



GDPR POLICY

MAY 2021

Contents

	Page
> 1. Aims	3
> 2. Compliance	4
> 3. GDPR	5
> 4. Responsibilities	6
> 5. Data Protection Principles	7
> 6. Consent as a basis for processing	10
> 7. Subject Access Rights (SARs)	11
> 8. Disclosure of data	12
> 9. Publication of Merrywood Education Information	13
> 10. Email	14
> 11. CCTV	15
> 12. Procedure for review	16

> 1. Aims

Merrywood Education is committed to a policy of protecting the rights and privacy of individuals, including learners, staff and others, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) May 2018.

The new regulatory environment demands higher transparency and accountability in how we manage and use personal data. It also accords new and stronger rights for individuals to understand and control that use.

The GDPR contains provisions that we will need to be aware of as data controllers, including provisions intended to enhance the protection of children's personal data. For example, the GDPR requires that:

We must ensure that our organisations privacy notices are written in a clear, plain way that staff, partners, parents, children and organisations will understand.

Merrywood Education needs to process certain information about its staff, partners, parents, children and organisations and other individuals with whom it has a relationship for various purposes such as, but not limited to:

1. The recruitment and payment of staff.
2. The administration of programmes.
3. Children enrolment.
4. Partner organisation - sharing data gathering for safeguarding reasons and crime prevention.
5. Recording children's progress, attendance and behaviour.
6. Collecting fees.
7. Complying with legal obligations to funding bodies and government, including local government.
8. Data processing and external evaluations.

To comply with various legal obligations, including the obligations imposed on it by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Merrywood Education must ensure that all this information about individuals is collected and used fairly, stored safely and securely, and not disclosed to any third party unlawfully.

> 2. Compliance

This policy applies to all staff and children at Merrywood Education. Any breach of this policy or of the Regulation itself will be considered an offence and disciplinary procedures will be invoked.

As a matter of best practice, other agencies and individuals working with Merrywood Education and who have access to personal information, will be expected to read and comply with this policy. It is expected that departments who are responsible for dealing with external bodies will take the responsibility for ensuring that such bodies sign a contract which among other things will include an agreement to abide by this policy.

This policy will be updated as necessary to reflect best practice in data management, security and control and to ensure compliance with any changes or amendments to the GDPR and other relevant legislation.

The Code of Practice on GDPR for Merrywood Education gives further detailed guidance and Merrywood Education undertakes to adopt and comply with this Code of Practice.

> 3. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The GDPR and the processing of personal data, protects the rights and privacy of all living individuals (including children), for example by giving all individuals who are the subject of personal data a general right of access to the personal data which relates to them. Individuals can exercise the right to gain access to their information by means of a 'subject access request'. Personal data is information relating to an individual and may be in hard or soft copy (paper/manual files; electronic records; photographs; CCTV images), and may include facts or opinions about a person.

> 4. Responsibilities under the GDPR

Merrywood Education will be the 'data controller' under the terms of the legislation – this means it is ultimately responsible for controlling the use and processing of the personal data. Merrywood Education appoints a Data Protection Officer (DPO), currently Michelle Quayle who is available to address any concerns regarding the data held by Merrywood Education and how it is processed, held and used.

The staff are responsible for all day-to-day data protection matters, and will be responsible for ensuring that they abide by this policy, and encourage good information handling within Merrywood Education.

The Executive Head is also responsible for ensuring that the Merrywood Education notification is kept accurate. Details of Merrywood Education notification can be found on the Office of the Information Commissioner's website.

Compliance with the legislation is the personal responsibility of all members of Merrywood Education who process personal information.

Individuals who provide personal data to Merrywood Education are responsible for ensuring that the information is accurate and up-to-date. Merrywood Education is aware that our main subject of gathering data will be children and children and therefore are aware of the following:

1. Compliance with the data protection principles and in particular fairness should be central to all your processing of children's personal data.
2. We will have a lawful basis for processing a child's personal data. Consent is one possible lawful basis for processing, but it is not the only option. Sometimes using an alternative basis is more appropriate and provides better protection for the child.
3. In the UK only children aged 13 or over are able provide their own consent in relation to online services.
4. For children under this age we will get consent from whoever holds parental responsibility for the child - unless the online service you offer is a preventive or counselling service.
5. Children merit specific protection when you use their personal data for marketing purposes or creating personality or user profiles.
6. We will write clear privacy notices for children so that they are able to understand what will happen to their personal data, and what rights they have.
7. Children have the same rights as adults over their personal data. These include the rights to access their personal data; request rectification; object to processing and have their personal data erased.
8. An individual's right to erasure is particularly relevant if they gave their consent to processing when they were a child.

> 5. Data Protection Principles

The legislation places a responsibility on every data controller to process any personal data in accordance with the eight principles. More detailed guidance on how to comply with these principles can be found in the DPCoP. Please follow this link to the ICO's website (www.ico.gov.uk)

In order to comply with its obligations, Merrywood Education undertakes to adhere to the eight principles:

1) Process personal data fairly and lawfully.

Merrywood Education will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that individuals who are the focus of the personal data (data subjects) are informed of the identity of the data controller, the purposes of the processing, any disclosures to third parties that are envisaged; given an indication of the period for which the data will be kept, and any other information which may be relevant. For example,

2) Process the data for the specific and lawful purpose for which it collected that data and not further process the data in a manner incompatible with this purpose.

Merrywood Education will ensure that the reason for which it collected the data originally is the only reason for which it processes those data, unless the individual is informed of any additional processing before it takes place.

3) Ensure that the data is adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose for which it is processed.

Merrywood Education will not seek to collect any personal data which is not strictly necessary for the purpose for which it was obtained. Forms for collecting data will always be drafted with this mind. If any irrelevant data are given by individuals, they will be destroyed immediately.

4) Keep personal data accurate and, where necessary, up to date.

Merrywood Education will review and update all data on a regular basis. It is the responsibility of the individuals giving their personal data to ensure that this is accurate, and each individual should notify Merrywood Education if, for example, a change in circumstances mean that the data needs to be updated. It is the responsibility of Merrywood Education to ensure that any notification regarding the change is noted and acted on.

5) Only keep personal data for as long as is necessary.

Merrywood Education undertakes not to retain personal data for longer than is necessary to ensure compliance with the legislation, and any other statutory requirements. This means Merrywood Education will undertake a regular review of the information held and implement a weeding process.

Merrywood Education will dispose of any personal data in a way that protects the rights and privacy of the individual concerned (e.g. secure electronic deletion, shredding and disposal of hard copy files as confidential waste). A log will be kept of the records destroyed.

6) Process personal data in accordance with the rights of the data subject under the legislation.

Individuals have various rights under the legislation including a right to:

- be told the nature of the information the Merrywood Education, holds and any parties to whom this may be disclosed.
- prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress.
- prevent processing for purposes of direct marketing.
- be informed about the mechanics of any automated decision-making process that will significantly affect them.
- not have significant decisions that will affect them taken solely by automated process.
- sue for compensation if they suffer damage by any contravention of the legislation.
- take action to rectify, block, erase or destroy inaccurate data.
- request that the Office of the Information Commissioner assess whether any provision of the Act has been contravened.
- Merrywood Education will only process personal data in accordance with individuals' rights.

7) Put appropriate technical and organisational measures in place against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data, and against accidental loss or destruction of data.

All members of staff are responsible for ensuring that any personal data which they hold is kept securely and not disclosed to any unauthorised third parties.

Merrywood Education will ensure that all personal data is accessible only to those who have a valid reason for using it.

Merrywood Education will have in place appropriate security measures e.g. ensuring that hard copy personal data is kept in lockable filing cabinets/cupboards with controlled access (with the keys then held securely in a key cabinet with controlled access):

1. Keeping all personal data in a lockable cabinet with key-controlled access.
2. Password protecting personal data held electronically.
3. archiving personal data which are then kept securely (lockable cabinet).
4. Placing any PCs or terminals, CCTV camera screens etc. that show personal data so that they are not visible except to authorised staff.
5. Ensuring that PC screens are not left unattended without a password protected screen-saver being used.

In addition, Merrywood Education will put in place appropriate measures for the deletion of personal data - manual records will be shredded or disposed of as 'confidential waste' and appropriate contract terms will be put in place with any third parties undertaking this work. Hard drives of redundant PCs will be wiped clean before disposal or if that is not possible, destroyed physically. A log will be kept of the records destroyed.

This policy also applies to staff and children who process personal data 'off-site', e.g. when working at home, and in circumstances additional care must be taken regarding the security of the data.

8. Ensure that no personal data is transferred to a country or a territory outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless that country or territory ensures adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of personal data.

Merrywood Education will not transfer data to such territories without the explicit consent of the individual.

This also applies to publishing information on the Internet - because transfer of data can include placing data on a website that can be accessed from outside the EEA - so Merrywood Education will always seek the consent of individuals before placing any personal data (including photographs) on its website.

If Merrywood Education collects personal data in any form via its website, it will provide a clear and detailed privacy statement prominently on the website, and wherever else personal data is collected.

