



ELTHAM COLLEGE  
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

**Privacy Notice**

**For the Eltham College Family of  
Schools**

**Last reviewed: December 2023**



## Version Control Information

Reason For Amendment	Name	Date	Main changes
New document	Bursar	May 2018	Prepared in response to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation, due to come into effect on 25 May 2018
Annual review	Bursar	May 2019	Updated the “related documents” list. No other changes,
Review with Development/Elthamians team	Bursar	June 2019	Updated the description on p.7 of the archives (under “How long we keep personal data”) and explained more clearly how we carry out research for fundraising (under “Keeping in touch and supporting the school”).
Annual Review	Bursar	November 2020	No changes
Annual Review	Bursar	September 2021	No changes
Annual Review	Bursar	August 2022	No changes
Annual Review	Bursar	July 2023	Policy extended to include Blackheath Prep with effect from 1 September 2023; and explicit reference included on the need to share data with third parties who provide services to the School.
Review post-merger between Eltham College & Blackheath Prep	Bursar	December 2023	Minor revisions & re-formatting

### Related document:

Eltham College Senior & Junior Schools	Blackheath Prep
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Privacy Notice (for students in the Senior School) available on the Eltham College website</li> <li>• Staff Privacy Notice</li> <li>• Development Office Privacy Notice</li> <li>• Staff Handbook</li> <li>• Acceptable Use of IT Policy</li> <li>• Safeguarding Policy (including Child Protection)</li> <li>• CCTV Policy</li> <li>• Policy on Taking, Storing and Using Images of Children</li> <li>• Social Media Policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff Privacy Notice</li> <li>• Staff Handbook</li> <li>• Child Protection, Safeguarding &amp; Prevent Policy</li> <li>• IT Equipment and Service Delivery</li> <li>• Online Safety</li> </ul>



## 1. Who we are

This privacy notice relates to Eltham College, which is the Data Controller for the purposes of the relevant legislation ("Data Protection Law")<sup>1</sup>. Eltham College comprises three schools: Eltham College Senior School, and Eltham College Junior School, and with effect from 1 September 2023 Blackheath Prep. Eltham College is a registered company with company number 03245525, and a registered charity (number 1058438), and is registered at Grove Park Road, London SE9 4QF.

## 2. What this privacy notice is for

This policy is intended to provide information about how Eltham College will use (or "process") personal data about individuals including its staff, its current, past and prospective students and their parents, carers or guardians. Those in the role of parents, carers or guardians are 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 students are all encouraged to read this Privacy Notice and understand the obligations of the Family of Schools to its entire community.

This Privacy Notice applies alongside any other information the Schools 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 respective Schools' other relevant terms and conditions and policies, including:

- any contract between the School and its staff or the parents of students
- the policies on taking, storing and using images of children
- the CCTV policies
- the retention of records policy
- the data protection policy for staff
- the Safer Recruitment Policy
- the safeguarding, pastoral, and health and safety policies, including how concerns or incidents are reported and recorded
- the IT policies, including Acceptable Use of IT policies and Online Bullying and Online Safety policies.

Anyone who works for, or acts on behalf of, the Family of schools (including staff, volunteers, governors and service providers) should also be aware of and comply with this Privacy Notice, and where appropriate, the Family of School's Staff Privacy Notice, which also provides further information about how personal data about those individuals will be used.

## 3. Responsibility for data protection

Eltham College Family of Schools has appointed the Bursar as Privacy and Compliance Officer who will deal with all your requests and enquiries concerning the Family of School'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 may be contacted on [bursar@eltham-college.org.uk](mailto:bursar@eltham-college.org.uk), or by telephone on 020 8857 7360.



#### 4. Why the Schools needs to process personal data

To carry out its ordinary duties to staff, students and parents, the Schools need to process a wide range of personal data about individuals (including current, past and prospective staff, students or parents) as part of its daily operation. Some of this activity is necessary to fulfil the Schools' legal rights, duties or obligations – including those under a contract with its staff or parents of its students.

