applies in addition to the school's other relevant terms and conditions and policies, including:

- any contract between the school and its staff or the parents of pupils;
- any policies or notices applicable to staff concerning the handling of personal data;
- the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children and use of CCTV;
- the school's retention of records policy;
- the school's safeguarding, pastoral, or health and safety policies, including as to how concerns or incidents are recorded; and
- the school's IT policies, including its Acceptable Use Policy and Online Safety Policy .

Anyone who works for, or acts on behalf of, the school (including staff, volunteers, governors and service providers) will be subject to suitable training and/or policies commensurate with their role.

### 3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR DATA PROTECTION

The School has appointed Diana Robinson , Interim Bursar as Data Protection Coordinator who will deal with all your requests and enquiries concerning the school's uses of your personal data (see

section on Your Rights below) and endeavour to ensure that all personal data is processed in compliance with this policy and data protection law.

#### **4. WHY THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO PROCESS PERSONAL DATA**

In order to carry out its ordinary duties to pupils and parents, the school needs to process a wide range of personal data about individuals (including current, past and prospective pupils or parents) as part of its daily operation – including those under a contract with its staff, or parents of its pupils.

Some of this activity the school will need to carry out in order to fulfil its legal rights, duties or obligations.

Other uses of personal data will be made in accordance with the school's legitimate interests, or the legitimate interests of another, provided that these are not outweighed by the impact on individuals, and provided it does not involve special or sensitive types of data.

The school expects that the following uses will fall within that category of its (or its community's) "legitimate interests":

- For the purposes of pupil selection (and to confirm the identity of prospective pupils and their parents), and retain a record if appropriate for the purposes of future applications or openings;
- To provide education services, including musical education, physical training, co-curricular activities to pupils, and monitoring pupils' progress and educational needs, including where such services are provided remotely (either temporarily or permanently);
- Maintaining relationships with alumnae and the school community, including direct marketing or fundraising activity;
- For the purposes of donor due diligence, and to confirm the identity of prospective donors and their background;
- For the purposes of management planning and forecasting, research and statistical analysis, including that imposed or provided for by law (such as tax, diversity or gender pay gap analysis);
- To enable relevant authorities to monitor the school's performance and to intervene or assist with incidents as appropriate;
- To give and receive information and references about past, current and prospective pupils, including relating to outstanding fees or payment history, to/from any educational institution that the pupil attended or where it is proposed they attend;
- To enable pupils to take part in assessments, and to publish achievements of pupils of the school;
- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral care;
- To monitor (as appropriate) use of the school's IT and communications systems in accordance with the school's Online Safety Policy;
- To make use of photographic images of pupils in school publications, on the school website and (where appropriate) on the school's social media channels in accordance with the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children;
- For security purposes, including CCTV in accordance with the school's CCTV policy;
- For regulatory record keeping compliance purposes in respect of immigration requirements, as an employer and/ or visa sponsor;
- To carry out or cooperate with any school or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process; and

- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the school's purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the school.

In addition, the school will on occasion need to process special category personal data (concerning health, ethnicity, religion) in accordance with rights or duties imposed on it by law, including as regards safeguarding, or from time to time by explicit consent where required. These reasons will include:

- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral (and where necessary, medical) care, and to take appropriate action in the event of an emergency, incident or accident, including by disclosing details of an individual's medical condition or other relevant information where it is in the individual's interests to do so: for example for medical advice, for social protection, safeguarding, and cooperation with police or social services, for insurance purposes or to caterers or organisers of school trips who need to be made aware of dietary or medical needs;
- To provide educational services in the context of any special educational needs of a pupil;
- As part of any school or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process that involves such data, for example if there are SEND, health or safeguarding elements; or For legal and regulatory purposes (for example child protection, diversity monitoring and health and safety) and to comply with its legal obligations and duties of care.