> 6. Consent as a basis for processing

Although it is not always necessary to gain consent from individuals before processing their data, it is often the best way to ensure that data is collected and processed in an open and transparent manner.

Consent is especially important when Merrywood Education is processing any sensitive data, as defined by the legislation.

Merrywood Education understands consent to mean that the individual has been fully informed of the intended processing and has signified their agreement (e.g. via the enrolment form) whilst being of a sound mind and without having any undue influence exerted upon them. Consent obtained on the basis of misleading information will not be a valid basis for processing. Consent cannot be inferred from the non-response to a communication.

“Personal Details For the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679 you consent to MERRYWOOD Education holding and processing personal data including sensitive personal data of which you are the subject, details of which are specified in MERRYWOOD Education data protection policy. This will include marketing images and CCTV.”

Merrywood Education will ensure that any forms used to gather data on an individual will contain a statement (fair collection statement) explaining the use of that data, how the data may be disclosed and also indicate whether or not the individual needs to consent to the processing.

Merrywood Education will use the following statement:

Your information may be shared with third parties for education, training, employment and well-being related purposes, including for research. This will only take place where the law allows it and the sharing is in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

You can opt out of contact for other purposes by ticking any of the following boxes if you do not wish to be contacted:

About courses or learning opportunities. For surveys and research.

By post.

By phone.

By email.

Further information about use of and access to your personal data, and details of organisations with whom we regularly share data are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esfa-privacy-notice>

Merrywood Education will ensure that if the individual does not give his/her consent for the processing, and there is no other lawful basis on which to process the data, then steps will be taken to ensure that processing of that data does not take place.

> 7. Subject Access Rights (SARs)

Individuals have a right to access any personal data relating to them which are held by MERRYWOOD Education. Any individual wishing to exercise this right should apply in writing to the Executive Head. Any member of staff receiving a SAR should forward this to the Executive Head.

Merrywood Education reserves the right to charge a fee for data subject access requests (currently £20).

Under the terms of the legislation, any such requests must be complied with within 40 days.

> 8. Disclosure of Data

Only disclosures which have been notified under Merrywood Education DP notification must be made and therefore staff and children should exercise caution when asked to disclose personal data held on another individual or third party.

Merrywood Education undertakes not to disclose personal data to unauthorised third parties, including family members, friends, government bodies and in some circumstances, the police.

Legitimate disclosures may occur in the following instances:

1. the individual has given their consent to the disclosure.
2. the disclosure has been notified and is in the legitimate interests of Merrywood Education.
3. the disclosure is required for the performance of a contract.

There are other instances when the legislation permits disclosure without the consent of the individual.

4. Crime Prevention
5. Safeguarding children and other vulnerable people

For detailed guidance on disclosures see the Code of Practice (CoP).

In no circumstances will Merrywood Education sell any of its databases to a third party.

> 9. Publication of Merrywood Education Information

Merrywood Education publishes various items which will include some personal data, e.g.

1. Internal telephone directory.
2. Event information.
3. Photos and information in marketing materials.
4. Short media videos

It may be that in some circumstances an individual wishes their data processed for such reasons to be kept confidential, or restricted Merrywood Education access only. Therefore it is Merrywood Education's policy to offer an opportunity to opt-out of the publication of such when collecting the information.

> 10. Email

It is the policy of Merrywood Education to ensure that senders and recipients of email are made aware that under the DPA, and Freedom of Information Legislation, the contents of email may have to be disclosed in response to a request for information. One means by which this will be communicated will be by a disclaimer on Merrywood Education email.

Under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, Lawful Business Practice Regulations, any email sent to or from Merrywood Education may be accessed by someone other than the recipients for system management and security purposes

> 11. CCTV

There are some CCTV systems operating within Merrywood Education for the purpose of protecting staff members and property. Merrywood Education will only process personal data obtained by the CCTV system in a manner which ensures compliance with the legislation.

> 12. Procedure for review

This policy will be updated as necessary to reflect best practice or future amendments made to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) May 2018 and Data Protection Act 1998.

Please follow this link to the ICO's website (www.ico.gov.uk) which provides further detailed guidance on a range of topics including individuals' rights, exemptions from the Act, dealing with subject access requests, how to handle requests from third parties for personal data to be disclosed etc. In particular, you may find it helpful to read the Guide to Data Protection which is available from the website.

For help or advice on any data protection or freedom of information issues, please do not hesitate to contact: The Data Protection Officer (DPO): Michelle Quayle.

Date: May 2021

Date of review: May 2022



The Old Pheasantry, Merrywood Grove, Tadworth KT20 7HF

01737 336352

admissions@merrywood.org.uk

merrywood.org.uk