



PRIVACY NOTICE FOR PUPILS

Policy Custodian: Senior Master

Approving Body: MTS Senior Leadership Team

Approved: May 2026

(This policy does not extend to Merchant Taylors' Prep.)

Pupil privacy notice - key information

We'd like to let you know **how** and **why** we collect information about you and **what** we do with it. This information is called "personal data". The School uses all sorts of personal data. We use your personal data to:

- Teach you and other pupils;
- Make sure that you and others are behaving properly;
- Look after you and other people, for example, your friends;
- Make sure that we comply with the law, to protect and take care of the School; and
- Advertise and tell people about the School and what we do here, for example, we may use photos of you in our prospectus, on our website or on social media.

Here are some examples of how we use your personal data and where that personal data comes from.

- Admissions forms give us lots of personal data. We get information from you, your parents and your teachers. Your old school also gives us information about you.
- Sometimes we get personal data from people outside of the school, for example, your doctor, where we need this data to look after you.
- We may need to report some of your personal data to the government, for example, the Department for Education). We will also need to tell the local authority that you attend the School, if you leave the School or if we have concerns about you.
- We tell your parents education guardian about how well you are doing at School. We will also tell them about your behaviour where we think this is the right thing to do.
- We may use photos or videos of you to show what the School is like and to advertise the School. These photos and videos may be put on the School's website, on our social media or in our prospectus. We may continue to use these photos and videos after you have left the School. Sometimes we use photos and videos for teaching purposes, for example, video recording a lesson.
- We publish our public exam results, sports fixtures and other news on the website. We also put articles and photos in the local news to tell people about what we have been doing.
- We use CCTV to make sure the School site is safe and sometimes to investigate incidents, for example, where pupils have been misbehaving or someone has been hurt. CCTV is not used in private areas such as showers or toilets.

- We will send you information to keep you up to date with what is happening at the School. For example, information about events and activities taking place (including fundraising events) and the School e-newsletter, Scissorum.
- We may keep you updated about what is happening at the School after you have left, including telling you about events and activities, and to find out how you are getting on.
- We may also pass your details onto the alumni organisation which is called the Old Merchant Taylors' Society.
- We have a way to see what you are doing when you use school computers or the internet, and we can also block websites and content. This helps to keep you and others safe.
- You have some important rights in your personal data. You can ask us to:
 - i. correct your personal data if you think there is a mistake or if something is missing, for example, if we have the wrong address for you);
 - ii. give you a copy of your personal data;
 - iii. delete your personal data;
 - iv. share your personal data with someone else;
 - v. limit how we use your personal data, for example, whilst we check whether there is a mistake in your personal data); and
 - vi. object to how we use your personal data.

These rights don't apply in all cases. You can find more detail in the full privacy notice see the Policies Section of the School website at the link [Policies & Inspection Reports | Merchant Taylors' School](#).

Further information

We have a longer document that goes into more detail about how we use your personal data on the School's website. This Privacy can be found at the bottom of this document. You can also get a copy Policies Section of the School website at the link [Policies & Inspection Reports | Merchant Taylors' School](#).

If you have any questions about how we use your personal data, or if there is anything that you are worried about, please speak to your Head of Section. Alternatively, speak to your parents who will talk to us on your behalf.

Pupil Privacy Notice

Introduction

This document helps you to understand **how** and **why** we collect your personal data and **what** we do with it. It also explains the decisions that you can make about your personal data.

If you have any questions about this notice, or if there is anything you are worried about, please talk to your Head of Section You can also speak to your parents who will talk to us on your behalf.

What is "personal data"?

Personal data is information about you. It includes your name, date of birth and address as well as things like exam results, medical details, information about how well you behave. CCTV images, photos and video recordings of you are also your personal data.

Where we get your personal data from and who we share it with

We get your personal data from lots of different places such as your teachers, parents, your old schools and any future school, other pupils and their parents. We might also get information from the government, like the local authority. They might give us information that we need to look after you.

Sometimes, we will also share information with these people and organisations, for example, we will tell your parents about how well you are doing at school.

Below, we give lots of examples of where we get your personal data from, and who we share it with.

Why we use your personal data and our lawful bases for doing so

The School uses your personal data to:

1. Teach and educate you and other pupils.
2. Make sure that you and others are behaving properly.
3. Look after you and other people, for example, your friends.
4. Make sure that we comply with the law, our other obligations and to look after the School.
5. To tell people about the School and what we do, for example, we may use photos of you to advertise the School including on our website or on social media.

We can only use your personal data if we have a good reason. These are as follows:

- **Legitimate interests:** This means that the School is using your personal data where this is necessary for the School's legitimate interests or someone else's legitimate interests. We use legitimate interests for all of the five purposes above.
- **Public task:** This is where we use your personal data to help the School do its job as a school, for example, to teach and look after you. This applies to purposes 1, 2, 3 and 4 listed above.
- **Legal obligation:** Sometimes we have to use your personal data because the law says we have to, for example, to tell the Government if we were worried about you. This applies to purpose 3, and in some cases, purpose 4, in the list above.
- **Vital interests (emergencies):** Although this won't happen very often, we may need to use your personal data to protect you or someone else in an emergency.

In more detail

Here we give you examples of how and why the School uses your personal data, where we get it from, and who it is shared with. It does not contain anything different to what we have said above but goes into more detail.

We use colours to help you see which lawful bases we are using. **LI** means legitimate interests, **PI** means public task, **LO** means lawful obligation and **EM** means an emergency. So (**LI**, **PI**) means that we are using both legitimate interests and public task for that purpose.

Admissions and when you start at school

- 1 We use your personal data before you start at our school, for example, when making sure that any reasonable adjustments/suitable arrangements are made for you when you visit, marking your entrance exams and learning more about you from your parents before you join the School (**LI**, **PI**).
- 2 The admissions form which your parents completed gave us personal data about you, such as, your name, contact details, disabilities, any particular difficulties you have with work, medical information (such as information about an allergy) and your family circumstances (**LI**, **PI**).
- 3 We may let your old school know if you have been offered a place with us. This will help your old school to see what happens to their pupils when they leave, which will help them improve for the future. (**LI**).
- 4 Your old school(s) also give(s) us information about how well you did and any difficulties you had so that we can teach and take care of you (**LI**, **PI**).

During your time at school

- 5 We get information from you, your parents and your teachers.
- 6 We will share information about you with teachers and other people at Merchant Taylors', for example:
 - 6.1 We may need to tell some of your teachers if you have a health issue and use your medical information to look after you (**LI**, **PI**).
 - 6.2 We will need to tell your teachers if you have special educational needs or need extra help with some things (**LI**, **PI**).
 - 6.3 We will need to share information about you, for example, about your health and wellbeing with the School Nurse or School Counsellor (**LI**, **PI**, **EM**).
 - 6.4 We will share information about your allergies so that we can look after you (**LI**, **PI**, **EM**).
 - 6.5 If we have information that you have a disability, we will use the information to adjust and to support you. (**LI**, **PI**).
- 7 Where appropriate, the School will have information about your religious beliefs or other beliefs and practices. For example, if you do not eat certain foods or have requested to be absent from School in order to undertake Religious Observance (**LI**, **PI**).
- 8 We will also hold information such as ethnic group for the purposes of making an annual statistical return to the Independent School's Council (**LI**).

- 9 We will use information about your gender to provide support and to help us to meet your needs. (LI, LO, PI).

Monitoring and keeping you and others safe

- 10 We use personal data to make sure the school site and buildings are safe, for example, we keep a record of who is on the school sites at any given time such as after School. (LI, PI).
- 11 We record your attendance and if you have time away from the School, we record the reason(s) why (LI, PI).
- 12 We use CCTV to make sure the School site is safe. We may also use CCTV to help with complaints and any incidents which take place on our sites for example, where pupils have been misbehaving or someone has been injured. CCTV is not used in private areas such as the showers or toilets (LI, PI).
- 13 When you use school computers or Computers that connect to the School Wi-Fi network we can see what websites and apps you have visited. We can also see what is being said in documents, in emails and in other messages that you have sent or received. This helps us make sure you are safe and not looking at anything that could be harmful or upsetting. These checks are done by teachers and other staff at the School and we also use software that does these checks automatically.
- 14 We also have special filters that block certain websites and content. This means some websites won't open at school because we want to protect you from seeing things that are not safe or appropriate.
- 15 If you would like more information about paragraphs 13 and 14, you can read the acceptable use of IT policy or speak to The Head of IT at the School (LI, PI)].
- 16 We must make sure that our computer systems are working well and are secure. This may involve information about you, for example, our anti-virus software might scan files containing information about you (LI).

Sharing information about you

- 17 We share personal data with Medical Professionals and other experts, for example, if we need to do this to look after you or in relation to pupil immunisations hosted at the School (LI, PI).
- 18 We will need to share some information about you with the government, for example, the Department for Education. We will also need to share your personal data with the local authority for example, to tell them that you attend the School, if you leave the School or let them know if we are worried about you. The local authority may also share information with us for these reasons (LI, LO, PI).
- 19 We may need to share information about you with external regulators, who are responsible for things such as checking that the School is a good school and that it keeps people safe. Here are some examples:
- 19.1 The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) if there is a health and safety issue at the School (LI, LO).
- 19.2 The School is a charity which means that we may need to share your personal data with the Charity Commission which checks how we are behaving as a charity. We

may also share your personal data with the Fundraising Regulator if this is relevant to their work (LI, PI, LO).

- 19.3 The School is sometimes inspected to make sure that we are continuing to be a good school. We will have to make your personal data available to the inspectors to help them to carry out their job (LI, PI, LO).
- 20 We might need to know if there are legal matters involving you or your family, including any special rules from the court, for example, if one of your parents has to collect you from school on certain days. This is so that we can look after you and the other pupils at the School (LI, PI).
- 21 If you are from another country we have to make sure that you have the right to study in the UK. Sometimes the government will ask us to provide information as part of our reporting requirements. In addition to this we have a duty to provide information about you to UK Visas and Immigration who are part of the government (LI, LO, PI).
- 22 Additionally, if you are sponsored by us under a Child Student or Student visa, we will have to provide information about you to UK Visas and Immigration to comply with our duties as your sponsor (LI, LO, PI).
- 23 Depending on where you will go when you leave us, we will provide your personal data to another School, College, University, UCAS or potential employer. For example, we will share information about your exam results and provide references. Any references that we provide or receive will be treated as confidential which means that you will not usually be provided with a copy (LI, PI).
- 24 We may pass on information to your next school to help them look after you, for example, information about any concerns we have had about your welfare (LI, LO, PI).
- 25 When you take public examinations, for example, i/GCSEs or A-levels, we will need to share information about you with examination boards. For example, if you require extra time in your exams (LI, PI). We may share your public exam results with your parents (LO, PI).
- 26 If someone makes a complaint about the School or a teacher, or if there is a dispute, then we may need to use your personal data to investigate and respond. We might also have to share your personal data with the government and regulators if they become involved, for example, if they need to decide if the teacher should be able to teach anymore (LI, PI, LO).
- 27 If you need extra help, then you may have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- 28 The School may share the EHCP with the local authority to support you. (LI, PI, LO).
- 29 We may share your personal data with the other schools in the Large Independent Day School (LIDS) and Haileybury groups that the school is a part of. For example, how well you have behaved and your test results] (LI, PI).
- 30 Sometimes we hire someone from outside of the School to provide activities. For example, this could be a teacher who does not normally work for the School or it could be a company that provides outdoor activities. We may share your personal data with them, for example, to tell them what sports you are good at (LI, PI).
- 31 We will share your personal data with the governors of the School if it concerns something they should know about or the information will enable them to fulfil their

role as a governor. For example, this will apply if you have done something really well or if there is a problem at the School they need to know about (LI, PI).

