

# The Dean Close Foundation

## PRIVACY NOTICE

For the purposes of Data Protection legislation the Data Controller is deemed to be The Dean Close Foundation (the Foundation) incorporating Dean Close Senior School, Dean Close Prep School, Dean Close Pre-prep School, Dean Close Kingham Hill School, Dean Close St John's School, Dean Close Airthrie School and Dean Close Nurseries.

The Foundation address:-

The Dean Close Foundation  
Shelburne Rd  
Cheltenham  
GL51 6HE  
Charity Number 1086829  
Company Number 4193948

The Dean Close Foundation also includes Dean Close Services Limited which is covered by a separate Privacy Notice.

### WHAT THIS PRIVACY NOTICE IS FOR

This policy is intended to provide information about how the Foundation will use (or "process") personal data about individuals including: its staff; its current, past and prospective pupils; and their parents, carers or guardians (referred to in this policy as "parents").

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 Foundation's obligations to its entire community.

This **Privacy Notice** applies alongside any other information the Foundation 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 Foundation's other relevant terms and conditions and policies, including:

- any contract between the setting and its staff or the parents of pupils;
- the individual setting's Photography, Filming and Recording policy;
- the individual setting's Security, Access Control Workplace Safety and Lone working policy
- the individual setting's Retention of Records policy;
- the individual setting's Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure policy
- the individual setting's Safeguarding, pastoral, or health and safety policies, including as to how concerns or incidents are recorded; and
- the individual setting's IT policies, including its Acceptable Use of IT policy and eSafety policy.

Anyone who works for, or acts on behalf of, the Foundation (including staff, volunteers, governors and service providers) should also be aware of and comply with the Foundation data protection policy, which also provides further information about how personal data about those individuals will be used.

## **RESPONSIBILITY FOR DATA PROTECTION**

The Bursar or Operations Bursar will be able to deal with all your requests and enquiries concerning the Foundation's use 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.

The Bursar and Operations Bursar can be contacted on the following telephone numbers: 01242 258086 / 01242 267414 and email addresses [bursary@deanclose.org.uk](mailto:bursary@deanclose.org.uk) / [crawlinson@deanclose.org.uk](mailto:crawlinson@deanclose.org.uk).

## **WHY THE FOUNDATION NEEDS TO PROCESS PERSONAL DATA**

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

Some of this activity the Foundation will need to carry out in order to fulfil its legal rights, duties or obligations – including those under a contract with its staff, or parents of its pupils.

Other uses of personal data will be made in accordance with the Foundation'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 Foundation 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) including to undertake recruitment from outside the EEA while complying with our obligations as a Tier 4 Sponsor;
- To provide childcare and education services, including musical education, physical training or spiritual development, career services, and extra-curricular activities to pupils, and monitoring pupils' progress and educational needs;
- Maintaining relationships with alumni and the Foundation 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 Foundation's, or individual settings, 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; and to provide references to potential employers of past pupils;

- To enable pupils to take part in national or other assessments, and to publish the results of public examinations or other achievements of pupils of the individual settings or the Foundation;
- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral care;
- To monitor (as appropriate) use of the individual settings IT and communications systems in accordance with the Foundation's IT: acceptable use policy;
- To make use of photographic images of pupils in individual settings or Foundation publications, on the individual settings or Foundation website and (where appropriate) on the individual settings or Foundation social media channels in accordance with the Foundation's policy on taking, storing and using images of children;
- For security purposes, including CCTV in accordance with the settings CCTV policy;
- To investigate or cooperate with any school or nursery in the investigation of external complaints, disciplinary, grievance or other investigation process; and
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the individual settings or Foundation purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance.

In addition, the individual settings or Foundation will on occasion need to process special category personal data (concerning health, ethnicity, religion, biometrics or sexual life) or criminal records information (such as when carrying out DBS and other checks) in accordance with rights or duties imposed on it by law, including as regards safeguarding and employment, 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 educational or recreational 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;
- To provide spiritual education in the context of any religious beliefs;
- In connection with employment of its staff, for example DBS checks, welfare, union membership or pension plans;
- As part of any individual settings, Foundation or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process that involves such data, for example if there are SEN, 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.

## **TYPES OF PERSONAL DATA PROCESSED BY THE FOUNDATION**

This will include by way of example:

- names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and other contact details;
- car details (about those who use our car parking facilities);
- bank details and other financial information, e.g. about parents who pay fees to the school;

- past, present and prospective pupils' academic, disciplinary, admissions and attendance records (including information about any special needs), and examination scripts and marks;
- personnel files, including in connection with academics, employment or safeguarding;
- where appropriate, information about individuals' health and welfare, and contact details for their next of kin;
- references given or received by the individual settings or Foundation about pupils, and relevant information provided by previous educational establishments and/or other professionals or organisations working with pupils;
- correspondence with and concerning staff, pupils and parents past and present; and
- images of pupils (and occasionally other individuals) engaging in school/nursery activities, and images captured by the school's CCTV system (in accordance with the Foundation's policy on Photography, Filming and Recording);

## **HOW THE SCHOOL COLLECTS DATA**

Generally, the individual settings or Foundation receive 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/nursery, or other professionals or authorities working with that individual).

