

## SOUTHEND EAST COMMUNITY ACADEMY TRUST

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# PRIVACY NOTICE - SCHOOL WORKFORCE

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SECAT Leadership Team

Signed by Trust/Committee Chair



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## Version History

|       |                |  |
|-------|----------------|--|
| V25.1 | September 2025 | <p>General review of resource.</p> <p>Within the 'How government uses your data' section, the 'Sharing by the DfE' section has been updated based on current wording used within the DfE model privacy notice.</p>   |
| V24.2 | August 2024    | <p><i>Amendments to DfE model staff privacy notice applied within this template as follows:</i></p> <p><b>Why we share school workforce information</b><br/>Added in a link to view the DfE's privacy notice.</p> <p><b>Requesting access to your personal data</b><br/>Updated the wording to match the DfE description of the data protection rights individuals hold and that there may be legitimate reasons why an information request may be refused.</p> <p><b>How Government uses your data – Sharing by the DfE</b><br/>Added in a link to view the DfE's privacy notice and added in a link to view organisations that the DfE shares data with.</p> <p><b>How Government uses your data – How to find out what data the DfE holds about you</b><br/>Added in additional link to where individuals can find out more about submitting an information request to the DfE.</p> |
| V24.1 | June 2024      | <p><i>Added in reference to information sharing in an employee medical or mental health emergency in the following sections:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why we collect and use workforce information</li> <li>- Who we share workforce information with</li> <li>- Why we share school workforce information</li> </ul>  |
| V22.3 | August 2023    | <i>Amendments to DfE model staff privacy notice applied within this template.</i>  |
| V23.1 | October 2022   | <i>Amendments to DfE model staff privacy notice applied within this template.</i>  |

This privacy notice is based on the DfE template privacy notice dated August 2024: [Data protection: privacy notice model documents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-protection-privacy-notice-model-documents).

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# Privacy Notice (How we use school workforce information)

This privacy notice explains how we collect, process and manage information for the school workforce. That includes employed members of staff, volunteers, trainee teachers, apprentices and adult work experience/workplace placements.

SECAT is the data controller for the use of personal data in this privacy notice.

## The categories of school workforce information that we collect process

These include:

- personal information (such as name, employee or teacher number, national insurance number)
- characteristics information (such as gender, age, ethnic group)
- contract information (such as start date, hours worked, post, roles and salary information)
- work absence information (such as number of absences and reasons)
- Education and training details, qualifications (and, where relevant, subjects taught);
- Emergency contact information (names, relationship, phone numbers and email addresses)
- Your nationality and immigration status and information from related documents, such as your passport or other identification and immigration information
- medical information including information on your sickness and absence records such as number of absences and reasons (including sensitive personal information regarding your physical and/or mental health)
- Criminal records information as required by law to enable you to work with children
- Details of salary and benefits including payment details, payroll records, tax status information, national insurance number, pension and benefits information
- Details of any dependants
- Your trade union membership
- Information on grievances raised by or involving you
- Information on conduct and/or other disciplinary issues involving you
- Details of your appraisals, performance reviews and capability issues
- Details of your timekeeping and attendance records
- References

## Why we collect and use workforce information

We share information to comply with statutory, regulatory and contractual obligations. These may include, but are not limited to:

- enable the development of a comprehensive picture of the workforce and how it is deployed
- inform the development of recruitment and retention policies
- enable individuals to be paid
- allowing better financial modelling and planning
- enabling ethnicity and disability monitoring
- supporting the work of the School Teachers' Review Body
- comply with guidance such as 'Working Together' and safeguarding obligations
- facilitating good governance
- internal reviews and quality monitoring
- CPD and staffing issues
- fulfilling our duty of care towards our workforce during a medical or mental health emergency

If we are required to comply with other legal obligations not listed above, we will share data only when it is lawful to do so.

### **The lawful basis on which we process this information**

We must make sure that information we collect and use about our workforce is in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). This means that we must have a lawful reason to collect the data, and that if we share that with another organisation or individual we must have a legal basis to do so.

The lawful basis for schools to collect and process information comes from a variety of sources, such as Article 6 and Article 9 of the UK GDPR and the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. We also have obligations to organisations such as HMRC and the Department of Work and Pensions.

### **Collecting workforce information**

We collect personal information as part of the onboarding process and digital forms.

Workforce data is essential for the Trust / school's operational use. Whilst the majority of personal information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it is provided to us on a voluntary basis. In order to comply with UK GDPR, we will inform you at the point of collection, whether you are required to provide certain information to us or if you have a choice in this.

### **Storing workforce information**

We hold data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please visit

<https://www.secat.co.uk/trust-policies>

<https://secat.sharepoint.com/sites/EmployeeHub/SitePages/Trust-Policies.aspx>

### **Who we share workforce information with**

We routinely share this information with:

- our local authority
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- safeguarding and protection for children and vulnerable adults
- payroll services
- legal advisers
- insurance providers
- HMRC
- Teacher Pension Scheme and the Local Government Pension Scheme (and other pension providers)
- health professionals including the emergency services
- Ofsted;
- Other government departments or agencies;
- Prospective employers;
- Welfare services (such as social services);
- Law enforcement officials such as police, HMRC;
- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO);
- Training providers;
- Professional advisors such as lawyers and consultants;
- Support services (including HR support, insurance, IT support, information security, pensions

- and payroll);
- Occupational Health;
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS);
- Recruitment and supply agencies.

## **Why we share school workforce information**

We do not share information about workforce members with anyone without consent unless the law and our policies allow us to do so.

### **Local authority**

We are required to share information about our workforce members with our local authority (LA) under section 5 of the Education (Supply of Information about the School Workforce) (England) Regulations 2007 and amendments.

### **Department for Education (DfE)**

The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational settings and local authorities via various statutory data collections. We are required to share information with the Department for Education (DfE) for the purpose of those data collections, under:

We are required to share information about our school employees with the (DfE) under section 5 of the Education (Supply of Information about the School Workforce) (England) Regulations 2007 and amendments.

All data is transferred securely and held by the Department for Education (DfE) under a combination of software and hardware controls which meet the current government security policy framework.

For more information, please see 'How Government Uses your Data' section of this privacy notice.

For privacy information on the data the Department for Education (DfE) collects and uses, please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/privacy-information-education-providers-workforce-including-teachers>.

Data protection law allows us to share personal information in an urgent or emergency situation, including to help prevent loss of life or serious physical, emotional or mental harm. During a medical emergency, including a mental health emergency, where there is risk of serious harm to one of our workforce or to others we will share necessary and proportionate information without delay with relevant and appropriate emergency services or health professionals. We may also share necessary and proportionate information with an employee's next of kin or emergency contact. We will use our judgement in each specific situation, sharing only what is necessary and proportionate to the circumstances.

### **Requesting access to your personal data**

Under data protection legislation, you have the right to request access to information about you that we hold. To make a request for your personal information, contact [admin@secat.co.uk](mailto:admin@secat.co.uk)

You also have the following rights:

- the right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data – this is called 'right to be informed'.

- the right to ask us for copies of personal information we have about you – this is called 'right of access', this is also known as a subject access request, data subject access request or right of access request.
- the right to ask us to change any information you think is not accurate or complete – this is called 'right to rectification'.
- the right to ask us to delete your personal information – this is called 'right to erasure'
- the right to ask us to stop using your information – this is called 'right to restriction of processing'.
- the 'right to object to processing' of your information, in certain circumstances
- rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.
- the right to withdraw consent at any time (where relevant).
- the right to complain to the Information Commissioner if you feel we have not used your information in the right way.

There are legitimate reasons why we may refuse your information rights request, which depends on why we are processing it. For example, some rights will not apply:

- right to erasure does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task.
- right to portability does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests.
- right to object does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't have the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent.

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, we ask that you raise your concern with us in the first instance. Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by the Department for Education (DfE), please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

### **Withdrawal of consent and the right to lodge a complaint**

Where we are processing your personal data with your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent. If you change your mind, or you are unhappy with our use of your personal data, please let us know by contacting the Deputy Chief Operation Officer via [admin@secat.co.uk](mailto:admin@secat.co.uk)

### **Last updated**

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically, so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated December 2025

### **Further information**

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact the Deputy Chief Operation Officer via [admin@secat.co.uk](mailto:admin@secat.co.uk)

## More information about Data Protection and our Policies

How we manage the data and our responsibilities to look after and share data is explained in our Data Protection policy and connected policies which are also available on our website and Intranet.

## How Government uses your data

The workforce data that we lawfully share with the Department for Education (DfE) through data collections:

- informs Department for Education (DfE) policy on pay and the monitoring of the effectiveness and diversity of the school workforce
- links to school funding and expenditure
- supports 'longer term' research and monitoring of educational policy

## Data collection requirements

To find out more about the data collection requirements placed on us by the Department for Education (DfE) including the data that we share with them, go to <https://www.gov.uk/education/data-collection-and-censuses-for-schools>.

## Sharing by the Department for Education (DfE)

The Department for Education (DfE) may share information about school employees with third parties who promote the education or well-being of children or the effective deployment of school staff in England by:

- conducting research or analysis
- producing statistics
- providing information, advice or guidance

The Department for Education (DfE) will only share your personal data where it is lawful, secure and ethical to do so and has robust processes in place to ensure that the confidentiality of personal data is maintained and there are stringent controls in place regarding access to it and its use. Decisions on whether the Department for Education (DfE) releases personal data to third parties are subject to a strict approval process and based on a detailed assessment of public benefit, proportionality, legal underpinning and strict information security standards.

For more information about the Department for Education's (DfE) data sharing process, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-how-we-collect-and-share-research-data>.

For information about which organisations the Department for Education (DfE) has provided information, (and for which project) please visit the following website:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-external-data-shares>.

## How to find out what personal information the Department of Education (DfE) holds about you

Under the terms of [UK GDPR](#), you're entitled to ask the Department for Education (DfE):

- if they are processing your personal data
- for a description of the data they hold about you
- the reasons they're holding it and any recipient it may be disclosed to

- for a copy of your personal data and any details of its source

If you want to see the personal data held about you by the Department for Education (DfE), you should make a ‘subject access request’. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department for Education’s (DfE) personal information charter that is published at the address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter>

or

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/requesting-your-personal-information/requesting-your-personal-information#your-rights>

To contact the Department for Education (DfE): <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>.