- 32 We may need to share information about you with the police (and with others who do a similar job to the police), if something has gone wrong or to help with an enquiry. For example, if one of your classmates is injured at School or if there is a burglary, or if you or someone else have misbehaved in a serious way (LI, LO, PI).
- 33 We use consultants, experts and other advisors to assist the School in fulfilling its obligations and to help run the School properly. We will share your personal data with them if this is relevant to their work (LI, PI).
- 34 We may share some information with our insurers if there has been an incident or to make sure that we have the insurance that we need (LI, PI).
- 35 If the School is dealing with a request for information, query, or complaint, we may need to share your personal data with the other people involved, such as, other pupils and their parents (LI, PI).
- 36 Parents based outside of the UK will sometimes choose someone to help them during the admissions process (this person is usually called an overseas agent). If this applies to you, your parents may give the overseas agent information to pass on to the School. The School will sometimes share information with the overseas agent, for example, we may send them the letter telling your parents that we are offering you a place so that they can give this to your parents (LI).
- 37 We will share information about how well you are doing, for example, progress in lessons and (where fair) information about your behaviour with your parents or education guardian so they can support your schooling (LI, PI).
- 38 If you have behaved badly in relation to one of your classmates, for example, we suspect bullying then we might share information with that pupil's parents, for example, what sanction you have been given (LI, PI).
- 39 If we ever decide to change how we are run, then we may share your personal data with the others involved, for example, if we decide that another charity will run the School, then we will share your personal data with the charity (LI).
- 40 We use others to handle personal data on our behalf for the following purposes:
 - 40.1 IT consultants who help run the School's computer systems, for example, they might need to access a file containing personal data when investigating a fault or checking the security of our IT network;
 - 40.2 Caterers may have information about any food allergies or intolerances that you have;
 - 40.3 We use software, apps and websites to help us with teaching, and to help us provide pastoral support to you and your classmates. For example, we use MS_Teams or MySchool Portal which allows you to access homework which has been set by your teachers]; and
 - 40.4 We use third party "cloud computing" services to store some information rather than the information being stored on hard drives on the School site].

- 41 We may share your personal data with anyone who works with the third parties mentioned above, for example, if one of your parents asks us to give some documents to their lawyer.
- 42 Anyone that we share information with may give us information about you as well.

Photos, videos and promoting the school

- 43 You might have seen that the School often publishes photos and videos of our pupils. We might put these photos and videos on our website, on our social media pages and in our advertising, for example, our prospectus. We do this to show people (such as pupils thinking of coming to our school) what we do here and to advertise the School (LI).
- 44 We may continue to use these photos and videos after you have left the School (LI).
- 45 If we would like to use a photo or video in a more unusual or high-profile way, for example, on a banner or billboard we will speak to you about this first.
- 46 Sometimes we use photos and videos for teaching purposes, for example, to record a drama lesson (LI, PI).
- 47 If you have concerns about us using photos or videos of you, please speak to your Head of Section. It is best if you let us know before any picture or video is taken. If you stand on the edge of a group in a photograph, then it will be easy to edit you out of the picture.
- 48 We may use your personal data to help make the School better for example, after you have left the School, we might send you information about how you can donate to the Bursary fund (LI).
- 49 We publish our public exam results, sports fixtures and other news on the website and put articles and photos in the local news to tell people about what we have been doing (LI).
- 50 We will keep you updated about what is happening at the School after you have left. This includes to tell you about events and activities and to find out how you are getting on. We may also pass your details onto the alumni organisation which is called the Old Merchant Taylors' Society (LI).