## **5. TYPES OF PERSONAL DATA PROCESSED BY THE SCHOOL**

This will include by way of example:

- names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and other contact details;
- bank details and other financial information, e.g. about parents who pay fees to the school, and any anti-money laundering information we are required to collect by law;
- past, present and prospective pupils' academic, disciplinary, admissions and attendance records (including information about any special needs), and examination scripts and marks;
- nationality and other immigration status information (eg right to work/study), including copies of passport information;
- references given or received by the school about pupils, and relevant information provided by previous educational establishments and/or other professionals or organisations working with pupils;
- correspondence with and concerning pupils and parents past and present; and images of pupils (and occasionally other individuals) engaging in school activities, and images captured by the school's CCTV system (in accordance with the school's policy on Taking, Storing and Using images of children)

## **6. HOW THE SCHOOL COLLECTS DATA**

Generally, the school receives personal data from the individual directly (including, in the case of pupils, from their parents). This may be via a form, or simply in the ordinary course of interaction or communication (such as email or written assessments).

However, in some cases personal data will be supplied by third parties (for example another school, or other professionals or authorities working with that individual); or collected from publicly available resources.

## **7. WHO HAS ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA AND WHO THE SCHOOL SHARES IT WITH**

Processing by third parties. For the most part, personal data collected by the school will remain within the school, and will be processed by appropriate individuals only in accordance with access protocols (i.e. on a 'need to know' basis). However, some functions are outsourced including e.g. HR, accounting, IT, cloud storage/ records management, monitoring, mailing. In accordance with Data Protection Law, this type of external data processing is always subject to contractual assurances that personal data will be kept securely and used only in accordance with the school's specific directions.

### **Data sharing**

Occasionally, the school – including its governors – will need to share personal information relating to its community of staff, pupils and parents with third parties, such as:

- the Parents, Teachers and Friends of St Christopher's Association (PTFA)
- appropriate contractors, such as visiting music teachers;
- professional advisers (e.g. lawyers, insurers, PR advisers and accountants);
- examination boards;
- Stage 3 complaints panels, which will include independent panel members;
- third parties and their advisers in the event of a possible or actual sale, merger or other restructuring of the school; and
- government authorities (e.g. HMRC, DfE, CAFCASS, police, Home Office, a relevant public health / NHS body and / or local authority) and/or appropriate regulatory bodies e.g. the [Teaching Regulation Agency](#), the [Independent Schools Inspectorate](#), the [Charity Commission](#).
- Senior schools

If you are a parent, the school may share your contact details with the PTFA. The PTFA will be a separate data controller and the school is not responsible for the PTFA's processing of personal data.

Occasionally the school governors will need to process parent or pupil information, such as when a complaint is raised (and in accordance with the School Complaints Procedure, this may also require the involvement of independent panel members).

## **ACCESS TO SENSITIVE DATA**

Particularly strict rules of access apply in the context of “special category” data, most notably:

- medical records; and
- pastoral or safeguarding files.

Medical data. The school needs to process such information to comply with statutory duties and to keep pupils and others safe, but the school will ensure only authorised staff can access information on a need-to-know basis. This may include wider dissemination if needed for school trips or for catering purposes. Express consent will be sought where appropriate.

However, a certain amount of any SEND pupil's relevant information will need to be provided to staff more widely in the context of providing the necessary care and education that the pupil requires.

### **Safeguarding data**

Staff, pupils and parents are reminded that the school is under duties imposed by law and statutory guidance (including Keeping Children Safe in Education or KCSIE) to record or report incidents and concerns that arise or are reported to it, in some cases regardless of whether they are proven, if they meet a certain threshold of seriousness in their nature or regularity. This is likely to include file notes on personnel or safeguarding files, low-level concerns records kept about adults, and in some cases referrals to relevant authorities such as the LADO or police.

KCSIE also requires that, whenever a pupil leaves the school to join another school or college, their child protection file is promptly provided to the new organisation. The school will retain a copy in accordance with its retention policy for material related to safeguarding matters.

For further information about this, please view the school's Safeguarding Policy.

## **8. HOW LONG WE KEEP PERSONAL DATA**

The school will retain personal data securely and only in line with how long it is necessary to keep for a legitimate and lawful reason. Typically, the legal recommendation for how long to keep ordinary pupil personnel files is up to 7 years following departure from the school. However, incident reports and safeguarding files will need to be kept much longer, in accordance with specific legal requirements.

