



South Farnham Educational Trust



The Continual Pursuit of Excellence

PRIVACY NOTICE FOR JOB APPLICANTS

REVIEW DATE:

SUMMER 2025

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

SUMMER 2027

Name of data controller: South Farnham Educational Trust

Name of the Trust data protection officer: Data Protection Education Ltd

This privacy notice advises job applicants of the trust's data protection responsibilities on the collection and processing of their personal information.

We collect and process your personal data as part of the recruitment process in relation to the role you are applying for.

We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use that data and to meeting our data protection obligations.

We are required to explain how and why we collect such data and what we do with that information. This notice will also provide information as to what you can do about your personal information that is held and processed with us.

What is personal information and what does processing mean?

Personal information is any information that relates to you and can be used directly or indirectly to identify you.

Personal information and processing are defined as follows:

- Personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (data subject). An identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person (GDPR article 4).
- Special categories of personal data means information about an individual's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex life or sexual orientation and biometric/genetic data (GDPR article 9).
- Processing means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automated means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction (GDPR article 4).

Data protection principles

We process personal data about applicants in accordance with the following data protection principles:

- We process personal data lawfully, fairly and in a transparent way.

- We collect personal data only for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes.
- We process personal data only where it is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the purposes of processing.
- We keep accurate personal data and take all reasonable steps to ensure that inaccurate personal data is rectified or deleted without delay.
- We keep personal data only for the period necessary for processing.
- We adopt appropriate measures to make sure that personal data is secure, and protected against unauthorised or unlawful processing, accidental loss, destruction or damage.

In our privacy notices, we tell individuals the reasons for processing their personal data, how we use such data and the legal basis for processing. We will not process personal data of applicants for reasons other than the stated purpose or purposes.

Where we process special categories of personal data or criminal records data to perform obligations, this is done in accordance with a policy, or for legal reasons. We will update personal data promptly if an applicant advises that his/her information has changed or is inaccurate.

Our legal basis (grounds) for using your personal data

The trust will obtain your consent to hold, process and share your personal data in relation to the recruitment process.

You are under no obligation to provide your consent to provide data to the trust during the recruitment process. If you do not consent to the trust holding, processing and sharing your personal data during the recruitment process, the trust may not be able to process your application.

In some cases, the trust will need to process data to ensure that it is complying with its legal obligations. For example, the trust must check an applicant's entitlement to work in the UK. Safer recruitment procedures in schools also require appropriate checks to be made on people who work with children.

Why do we collect and process applicant's personal data?

The trust processes data relating to applicants to assist in the recruitment process, including to:

- Enable each school to manage its recruitment process.
- Facilitate safer recruitment by ensuring each school is complying with its legal obligations in relation to safer recruitment checks.
- Ensure the trust is complying with its legal obligations in relation to the right to work in the UK.
- Ensure a candidate is suitable for the role.

- Enter into an employment contract with you, should you be successful.
- Enable ethnicity and disability monitoring.
- Ensure reasonable adjustments can be made for those applicants who have a disability.
- Ensure a fair recruitment process has taken place.

What data do we hold on you

The personal data we hold regarding you can include, but is not limited to, information such as:

- Your name and address.
- Email address and telephone number.
- Date of birth.
- Equal opportunities monitoring information.
- Your nationality and entitlement to work in the UK.
- National insurance number.
- Information about your current salary and benefits.
- Qualifications and skills.
- Work experience and employment history.
- Information about your criminal record.
- Disability status to enable the school to make any reasonable adjustments throughout the recruitment process.

Any applicant wishing to see a copy of the information about them that we hold should contact the Finance & Business Director.

How do we obtain personal data?

We may collect this information in a variety of ways. For example, data might be collected through:

- Application forms, CVs or resumés, an online portal
- Your passport or other identity documents, such as your driving licence.
- Forms completed by you as part of the recruitment process.
- Correspondence with you.
- Interviews, meetings or other assessments as part of the recruitment process.
- Online Searches

In accordance with the trust's safer recruitment obligations, the school will also collect personal information about you from third parties. This will include obtaining references from your previous

employer and from third parties such as the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to ensure the relevant safeguarding checks are completed.

In line with the statutory guidance document Keeping Children Safe in Education (2022) the school will conduct online searches after the shortlisting process for any candidates who accept an invitation to interview.

The purpose of the online search is to uncover any information that may suggest the candidate is:

- a potential safeguarding risk
- their appointment may damage the reputation of the school or;
- they are unqualified for the role they have applied for

No recruitment decision will be made solely on the basis of an online search and all relevant information uncovered will be discussed with the applicant at interview. All online searches will be conducted by individuals who not involved in any other aspect of the recruitment process. No irrelevant information uncovered will be provided to the staff responsible for interviewing the job applicant.

All candidates will be treated consistently. The same online search for all shortlisted candidates will be undertaken consisting of:

- A Google search of the candidate's name linked to their current employer, previous employer, educational institutions attended, previous job titles and news articles
- A search of LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and review of post made over past 5 years

We will not share information about you with third parties without your consent, unless the law or our policies allows us to.

In the event you are successful, we are required, by law, to pass certain information about those engaged by us to specified external bodies, such as our local authority (LA) and the Department for Education (DfE), so that they are able to meet their statutory obligations.

Who has access to your personal data?

Your personal data may be shared internally with other members of staff involved in the recruitment process in order for them to perform their roles. This can include sharing personal data with the senior leadership team, governors, trustees and HR (including payroll). We may also share your personal data with third parties. This can include when obtaining background checks as part of safer recruitment guidelines, pre-employment references and criminal records checks from the DBS.

Throughout these processes we maintain strict confidentiality and only process and retain the personal data for as long as is necessary in accordance with our retention schedule and the processing purposes we state.

Sending information to other countries

With cloud-based storage and some other services sometimes being supplied outside the UK, personal data can be sent to other jurisdictions.

Our servers and storage systems are not based in the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA) and we have ensured that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect your personal data.

Automated decision-making and profiling

We do not make automatic decisions or undertake automated decisions regarding individuals to evaluate certain information about an individual (profiling).

Special categories of personal data

We must also comply with an additional condition where we process special categories of personal data. These special categories include: personal information revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, genetic information, biometric information, health information, and information about sex life or orientation.

Some special categories of personal data, such as information about health or medical conditions, are processed to comply with employment law and health and safety obligations (such as those in relation to employees with disabilities).

The trust also processes other special categories of personal data, such as information about ethnic origin, sexual orientation or religion or belief. This is done for the purposes of equal opportunities monitoring and in accordance with its Public Sector Equality Duty in accordance with the Equality Act.

Some of the reasons we process such data on applicants include:

- Legal claims. The processing is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims. This allows us to share information with our legal advisers and insurers.
- For equal opportunities monitoring.
- For medical reasons to ensure that we comply with our health and safety obligations to you.

How do we protect applicants' personal data?

We take the security of your personal data very seriously. We have internal policies and controls in place to try to ensure that data is not lost, accidentally destroyed, misused or disclosed, and is not accessed except by our employees in the performance of their duties.

Where we engage third parties to process personal data on our behalf, they do so based on written instructions, are under a duty of confidentiality and are obliged to implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of data. For example, we ensure the schools use encrypted devices, use passwords, virus protection and has appropriate firewalls.

How long do we keep your personal data?

We will only retain the data we collect for as long as is necessary to satisfy the purpose for which it has been collected.

If you are successful in being appointed to the role, all personal data collected by the trust will be processed and transferred to your personnel file. We are not required to keep certain documents, such as a copy of your passport, for longer than is required to confirm your identity and to establish your right to work in the UK. Details of how long we retain certain documents is contained in our Retention Schedule. A copy of our Retention Schedule is available from the school website or from the Data Protection Officer.

Ongoing collection and processing of your personal data in relation to your employment with the school is explained in our privacy notice for employees, a copy of which will be provided to you during induction.

If you are unsuccessful in your application, the school will retain your personal information for a period of 6 months after the end of the recruitment process. With your consent, the school will keep your personal data on file for a further period for consideration of future employment opportunities. Should you withdraw your consent within that time, or once that time period has expired, your data will be deleted or destroyed.

What rights do you have in relation to your information?

You have the following rights in relation to your personal data.

- The right of access to the personal data and supplementary information. This right is to enable you to be aware of and verify the lawfulness of the personal data we are processing.
- The right to rectification. This right allows you to have personal data rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
- The right to erasure. This is also known as the 'right to be forgotten'. This is not an absolute right and applies in specific circumstances.
- The right to restrict processing. This right applies in circumstances where, for example, the data subject contests the accuracy of the data or challenges the public interest or legitimate interest basis. Further guidance can be obtained from the ICO's website.
- The right to data portability. This allows individuals to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes.

- The right to object. Individuals have the right to object to:
 - Processing based on legitimate interests or the performance of a task in the public interest/exercise of official authority.
 - Direct marketing.
 - Processing for scientific/historical research and statistics.
- Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

Further guidance and advice on the above rights can be obtained from the ICO's website <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/individual-rights/>.

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 by contacting the Data Protection Officer or Data Protection Lead. If you would like to exercise any of the above rights please contact the Data Protection Officer who will send you our Data subject's rights application form.

Data Protection Officer dpo@dataprotection.education

Data Protection Lead gdpr@sfet.org.uk

Alternatively, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns> to raise any issues you have.