

Mid Essex Anglican Academy Trust

Privacy Notice: School & Trust Governance Roles

Based on the DfE model privacy notice (August 2024)

Template provided by



14th May 2026

This template contains suggested wording to make available to those employed to teach, or otherwise engaged to work, at a school or a local authority to explain how you use their personal information. You should review and amend this notice to reflect local needs and circumstances.

This template is taken from the DfE privacy notice model document.

Privacy Notice (How we use personal information on Get Information about Schools (GIAS))

The categories of governor information that we process include:

- personal identifiers, contacts and characteristics (such as name, date of birth, contact details and address)
- governance details (such as role, start and end dates and governor ID)

Why we collect and use governor information

The personal data collected is essential, in order for the school to fulfil their official functions and meet legal requirements. We collect and use governor information, for the following purposes:

- a) To meet the statutory duties placed upon us
- b) Enable the development of a comprehensive picture of governance and how it is deployed
- c) To enable appropriate checks to be completed
- d) Enable individuals to be kept informed of governance training, book training and relevant information
- e) To inform relevant authorities/organisations of a member/trustee/governor/clerk appointment
- f) To undertake our responsibilities for safeguarding children
- g) To communicate with you
- h) To comply with the law regarding data sharing

Our Legal Obligations

We must make sure that information we collect and use about governors is in line with the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act. 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 information comes from a variety of sources, such as:

- Article 6 and Article 9 of the UK GDPR
- under the Academies Trust Handbook academy trusts have a legal duty to provide governance information
- under the Companies Act 2006 academy trusts have a legal duty to provide information on members and directors to Companies House

Collecting governor information

We collect personal information via forms issued annually.

Governance roles data is essential for the school, academy or academy trust's operational use. Whilst the majority of personal information you provide to us is mandatory, some of it may be requested 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 governor 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 the Trust website under our policies section.

Who we share governor information with

We routinely share this information with:

- our local authority (where applicable)
- the Department for Education (DfE)
- other governors on the same governing board
- Disclosure & Barring Service
- the clerk to the board
- Governor Services
- Companies House

Why we share governor information

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

We are required to share appointment and resignation information about governors with the local authority. As a school which subscribes to School's Choice we share information for accessing support services.

Department for Education

The Department for Education (DfE) collects personal data from educational settings and local authorities. We are required to share information about our governors with the Department for Education (DfE), under the requirements set out in the [Academies Financial Handbook](#).

All data is entered manually on the GIAS system and held by 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.

The Clerk to the Board

In case of emergency or an Ofsted inspection it is necessary for the school office to hold details of

any individuals involved in the governance of the school. The school Single Central Record will record that appropriate checks have been carried out for everyone involved in the governance of the school.

Other members/trustees/governors on the same Governing Board (or in the same MAT)

For ease of communication and with your consent contact details may be shared with other governors on the board.

Disclosure and Barring Service

All maintained school governors are required to have an enhanced criminal records certificate from the DBS. Further details on DBS checks and Section 128 checks in schools are within the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

Companies House

Academy trusts are required to tell Companies House within 14 days about changes to the Board including new appointments, resignations and change of details.

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 the Trust Chief Financial and Operations Officer.

You also have the right to:

Your rights include:

- 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 (SAR), 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 your information rights request may be refused. 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 or complaint about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance or directly to 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 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 Trust Chief Financial and Operations Officer.

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 in May 2026.**

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact our DPO:

SBM Services – 01206 671103 or info@sbmservices.co.uk

How Government uses your data

The governor data that we lawfully share with the DfE via GIAS will:

- will increase the transparency of governance arrangements
- will enable schools and the department to identify more quickly and accurately individuals who are involved in governance and who govern in more than one context
- allows the department to be able to uniquely identify an individual and in a small number of cases conduct checks to confirm their suitability for this important and influential role

Data collection requirements

To find out more about the requirements placed on us by the Department for Education including the data that we share with them, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-database-of-governors>

Note: Some of these personal data items are not publically available and are encrypted within the GIAS system. Access is restricted to a small number of DfE staff who need to see it in order to fulfil their official duties. The information is for internal purposes only and not shared beyond the department, unless the law allows it.

How to find out what personal information DfE hold about you

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 2018, you're entitled to ask the Department:

- 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, you should make a 'subject access request'. Further information on how to do this can be found within the Department's 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 DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe>