



PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

POLICY: SUBJECT ACCESS REQUEST POLICY

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Contents

Section	Description	Page
1.0	Legislation and Guidance	3
2.0	Data Subject – Rights of the Individual	3
3.0	Subject Rights Request	4
4.0	Subject rights – responding to a request	5

Appendix 1	VERBAL – Subject Access Request Questionnaire
Appendix 2	Data Subject Rights Request <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your rights• How we will respond to your request• Further information• Exercising your rights
Appendix 3	WRITTEN – Subject Access Request Questionnaire

SUBJECT RIGHTS REQUEST POLICY

Plymouth High School for Girls

1.0 LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

The DPA 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) sets out individuals rights in regards to personal data that we process. Plymouth High School collects and uses personal information about staff, students, parents and other individuals who come into contact with the school. This information is gathered in order to enable it to provide education and other associated functions. In addition, there may be a legal requirement to collect and use information to ensure that the school complies with its statutory obligations. For more information, please see the school's Privacy Notices on our website.

This policy deals with an individual's rights in relation to personal data and how we manage any requests. The policy is based on guidance published by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) [Individuals Rights|ICO](#)

2.0 DATA SUBJECT – RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL

2.1 Individuals

Individuals have certain rights under the DPA 2018 and the GDPR. These are:

- The right to be informed via Privacy Notices.
- The right of access to any personal information the school holds about them.
- The right of rectification, we must correct inaccurate or incomplete data within one month.
- The right to erasure. Individuals have the right to have their personal data erased and to prevent processing unless we have a legal obligation to process their personal information.
- The right to restrict processing. Individuals have the right to suppress processing. We can retain just enough information about them to ensure that the restriction is respected in future.
- The right to data portability. We can provide the individual with their personal data in a structured, commonly used, machine readable format when asked.
- The right to object. Individuals can object to their personal data being used for profiling, direct marketing or research purposes.
- Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling, to reduce the risk that a potentially damaging decision is taken without human intervention.

2.2 Children

A child, (anyone under the age of 18) has the same data protection rights over their personal data as an adult. We will give personal data processed about our pupils' specific consideration as they may be less aware of the risks, consequences and safeguards concerned.

Children aged 12 and above are generally regarded to be mature enough to understand their rights and the implications of processing their personal data. Therefore, the rights of most of

our children, including consent, can be exercised by our pupils. Any request from parents or carers of our pupils may not be granted without the express permission of the pupil. This is not a rule and a pupil's ability to understand their rights will always be judged on a case-by-case basis. If we judge a child is not mature enough to understand their rights, their rights, including consent, can be exercised by parents or carers without the express permission of the pupil, provided we are satisfied that the request has come from a person with parental responsibility.

When considering whether a child can understand their rights and the implications of a subject access request we will take into account:

- the child's level of maturity and their ability to make decisions like this;
- the nature of the personal data;
- any court orders relating to parental access or responsibility that may apply;
- any duty of confidentiality owed to the child or young person;
- any consequences of allowing those with parental responsibility access to the child's or young person's information. This is particularly important if there have been allegations of abuse or ill treatment;
- any detriment to the child or young person if individuals with parental responsibility cannot access this information;
- any views the child or young person has on whether their parents should have access to information about them;
- Any other relevant information.

3.0 SUBJECT RIGHTS REQUEST

3.1 Subject access requests

Individuals have a right to make a 'subject access request' (SAR) to gain access to personal information that the school holds about them. Individuals are only entitled to their own personal data and not information relating to other people, unless the information is also about them or they are acting on behalf of someone.

This includes:

- Confirmation that their personal data is being processed.
- Access to a copy of the data.
- The purposes of the data processing.
- The categories of personal data concerned.
- Who the data has been, or will be, shared with.
- How long the data will be stored for, or if this isn't possible, the criteria used to determine this period.
- The source of the data, if not the individual.
- Whether any automated decision-making is being applied to their data, and what the significance and consequences of this might be for the individual.

3.2 How do we recognise and accept subject rights requests?

A Subject access or other subject rights request is simply a request made verbally or in writing by or on behalf of an individual for or about the information which they are entitled to ask for. Requests do not need to include the words 'subject access' or mention DPA. If a request states that it is a freedom of information (FOI) request but is clearly relating to the requester's personal data, we will treat this as a SAR. Our preference is to receive requests via our application form (appendix 3), however we do not insist on this and will accept requests by any means including; hard copy, email, fax or social media. If a verbal request is made we will complete security checks to ensure that we are speaking to the data subject and use our template verbal application form (appendix 1) to gather the information needed. We will not disclose the content of personal data over the telephone and we will give the individual the option of completing an application form themselves. If the initial request does not clearly identify the information required, then further enquiries will be made. We have created a template for individuals to make requests, to help make the process easier. This form is appended to this policy and is available on our school website. Staff receiving requests should download and use the form to record subject access requests received by any other means. We will contact the individual via phone to confirm the request was made.

Subject rights requests should include:

- Name of individual
- Correspondence address
- Contact number and email address
- Details of the information that the request is about.

We may ask an individual the reason for their request if it will help us to locate the information and provide a more expedient service. However requesters do not have to tell us their reason for making the request or what they intend to do with any information requested. A request is valid even if it has not been sent to the person who normally deals with such requests.

We have created a template for individuals to use which we will share on our website and is appended to this policy.

Any member of staff receiving a SAR should forward this to the Headteacher.

The DPO is responsible for monitoring and reporting on all Subject Access Requests to the Headteacher.

We have Data Subject Rights guidance on our website (appendix 2) with an application form (appendix 3). As above this is not a requirement for accepting a subject rights request, however enquiries should be directed to this to assist with the process.

3.3 Requests made on behalf of others

The data subject may make a subject rights request via a third party. This could be a Solicitor acting on behalf of a client or another individual that the data subject wants to act for them. In these cases we must be satisfied that the third party requester is entitled to act on behalf of the

individual. If this is not provided with the request, we will ask the third party to provide this. As an example this could be:

- A written authority/consent for the third party to act for the individual
- A more general power of attorney

4.0 SUBJECT RIGHTS – RESPONDING TO A REQUEST

*** If staff receive a subject rights request they must immediately contact the DPO.**

4.1 When responding to subject rights requests:

- We may ask the individual to provide 2 forms of identification before the disclosure of any information, and checks should also be carried out regarding proof of relationship to the child;
- We may contact the individual via phone to confirm the request was made;
- We will acknowledge receipt of the request;
- We will respond without delay and within 1 month of receipt of the request.

4.1.1 Subject Access Requests (SAR's)

- If a SAR is requested as a FOI we will contact the individual to confirm that we are dealing with this as a SAR and clarify the time limit for responding (FOI requests have a 20 working day limit);
- We will provide the information free of charge (please also see point 4.2 below for circumstances where we may charge a fee);
- We will make any reasonable adjustments required for disabled people and respond in a format that is accessible to that person, i.e. large print;
- Information disclosed should be clear, thus any codes or technical terms will need to be clarified and explained. If information contained within the disclosure is difficult to read or illegible, then it should be retyped.
- Information may be provided at the school with a member of staff on hand to help and explain matters if requested, provided at face to face handover. The views of the applicant should be taken into account when considering the method of delivery. If postal systems have to be used then registered/recorded mail must be used
- We may delete names or edit documents if they include third party information; Where redaction (information blacked out/removed) has taken place then a full copy of the information provided should be retained in order to establish, if a complaint is made, what was redacted and why.
- We may tell the individual we will comply within 3 months of receipt of the request, where a request is complex or numerous. We will inform the individual of this within 1 month, and explain why the extension is necessary.

The Data Protection Act 1998 allows exemptions as to the provision of some information; **therefore all information will be reviewed prior to disclosure.**

We will not disclose information if it:

- Might cause serious harm to the physical or mental health of the pupil or another individual
- Would reveal that the child is at risk of abuse, where the disclosure of that information would not be in the child's best interests;
- Is contained in adoption or parental order records;
- Is given to a court in proceedings concerning the child.
- Data being held or processed under one of the following exemptions does not have to be provided (Non-exhaustive list): National security; Crime and taxation; Health; Corporation; Education; Social work; Publicly available information; Confidential references; Legal Advice and proceedings; Self-incrimination

Supplying information to the requester

When responding to a request we will:

- Confirm whether any personal data is being processed – e.g. if we hold no personal data about the requester, we will still respond to let them know this;
- Follow the school's Subject Access Request Procedures that ensures we meet our obligations and maintain the security of personal information during the process of gathering information requested.

4.1.2 Rectification

- We will take reasonable steps to satisfy ourselves that the data is accurate.
- We will take into consideration whether information is incorrect or misleading.
- We will restrict the use of the information disputed whilst we are verifying its accuracy.
- We may decide that the information is not inaccurate, for example where this is the opinion of a person.
- If we are satisfied that the data is accurate we will let the individual know and tell them that we will not be amending the data and explain why.
- Where information has since been corrected but there is a need for the uncorrected information to be retained we will let the individual know and explain why.

4.1.3 Erasure

- We will erase personal data if:
 - the data is no longer necessary for the purpose which we originally collected or processed it for;
 - We are relying on consent as our lawful basis for holding the data and the individual withdraws consent;
 - We are relying on legitimate interests as our basis for processing, the individual objects to the processing of their data, and there is no overriding legitimate interest to continue this processing;
 - We are processing the personal data for direct marketing purposes and the individual objects to that processing;
 - We have processed the personal data unlawfully (i.e. in breach of the lawfulness requirement of the 1st principle);

- We have to do it to comply with a legal obligation; or
- We have processed the personal data to offer information society services to a child.
- If we have shared personal data that we have agreed to erase we will tell the other organisation.
- If the personal data has been made public in an online environment we will ensure that it is removed from these platforms.
- We may not be able to comply with a request for erasure where rights do not apply, for example where personal data is being processed to comply with a legal obligation, or where an exemption applies.
- If we decide that we cannot erase personal data we will let the individual know and explain why.