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

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

- For the purposes of student selection (and to confirm the identity of prospective students and their parents)
- To provide education services, including musical education, physical training or spiritual development, career services, and extra-curricular activities to students, and monitoring 'students' progress and educational needs
- Maintaining relationships with alumni 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 and relevant interests
- 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 Schools' performance and to intervene or assist with incidents as appropriate
- To give and receive information and references about past, current and prospective students, including relating to outstanding fees or payment history, to/from any educational institution that the student attended or where it is proposed they attend; and to provide references to potential employers of past students
- For the purposes of staff recruitment and selection, including regulatory checks for the assessment of suitability, and the giving and receiving of references about past, current and prospective members of staff
- To enable students to take part in national or other assessments, and to publish the results of public examinations or other achievements of pupils of the school
- To safeguard 'students' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral care
- To monitor (as appropriate) use of the schools' IT and communications systems in accordance with the schools' respective Acceptable Use of IT policy
- To make use of photographic images of students in School publications, on a School and alumni website and (where appropriate) on the Schools' social media channels in accordance with the policy on taking, storing and using images of children
- For security purposes, including CCTV, in accordance with the CCTV policy
- To carry out or cooperate with any internal or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the Schools' purpose, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the schools.

In addition, the Schools will on occasion need to process **special category personal data** (concerning health, ethnicity, religion, or sexual life) or criminal records information (such as when carrying out DBS



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 'students' 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 student
- 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 internal or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process that involves such data, for example if there are SEN, health or safeguarding elements
- 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 Schools**

Data will include by way of example:

- names, addresses, dates of birth, 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. for parents who pay school fees, staff in receipt of salaries, suppliers, bursary applicants, and those making regular charitable donations to the schools
- past, present and prospective 'students' academic, disciplinary, admissions and attendance records (including information about any special needs), and examination scripts and marks
- information about students' backgrounds including previous schooling, relationships with Eltham College alumni, parental occupations, family ethnicity and languages spoken at home
- personnel files, including information about previous employment and ongoing data in connection with academics, employment or safeguarding
- where appropriate, information about individuals' health and welfare, and contact details for their next of kin
- records of staff, visitor or alumni attendance at training or special events, and daily visitor records
- references given or received by the School about students, and relevant information provided by previous educational establishments and/or other professionals or organisations working with students
- correspondence with and concerning staff, students and parents past and present
- images of students (and occasionally other individuals) engaging in school activities, and images captured by the schools' CCTV systems (in accordance with the school's policy on taking, storing and using images of children).



## 6. How the Schools collects data

Generally, the Schools receive personal data from the individual directly (including, in the case of students, from their parents). This may be on a paper or electronic form, or simply in the ordinary course of interaction or communication (such as email, by telephone or in 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 – for example as we look to improve our relationships with former students, making invitations to reunions, careers and networking events and fundraising more relevant.

## 7. Who has access to personal data and who the Schools share it with

Occasionally, the schools 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)
- appropriate regulatory bodies (e.g. the Teaching Regulation Agency, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Charity Commission or the Information Commissioner)
- those providing services to the Schools necessary to fulfil our core activities.
- For the most part, personal data collected by the Schools will remain within the Family of School, 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 a school nurse and appropriate medical staff under her supervision, or otherwise in accordance with express consent; and
  - pastoral, personnel and safeguarding files.

However, a certain amount of relevant information relating to any student with special educational needs or specific medical needs (such as allergies) will need to be provided to staff more widely in the context of providing the necessary care and education that the student requires; and relevant information will be shared with the providers of our Return2Play service which is designed to support the health and welfare of our students.

Staff, students and parents are reminded that each School is under duties imposed by law and statutory guidance (including the Government's [Keeping Children Safe in records](#) guidance which is updated regularly) 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 respective School's Safeguarding Policy on the Eltham College website.

Finally, in accordance with Data Protection Law, some of the School's processing activity is carried out on its behalf by third parties, such as IT system providers, web developers, cloud storage providers, and printing and mailing companies. There are also times when you or we need to provide personal data to a third party as part of your relationship with one of the Schools, such as to travel companies for trips and visits, careers advice organisations, the University Admissions service, and the home-to-school coach service etc. This is always subject to contractual assurances that personal data will be kept securely, in line with current regulations, and only in accordance with the Schools' specific directions.



## 8. How long we keep personal data

The Schools 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 student records is up to 7 years following departure from the School. However, incident reports and safeguarding records will need to be kept much longer, in accordance with specific legal requirements.

Our retention arrangements take account of the requirements of HMRC, our insurers and regulators, and of best practice with regard to working papers and communications files. We take our responsibilities seriously and ensure that both our data collection and retention arrangements align with the principles established in the regulation, that is, that data shall be:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures<sup>2</sup>.