If you have any specific queries about how our retention policy is applied, or wish to request that personal data that you no longer believe to be relevant is considered for erasure, please contact the Bursar at [bursar@stchristophers.london](mailto:bursar@stchristophers.london). However, please bear in mind that the school will often have lawful and necessary reasons to hold on to some personal data even following such request.

A limited and reasonable amount of information will be kept for archiving purposes, for example; and even where you have requested we no longer keep in touch with you, we will need to keep a record of the fact in order to fulfil your wishes (called a "suppression record").

## **9. KEEPING IN TOUCH AND SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL**

The school will use the contact details of parents, alumnae and other members of the school community to keep them updated about the activities of the school, or alumnae and parent events of interest, including by sending updates and newsletters, by email and by post. Unless the relevant individual objects, the school will also:

- Share personal data about parents and/or alumnae, as appropriate, with organisations set up to help establish and maintain relationships with the school community, such as the PTFA);
  - Contact parents and/or alumnae (including via PTFA) by post and email in order to promote and raise funds for the school and, where appropriate, other worthy causes;
- Should you wish to limit or object to any such use, or would like further information about them, please contact the Bursar in writing. You always have the right to withdraw consent, where given, or otherwise object to direct marketing or fundraising. However, the school is nonetheless likely to retain some of your details (not least to ensure that no more communications are sent to that particular address, email or telephone number).

## **10. YOUR RIGHTS**

Individuals have various rights under data protection law to access and understand their own personal data held and processed by the school, and in some cases ask for it to be erased or amended or have it transferred to others, or for the school to stop processing it – but subject to certain exemptions and limitations.

The school will endeavour to respond to any such written requests as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within statutory time-limits (which is generally one month, but actually fulfilling more complex or multiple requests, e.g. those involving third party information, may take 1-2 months longer).

### **a. Rights of access, etc.**

The school will be better able to respond quickly to smaller, targeted requests for information made during term time. If the request for information is manifestly excessive or similar to previous requests, the school may ask you to reconsider, or require a reasonable fee for the administrative costs of complying with the request, or in certain cases refuse the request (but only where Data Protection Law allows it).

If you consider that the personal data we hold on you is inaccurate, please let us know. However, the school will not necessarily delete or amend views, opinions, notes or records purely on the request of an individual who disputes the account, although we may keep a record of all parties' viewpoints.

### **b. Requests that cannot be fulfilled**

You should be aware that GDPR rights (including the right of access) are limited to your own personal data, and certain data is exempt from the right of access. This will include information which identifies other individuals (and parents need to be aware this may include their own children, in certain limited situations – please see further below), or information which is subject to legal privilege (for example legal advice given to or sought by the school, or documents prepared in connection with a legal action, or where a duty of confidence is owed by a legal adviser).

The school is also not required to disclose any pupil examination scripts (or other information consisting solely of pupil test answers, potentially including in mock exam scripts or other types of exams / tests used to assess performance (although markers' comments may still be disclosable if they constitute pupil personal data). The school is also not required to provide examination or other test marks ahead of their ordinary publication date, nor share any confidential reference held by the school that was (or will be) given (or received) for the purposes of the education, training, appointment or employment of any individual.

You may have heard of the "right to be forgotten". However, we will sometimes have compelling reasons to refuse specific requests to amend, delete or stop processing your (or your child's) personal data: for example, a legal requirement, or where it falls within a legitimate interest identified in this Privacy Notice. Generally, if the school still considers the processing of the personal data to be reasonably necessary, it is entitled to continue. All such requests will be considered on their own merits.

#### **c. Pupil requests**

Pupils can make subject access requests for their own personal data, provided that, in the reasonable opinion of the school, they have sufficient maturity to understand the request they are making. A pupil of any age may ask a parent or other representative to make a subject access request on their behalf.

Indeed, while a person with parental responsibility will generally be entitled to make a subject access request on behalf of younger pupils, the law still considers the information in question to be the child's: for older pupils, the parent making the request may need to evidence their child's authority for the specific request. Requests not considered in the child's best interests may sometimes be refused.

Pupils aged e.g. 13 and above are generally assumed to have this level of maturity, although this will depend on both the child and the personal data requested, including any relevant circumstances at home. Slightly younger children may, however, be sufficiently mature to have a say in this decision, depending on the child and the circumstances.

#### **d. Parental requests, etc.**

It should be clearly understood that the rules on subject access are not the sole basis on which information requests are handled. Parents may not have a statutory right to information, but they and others will often have a legitimate interest or expectation in receiving certain information about pupils without their consent. The school may consider there are lawful grounds for sharing with or without reference to that pupil.

Parents will in general receive educational and pastoral updates about their children in accordance with the Parent Contract. Where parents are separated, the school will in most cases aim to provide the same information to each person with parental responsibility, but may need to factor in all the circumstances including the express wishes of the child, court orders, pastoral or safeguarding and child protection issues.

All information requests from, on behalf of, or concerning pupils – whether made under subject access or simply as an incidental request – will therefore be considered on a case by case basis.

#### **e. Consent**

Where the school is relying on consent as a means to process personal data, any person may withdraw this consent at any time (subject to similar age considerations as above). Examples where we do rely on consent are: e.g. certain types of uses of images, certain types of fundraising activity. Please be aware, however, that the school may not be relying on consent but have another lawful reason to process the personal data in question even without your consent.

That reason will usually have been asserted under this Privacy Notice, or may otherwise exist under some form of contract or agreement with the individual (e.g. a parent contract).

#### **f. Whose rights?**

The rights under Data Protection Law belong to the individual to whom the data relates. However, the school will often rely on parental authority or notice for the necessary ways it processes personal data relating to pupils – for example, under the parent contract, or via a form. Parents and pupils should be aware that this is not necessarily the same as the school relying on strict consent (see section on Consent above).

Where consent is required, it may in some cases be necessary or appropriate – given the nature of the processing in question, and the pupil's age and understanding – to seek the pupil's consent. Parents should be aware that in such situations they may not be consulted, depending on the interests of the child, the parents' rights at law or under their contract, and all the circumstances.

In general, the school will assume that pupils' consent is not required for ordinary disclosure of their personal data to their parents, e.g. for the purposes of keeping parents informed about the pupil's activities, progress and behaviour, and in the interests of the pupil's welfare. That is unless, in the school's opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise.

However, where a pupil seeks to raise concerns confidentially with a member of staff and expressly withholds their agreement to their personal data being disclosed to their parents, the school may be under an obligation to maintain confidentiality unless, in the school's opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise; for example where the school believes disclosure will be in the best interests of the pupil or other pupils, or if required by law.

Pupils are required to respect the personal data and privacy of others, and to comply with the school's Online Safety Policy and the school rules. Staff are under professional duties to do the same covered under the relevant staff policy.

## **11. DATA ACCURACY AND SECURITY**

The school will endeavour to ensure that all personal data held in relation to an individual is as up to date and accurate as possible. Individuals must please notify the Bursar of any significant changes to important information, such as contact details, held about them.

An individual has the right to request that any out-of-date, irrelevant or inaccurate or information about them is erased or corrected (subject to certain exemptions and limitations under Data Protection Law): please see above for details of why the school may need to process your data, of who you may contact if you disagree.

The school will take appropriate technical and organisational steps to ensure the security of personal data about individuals, including policies around use of technology and devices, and access to school

systems. All staff and governors will be made aware of this policy and their duties under Data Protection Law and receive relevant training.

## **12. THIS POLICY**

The school will update this Privacy Notice from time to time. Any substantial changes that affect your rights will be provided to you directly as far as is reasonably practicable.

## **13. QUERIES AND COMPLAINTS**

Any comments or queries on this policy should be directed to the Privacy and Compliance Officer – the Bursar using the following contact details [bursar@stchristophers.london](mailto:bursar@stchristophers.london)

If an individual believes that the school has not complied with this policy or acted otherwise than in accordance with Data Protection Law, they should utilise the school complaints procedure and should also notify the Bursar. You can also make a referral to or lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), although the ICO recommends that steps are taken to resolve the matter with the school before involving the regulator.

## **A. PRIVACY NOTICE FOR PUPILS**

### **a. Introduction**

You have a legal right to be informed about how our school uses any personal information that we hold about you. To comply with this, we provide a 'privacy notice' to you where we are processing your personal data.