We also keep some information forever for archiving purposes and for historical research purposes, for example, we keep some old photos so that we have a record of what the School was like in the past as this helps get people interested in the School's history. Information held in our archive may be made publicly available but this would only be done in compliance with data protection laws. (LI, PI).

Consent

We may sometimes ask for your consent to use your personal data. For example, we may ask for your consent to email you about a fundraising event.

If you give us your consent to use your personal data then you can change your mind at any time. Please speak to your Head of Section if you would like to withdraw any consent that you have given.

Sending information to other countries

When the School sends personal data outside of the UK, we have to consider whether your personal data will be kept safe. Some countries are considered by the UK Government to have adequate rules

and this includes all of the European Union and some other countries, such as, Argentina, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea and Switzerland.

The School sends your personal data to countries with adequate rules when we:

- Go on a trip to the European Union and share your personal data with activity providers and the hotel and
- Store your personal data in cloud computer storage with servers in the European Union. (Some of your data is stored by Companies which self-certify as to the quality of their data security. These companies are most typically based in the United States of America).

In certain circumstances, we may send your personal data to countries which do not have the same level of protection for personal data as there is in the UK. For example, we may:

- Store your personal data in cloud computer storage with servers in the United States of America; or in other countries which do not have not the same level of data protection as the UK. This is most likely to happen if you go abroad on a School Trip to a country not listed above.

We will provide you with additional details about where we are sending your personal data, whether the country has an adequacy finding and if not the safeguards which we have in place outside of this privacy notice.

If you have any questions about the safeguards that are in place please contact the School's Privacy Officer who is also the School' Senior Master.

For how long do we keep your personal data?

We keep your personal data for as long as we need to in order to teach and look after you. We will keep a lot of information after you have left the School, for example, so that we can find out what happened if you make a complaint.

In some cases we may keep your personal data for a longer time than usual, but we would only do so if we had a good reason and only if we are allowed to do so under data protection law. Please see our Information and Records Retention Policy for more detailed information. This can be provided on request to the Privacy Officer.

What decisions can you make about your personal data?

You can ask us to:

- correct your personal data if you think there is a mistake or if something is missing, for example, if we have the wrong address for you;
- give you a copy of your personal data and certain other information relating to your personal data. This is known a subject access request;
- delete your personal data, for example, where we no longer need your personal data;
- share your personal data with someone else;
- limit how we use your personal data, for example, whilst we check whether there is a mistake in your personal data; and
- object to how we use your personal data where:
 - we are using it for direct marketing purposes for example, to send you an email about a fundraising opportunity;
 - our lawful basis is either legitimate interests or public task. Please see the section "Our lawful bases for using your personal data" above; and

- if we ever use your personal data for scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes.

Your Head of Section can give you more information about your data protection rights. Please note that these rights do not apply in all cases and we will not always have to comply with your request. For example, if we keep a record because we are worried about you then we will often need to keep this even if you ask us to delete it.

Further information and guidance

Your Head of Section can answer any questions which you might have.

Like other organisations we need to keep your personal data safe, up to date, only use it for what we said we would, destroy it when we no longer need it and most importantly - treat the information we get fairly.

Please speak to your Head of Section if:

- you would like to exercise any of your rights listed above; or
- you would like us to update the information we hold about you; or
- you have any concerns about how your personal data is used or shared.

The Privacy Officer is in charge of the School's data protection compliance. You can ask to speak to Privacy Officer yourself. Alternatively, you can ask your parents to speak to us on your behalf if you prefer.

If we ask you to tell us something and you do not do so then this may make it more difficult for us to teach and look after you and others.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 ('the Act'), the school has notified the Information Commissioner's Office of its processing activities. The school's ICO registration number is Z1484349 and its registered address is *Merchant Taylors' School Ltd*. The School Address is Sandy Lodge Lane, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 2AT

You have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ico.org.uk). The ICO is the data protection regulator which means that they enforce the rules that we have to obey.

If you have any concerns about anything we have done with your personal data, please kindly tell us first so that we have an opportunity to put things right.