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 School will often have lawful and necessary reasons to hold on to some personal data even following such a 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").

The Schools will also keep archives in the public interest. Archives will include, by way of example, photographs taken during a student's or staff member's time at Eltham College, posters from drama and music productions, photographs of alumni taken during alumni events, past school and alumni publications and Speech Day programmes. For more information about the Schools' archive please contact the Bursar.



## 9. Keeping in touch and supporting the School

For Eltham College Senior and Junior Schools, through the Development/Elthamians office, the Schools will use the contact details of parents, alumni and other members of the School community to keep them updated about the activities of the School, or alumni and events of interest, including by sending updates and alumni magazines, by email and by post and through our closed online community “Elthamians Network”, provided by Graduway.

Fundraising research and activities help support the work of the Eltham College Family of Schools. Eltham College Family of Schools will endeavour to undertake such activities in an effective and appropriate manner. Fundraising research undertaken, by our school development staff, allows Eltham College to identify those in the community who are willing, able and likely to make donations and to ensure that the fundraising communications are appropriate and of interest. Unless the relevant individual objects, the Schools will also:

- Contact parents and/or alumni by post and email in order to support the work of the careers department or to promote and raise funds for the School and, where appropriate, other worthy causes
- Provide telephone contact information to the company organising our annual telephone fundraising campaign
- Collect and analyse information from publicly available sources about parents' and former students' occupation and activities, in order to maximise the Schools' fundraising potential.

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 Schools are 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

### a) Rights of access

Individuals have various rights under Data Protection Law to access and understand personal data about them held by the Family of Schools, and in some cases ask for it to be erased or amended or have it transferred to others, or for the Schools 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 erased, or who has some other objection to how their personal data is used, should put their request in writing to the Bursar - [Bursar@eltham-college.org.uk](mailto:Bursar@eltham-college.org.uk).

The Schools 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 Schools 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 Schools may ask you to reconsider, or require a proportionate fee (but only where Data Protection Law allows it).

#### **b) 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 School, or documents prepared in connection with a legal action).

The Schools are also not required to disclose any student examination scripts (or other information consisting solely of student test answers), provide examination or other test marks ahead of any ordinary publication, nor share any confidential reference given by one of the Schools 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.

#### **c) Student requests**

Students 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 (see section (f) "Whose Rights?" below). A student 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 students, the law still considers the information in question to be the child's: for older students, the parent making the request may need to evidence their child's authority for the specific request.

Students aged around 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**

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 students without their consent. The School may consider there are lawful grounds for sharing with or without reference to that student.

Parents will in general receive educational and pastoral updates about their children. 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.



All information requests from, on behalf of, or concerning students – 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 Schools are 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: certain types of uses of images, and certain types of fundraising activity. Please be aware however, that the Schools 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. an employment or parent contract, or because a purchase of goods, services or membership of an organisation such as an alumni or parents' association has been requested).

#### **f) Whose rights?**

The rights under Data Protection Law belong to the individual to whom the data relates. However, the Schools will often rely on parental authority or notice for the necessary ways it processes personal data relating to students – for example, under the parent contract, or via a form. Parents and students 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 student's age and understanding – to seek the student'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 Schools will assume that students' 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 student's activities, progress and behaviour, and in the interests of the student's welfare. That is unless, in the Schools' opinion, there is a good reason to do otherwise.

However, where a student 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 student or other students, or if required by law.

Students are required to respect the personal data and privacy of others, and to comply with the Schools' policies and procedures. Staff are also required under professional duties to comply with all policies set out in the Staff Handbook, and the Code of Conduct.

## **11. Data accuracy and security**

The Schools will endeavour to ensure that all personal data held in relation to an individual is as up to date and accurate as possible. Individuals should notify the relevant School Office (or HR for staff) 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 information about them is erased or corrected (subject to certain exemptions and limitations under Data Protection Law): please see above for details of how to make such a request.

The Schools 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 are made aware of this policy and their duties under Data Protection Law and receive relevant, ongoing training.

## **12. Revising this policy**

The Family of Schools 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 Bursar using the contact details provided above.

If an individual believes that the Family of Schools has not complied with this policy or acted otherwise than in accordance with Data Protection Law, they should utilise the Schools' Complaints Procedure (available on the Eltham College website) 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 internally before involving the Regulator.