



Barnard Castle School

ESTD 1883

Privacy Notice

This Privacy Notice applies to all members of the School community (past and present)

Author: Bursar

Action	Responsibility	Date
Reviewed	Bursar	August 2025
Next Review	Bursar	August 2026



PRIVACY NOTICE

Who we are

This Privacy Notice (“**Privacy Notice**”) applies to Barnard Castle Preparatory School and Barnard Castle School (together the “**School**”).

The School is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998 (the “DPA”) under the number Z5380771

All members of School staff will be made aware of this Privacy Notice and of their duties under **Data Protection Law** which means the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Data Protection Act 2018 and any other applicable primary or secondary legislation as may be in force in the UK from time to time.

This Privacy Notice will be published both internally and externally.

What this Privacy Notice is for

This Privacy Notice is intended to provide information about how the School 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 notice 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 School’s obligations to its entire community

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

- The School’s Staff Privacy Notice
- The School’s Recruitment Privacy Notice
- The School’s Alumni Privacy Policy
- Any contract between the School and its staff or the parents of pupils;
- The School's policy on taking, storing and using images of children;
- The School’s CCTV policy;
- The School’s retention of records guidance
- The School's safeguarding, pastoral, or health and safety policies, including as to how concerns or incidents are recorded; and



- The School's IT policies, including its Data Protection Policy, Photographs and Digital Images Policy, IT and Communications System Policy, Staff Behaviour and Code of Conduct Policy, Social Media Policy and the Staff Handbook.

Anyone who works for, or acts on behalf of, the School (including staff, volunteers, governors and service providers) should also be aware of and comply with this Privacy Notice and the School's Staff Privacy Notice which also provides further information about how personal data about those individuals will be used. Training in this regard, will be provided to staff which is commensurate with their role.

Responsibility for Data Protection

The School has appointed the School's Bursar as Data Compliance Lead, assisted by the Compliance Officer who will deal with all your requests and enquiries concerning the School's uses of your personal data (see section on Your Rights below) and endeavour to ensure that all personal data is processed in compliance with this notice and Data Protection Law.

The Bursar can be contacted on bursar@barneyschool.org.uk or by calling 01833 696003, and the Compliance Officer can be contacted on njh@barneyschool.org.uk or by calling 01833 696002.

Why the School needs to process Personal Data

In order to carry out its ordinary duties to staff, pupils and parents, the School 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 School 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 School'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 School 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);
- To provide 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, including where such services are provided remotely (either temporarily or permanently);
- 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, which may from time to time include wealth screening or analysis if appropriate.



- 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 School's 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 School;
- To safeguard pupils' welfare and provide appropriate pastoral care;
- To monitor (as appropriate) use of the School's IT and communications systems in accordance with the School's IT and Communications Policy;
- To make use of photographic images of pupils in School publications, on the School website and (where appropriate) on the School's social media channels in accordance with the School's policy on taking, storing and using images of children;
- For security purposes, including biometrics and CCTV in accordance with the School's biometrics or CCTV policy
- For regulatory record keeping and compliance purposes in respect of immigration requirements, as an employer and/or visa sponsor
- To carry out or cooperate with any School or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process; and
- Where otherwise reasonably necessary for the School's purposes, including to obtain appropriate professional advice and insurance for the School.

In addition, the School 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 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 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 pupil;
- To provide spiritual support in the context of any religious beliefs;
- In connection with employment of its staff, for example DBS checks, welfare, union membership or pension plans;
- To run any of its systems that operate on biometric data (such as for security for the lockers in the Sixth Form Centre);

- As part of any School or external complaints, disciplinary or investigation process that involves such data, for example if there are SEN, health or safeguarding elements;
- To comply with public health requirements;
- For legal and regulatory purposes (for example child protection, diversity monitoring, health and safety and immigration/visa sponsorship compliance) and to comply with its legal obligations and duties of care.

Types of Personal Data processed by the School

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);
- Biometric information, which will only be collected and used by the School in accordance with the School's biometrics notice for Sixth formers using the laptop lockers in the Sixth Form Centre.
- Bank details and other financial information, e.g. about parents who pay fees to the School by direct debit;
- 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;
- Nationality and other immigration status information, including full copies of passports, immigration status details and biometric residence permits;
- Where appropriate, information about individuals' health and welfare, and contact details for their next of kin;
- References given or received by the School 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 activities, and images captured by the School's CCTV system (in accordance with the School's policy on taking, storing and using images of children);

How the School collects data

Generally, the School receives 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, or other professionals or authorities working with that individual) or collected from publicly available resources.

Who has access to Personal Data and who the School shares it with

Occasionally, the School 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);
- Examination boards;
- Stage 3 complaints panels, which will include independent panel members;
- Government authorities (e.g. HMRC, DfE, police or the local authority); and
- Appropriate regulatory bodies for example but not limited to TRA, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Charity Commission or the Information Commissioner).
- The School works closely with the Old Barnardian Club (the “**Club**”) to support the continued growth and activity of the Club and its engagement with the School. Updates to individuals’ information are regularly shared between the Club, its volunteers and the School in order that both organisations’ records can remain up to date.

For the most part, personal data collected by the School will remain within the 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 the School Nurse, School Doctor and appropriate medical staff (e.g. Physiotherapist), or otherwise in accordance with express consent; and
- Pastoral or safeguarding files.

However, a certain amount of any SEND 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.

Staff, pupils and parents are reminded that the School is 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, low-level concerns records kept about adults, and in some cases referrals to relevant authorities such as the LADO, CAMHS or police. For further information about this, please view the School’s Safeguarding Policy.

KCSIE also requires that, whenever a child leaves the school to join another school or college, his or her child protection file is promptly provided to the new organisation, along with any other information which the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead considers material to the ongoing care needs of any pupil. Where appropriate, the School will consult with parents as to how these needs are best served, but ultimately the decision as to what information is necessary to share with the new school or college is a safeguarding question that must be reserved to the school. The school will retain a copy of the child protection file in accordance with its retention policy for material related to safeguarding matters.

The School does undertake regular monitoring of IT systems by automated systems to ensure our safeguarding needs are met. Further details can be found in the School’s IT and Communications System Policy.



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 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 School's specific directions. The School also uses several relevant websites and apps where it is felt that these would benefit the pupils or use of such is a requirement of participation in certain activities (e.g. Combined Cadet Force). These sites are monitored regularly to ensure their handling of any personal data is appropriately safeguarded and compliant with Data Protection Law.

How long we keep Personal Data

The School will retain personal data securely and only in line with how long it is necessary to keep for a legitimate and lawful reason. Typically, we will keep ordinary staff and pupil personnel files up to 7 years following departure from the School. However, incident reports and safeguarding files will need to be kept much longer, in accordance with specific legal requirements.

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 (bursar@barneyschool.org.uk or 01833 696003). 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 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 School will generally seek to balance the benefits of keeping detailed and complete records (for the purposes of good practice, archives or general reference) with practical considerations of storage, space and accessibility. However, there are still legal considerations in respect of retention of records and documents which must be borne in mind. These include:

- Statutory duties and government guidance relating to schools, including for safeguarding;
- Disclosure requirements for potential future litigation;
- Contractual obligations;
- The law of confidentiality and privacy; and (last but by no means least relevant)
- Data Protection Law.

These will inform not only minimum and maximum retention periods, but also what to keep and who should be able to access it.

Justifiable reasons to keep certain records, such as child protection records, for many years after pupils or staff leave the school will need to be weighed against personal rights. This will be addressed sensitively on a case by case basis by the Data Compliance Lead.

Keeping in touch and supporting the School



The School and the Old Barnardian Club may 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 parent events of interest, including by sending updates and newsletters, by email and by post. Unless the relevant individual objects, the School will also:

- Share personal data about parents and/or alumni, as appropriate, with organisations set up to help establish and maintain relationships with the School community, such as the Old Barnardian Club;
- Contact parents and/or alumni (including via the organisation above) by post and email in order to promote and raise funds for the School and, where appropriate, other worthy causes;
- Collect information from publicly available sources about parents' and former pupils' occupation and activities, in order to maximise the School's 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 School 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 School, and in some cases ask for it to be erased or amended or have it transferred to others, or for the School 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 School 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 generally one month, but actually fulfilling more complex requests, e.g. those involving third party information, may take 1-2 months longer).

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

If you consider that the personal data we hold on you is inaccurate, please let us know. However, the school will not necessarily delete or amend views, opinions, notes or records purely on the request of an individual who disputes the account, although we may keep a record of all parties' viewpoints.

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, or where a duty of confidence is owed by a legal advisor).

The School is also not required to disclose any pupil examination scripts (or other information consisting solely of pupil test answers, potentially including mock exam scripts other types of exams/tests used to assess performance – although markers' comments may still be disclosable if they constitute pupil personal data). The School is also not required to provide examination or other test marks ahead of any ordinary publication, nor share any confidential reference given by the School 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 School, 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.

Older pupils 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. Younger children may however be sufficiently mature to have a say in this decision, depending on the child and the circumstances. Cases will be judged on an individual basis.

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

Parents will in general receive educational and pastoral updates about their children, in accordance with the Parent Contract. 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 pupils – whether made under subject access or simply as an incidental request – will therefore be considered on a case by case basis.

Consent

Where the School 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). An example where we do rely on consent is biometric information from Sixth Form pupils. Please be aware however that the School 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).

Whose rights?

The rights under Data Protection Law belong to the individual to whom the data relates. However, the School 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 School 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 School'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 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 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 School's Photographs and Digital Images Policy and the School rules. Staff are under professional duties to do the same covered under the relevant staff policies

Data accuracy and security

The School 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 Headmaster's PA (headmaster@barneyschool.org.uk or 01833 696009) or the Prep School Secretary (prep@barneyschool.org.uk) 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 School may need to process your data, of who you may contact if you disagree.

The School 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 School systems. All staff and governors will be made aware of this Privacy Notice and their duties under Data Protection Law and receive relevant training.

This Notice

The School 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.

Queries and Complaints

Any comments or queries on this Privacy Notice should be directed to the Bursar using the following contact details

The Bursar can be contacted on bursar@barneyschool.org.uk or by calling 01833 696003.

If an individual believes that the School has not complied with this Privacy Notice or acted otherwise than in accordance with Data Protection Law, they should utilise the School complaints 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 School before involving the regulator.