## **WHO HAS ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA AND WHO THE FOUNDATION SHARES IT WITH**

Occasionally, the individual settings or Foundation will need to share personal information relating to its community with third parties, such as:

- professional advisers (e.g. lawyers, insurers, PR advisers and accountants);
- government authorities (e.g. HMRC, DfE, police or the local authority); and
- appropriate regulatory bodies.

For the most part, personal data collected by the **individual settings or Foundation** will remain within the Foundation, and will be processed by appropriate individuals only in accordance with access protocols (i.e. on a 'need to know' basis). Particularly strict rules of access apply in the context of:

- medical records held and accessed only by the school doctor and appropriate medical staff under his/her supervision, or otherwise in accordance with express consent; and
- pastoral or safeguarding files.

However, a certain amount of any SEN 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.

In addition, individual settings will provide pupil information to the next natural education provider in the Foundation, ie Dean Close Pre-Prep will share the data of a pupil approaching leaving age with the Dean Close Prep School and so on.

Staff, pupils and parents are reminded that the individual settings and Foundation are under duties imposed by law and statutory guidance (including [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)) 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, and in some cases referrals to relevant authorities such as the LADO or police. For further information about this, please view the Foundation's Safeguarding Policy.

Finally, in accordance with Data Protection Law, some of the individual settings or Foundation processing activity is carried out on its behalf by third parties, such as IT systems, web developers or cloud storage providers. This is always subject to contractual assurances that personal data will be kept securely and only in accordance with the individual settings or Foundation specific directions.

## HOW LONG WE KEEP PERSONAL DATA

The Foundation 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 staff and pupil personnel files is up to 7 years following departure from the individual **settings**. However, incident reports and safeguarding files will need to be kept much longer, in accordance with specific legal requirements. Certain personal data contained within individual setting's registers or publications, for example labelled photographs, production or music programmes, or individual work may be retained within the Archives for historical purposes.

The Foundation's Retention of Records Policy; in line with the ongoing Independent **Inquiry** into Child **Sexual Abuse** (IICSA), led by Prof. Alexis Jay, the Dean Close Foundation have amended the Retention of Records Policy to reflect the instruction to retain until further notice, all pupil and staff documentation.

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. However, please bear in mind that the Foundation 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").

## KEEPING IN TOUCH AND SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION

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

- Share personal data about parents and/or alumni, as appropriate, with organisations set up to help establish and maintain relationships with the Foundation community, such as the Old Decanians, the Old Hillians and the Old Johnians;
- Contact parents and/or alumni by post and email in order to promote and raise funds for the individual settings or Foundation;

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 Foundation 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).

## **YOUR RIGHTS**

- Rights of access, etc.

Individuals have various rights under Data Protection Law to access and understand personal data about them held by the individual settings or Foundation, and in some cases ask for it to be erased or amended or have it transferred to others, or for the individual settings or Foundation to stop processing it – but subject to certain exemptions and limitations.

Any individual wishing to access or amend their personal data, or wishing it to be transferred to another person or organisation, or who has some other objection to how their personal data is used, should put their request in writing to the Bursar.

The Foundation 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 one month in the case of requests for access to information).

The Foundation will be better able to respond quickly to smaller, targeted requests for information. If the request for information is manifestly excessive or similar to previous requests, the Foundation may ask you to reconsider, or require a proportionate fee (but only where Data Protection Law allows it).

- Requests that cannot be fulfilled

You should be aware that the right of access is 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 individual schools or Foundation, or documents prepared in connection with a legal action).

The Foundation is also not required to disclose any pupil examination scripts (or other information consisting solely of pupil test answers), provide examination or other test marks ahead of any ordinary publication, nor share any confidential reference given by the individual settings or Foundation itself for the purposes of the education, training 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. All such requests will be considered on their own merits.

- Pupil requests

Pupils can make subject access requests for their own personal data, provided that, in the reasonable opinion of the Foundation, they have sufficient maturity to understand the request they are making (see section **Whose Rights?** below). A pupil of any age may ask a parent or other representative to make a subject access request on his/her 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.

Pupils aged 13 or 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.

### 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 Foundation may consider there are lawful grounds for sharing with or without reference to that pupil.

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.

- Consent

In the very specific circumstances where the Foundation 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).

Please be aware however that the Foundation may not be relying on consent but have another lawful reason to process the personal data in question even without your consent.

Indeed as previously mentioned the vast majority of the Foundation's processing activity is undertaken using legitimate interest as the legal basis.

- Whose rights?

The rights under Data Protection Law belong to the individual to whom the data relates. However, the individual settings or Foundation 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 Foundation 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 Foundation'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 Foundation may be under an obligation to maintain confidentiality unless, in the Foundation's opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise; for example where the Foundation 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 individual setting's Acceptable use of IT Policy and the setting's rules.

## **DATA ACCURACY AND SECURITY**

The Foundation 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 Foundation may need to process your data, and who you may contact if you disagree.

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

## **THIS POLICY**

The Foundation 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. In any event the latest version will always be on our web site.

## **QUERIES AND COMPLAINTS**

Any comments or queries on this policy should be directed to the Bursar.

If an individual believes that the Foundation has not complied with this policy or acted otherwise than in accordance with Data Protection Law, they should utilise the individual school's or Foundation [complaints / grievance] 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 Foundation before involving the regulator.

[Date of Issue: 20/04/2026

Owner: Bursar

The Privacy Notice is an Appendix of the Data Protection Policy]