This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about you.

We, St Christopher's School (Hampstead) Ltd, are the 'data controller' for the purposes of data protection law.

Our Data Protection Coordinator is the Bursar, (see 'Contact us' below).

### **b. The personal data we hold**

We hold some personal information about you to make sure we can help you learn and look after you at school.

For the same reasons, we get information about you from some other places too – like other schools, the local council and the government.

This information includes:

- Your contact details
- Your test results
- Your attendance records
- Your characteristics, like your ethnic background or any special educational needs
- Any medical conditions you have
- Details of any behaviour issues or exclusions
- Photographs
- CCTV images

### **c. Why we use this data**

We use this data to help run the school, including to:

- Get in touch with you and your parents when we need to
- Check how you're doing in exams and work out whether you or your teachers need any extra help
- Track how well the school as a whole is performing
- Look after your wellbeing

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

We will only collect and use your information when the law allows us to. Most often, we will use your information where:

- We need to comply with the law

- We need to use it to carry out a task in the public interest (in order to provide you with an education)

Sometimes, we may also use your personal information where:

- You, or your parents/carers have given us permission to use it in a certain way
- We need to protect your interests (or someone else's interest)

Where we have got permission to use your data, you or your parents/carers may withdraw this at any time. We will make this clear when we ask for permission, and explain how to go about withdrawing consent.

Some of the reasons listed above for collecting and using your information overlap, and there may be several grounds which mean we can use your data.

#### **e. Collecting this information**

While in most cases you, or your parents/carers, must provide the personal information we need to collect, there are some occasions when you can choose whether or not to provide the data.

We will always tell you if it's optional. If you must provide the data, we will explain what might happen if you don't.

#### **f. How we store this data**

We will keep personal information about you while you are a pupil at our school. We may also keep it after you have left the school, where we are required to by law.

We have a record retention schedule which sets out how long we must keep information about pupils. Please contact the Bursar to request a copy of our record retention schedule.

#### **g. Data sharing**

We do not share personal information about you with anyone outside the school without permission from you or your parents/carers, unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

Where it is legally required, or necessary for another reason allowed under data protection law, we may share personal information about you with:

- Our local authority – to meet our legal duties to share certain information with it, such as concerns about pupils' safety and exclusions
- The Department for Education (a government department)
- Your family and representatives
- Educators and examining bodies
- Our regulator, the Independent Schools Inspectorate
- Suppliers and service providers – so that they can provide the services we have contracted them for
- Financial organisations
- Central and local government
- 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, tribunals
- Professional bodies
- Senior schools

#### **h. Transferring data internationally**

Where we share data with an organisation that is based outside the European Economic Area, we will protect your data by following data protection law.

#### **i. Your rights**

##### **I. How to access personal information we hold about you**

You can find out if we hold any personal information about you, and how we use it, by making a 'subject access request', as long as we judge that you can properly understand your rights and what they mean.

If we do hold information about you, we will:

- Give you a description of it
- Tell you why we are holding and using it, and how long we will keep it for
- Explain where we got it from, if not from you or your parents
- Tell you who it has been, or will be, shared with
- Let you know if we are using your data to make any automated decisions (decisions being taken by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Give you a copy of the information

You may also ask us to send your personal information to another organisation electronically in certain circumstances.

If you want to make a request please contact our data protection officer.

##### **II. Your other rights over your data**

You have other rights over how your personal data is used and kept safe, including the right to:

- Say that you don't want it to be used if this would cause, or is causing, harm or distress
- Stop it being used to send you marketing materials
- Say that you don't want it used to make automated decisions (decisions made by a computer or machine, rather than by a person)
- Have it corrected, deleted or destroyed if it is wrong, or restrict our use of it
- Claim compensation if the data protection rules are broken and this harms you in some way

**j. Complaints**

We take any complaints about how we collect and use your personal data very seriously, so please let us know if you think we've done something wrong.

You can make a complaint at any time by contacting our data protection officer.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office in one of the following ways:

- 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

**k. 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 Coordinator:

- Diana Robinson at [bursar@stchristophers.london](mailto:bursar@stchristophers.london)