4.1.4 Restriction or suppression

- We will restrict the processing of personal data if:
 - The individual contests the accuracy of their personal data and we are verifying the accuracy of the data;
 - The data has been unlawfully processed (i.e. in breach of the lawfulness requirement of the first principle of the GDPR) and the individual opposes erasure and requests restriction instead;
 - We no longer need the personal data but the individual needs us to keep it in order to establish, exercise or defend a legal claim; or
 - The individual has objected to us processing their data under Article 21(1), and we are considering whether our legitimate grounds override those of the individual.
- If we restrict personal data we may store the personal data but will not use it unless:
 - We have the individual's consent;
 - It is for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims;
 - It is for the protection of the rights of another person (natural or legal); or
 - It is for reasons of important public interest.
- If we have disclosed the personal data that we have agreed to restrict to others we will notify the other organisations.
- We may lift the restriction, for example if we make a decision on the accuracy of personal data or whether our legitimate grounds override those of the individual.
- If we do decide to lift the restriction we will inform the individual **before** we do this. We will inform them of the reasons and of their right to make a complaint to the ICO or another supervisory authority and their ability to seek a judicial remedy

4.1.5 Data Portability

- Where we are the data controller for personal data we will:
 - Directly transmit requested data to the individual; or
 - Provide access to an automated tool that allows the individual to extract the requested data themselves;
 - We will ensure any transfer of data is secure;
 - We will provide data in a structured, commonly used and machine readable format, i.e. CSV files.

- If we provide information directly to an individual or to another organisation in response to a data portability request, we are not responsible for any subsequent processing carried out by the individual or the other organisation.
- If we have legitimate reasons why we cannot undertake a transmission, for example if this would adversely affect the rights and freedoms of others, we will inform the individual and explain what the legitimate reasons are.

4.1.6 Object

- An individual has an absolute right to object to personal data being processed for direct marketing purposes and a right to object to processing for:
 - A task carried out in the public interest;
 - The exercise of official authority vested in us; or
 - Our legitimate interests (or those of a third party).

4.1.7 Automated decision making including profiling

- We do not use any automated decision making processes or profiling.

4.2 If the subject rights request is unfounded or excessive:

- We may refuse to act on it, or charge a reasonable fee which takes into account administrative costs.
- A request will be deemed to be unfounded or excessive if it is repetitive, or asks for further copies of the same information.
- When we refuse a request, we will tell the individual why, and tell them they have the right to complain to the ICO.

VERBAL – Subject Access Request Questionnaire (to be completed by staff member receiving the request).

Section 1

1 a. Please complete security checks to ensure that you are talking to the data subject or their appointed person/parent/carer. Advise that in order to deal with the request efficiently and have an accurate record of this you need to complete a questionnaire with them. Also confirm that there is a guidance and process on-line or that we can send it in the post if they would prefer to complete the questionnaire themselves or in their own time.

1 b. Please obtain the name, date of birth and address of the data subject who the request is about.

Full Name	
Title	Date of birth (DOB)
Address	
Postcode	Telephone No.
Email	
Relationship with the school Please select: Parent* / Pupil / Employee / Governor / Volunteer / Other (please specify) <small>* If you are a parent please specify the student name</small>	

1 c. You only need to complete this section if the person you are talking to is making a Subject Access Request **on behalf of another living person**. Please provide **their** details below:

Surname	Forenames
Title	Date of birth (DOB)
Address	
Postcode	Telephone No.
Email	
Relationship with the school Please select: Parent* / Pupil / Employee / Governor / Volunteer / Other (please specify) <small>* If you are a parent please specify the student name</small>	

If the person you are talking to is making this request on behalf of another person please advise them that they must provide their written consent or other evidence that they have the legal right to act on their behalf. Please confirm if:

- The requester will supply written consent on behalf of the individual named in section 1b (either a specific consent or a more general power of attorney.)
- The requester is a parent or guardian acting on behalf of a child who does not have the capacity to understand the nature and reason of the request. (Please see SAR policy for more information about how we assess children’s capacity). Please ask for brief details on why the request is in the best interests of the child:

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Section 2

Please advise the requester that they will need to provide two original forms of identification from the list below. If they send these to us by post they will be returned to them either in person or via Royal Mail recorded delivery.

Birth certificate	Passport	Photo card driving licence
Marriage certificate	Utility bill	Bank statement
Medical card	Pay slips, P45/P60	UK residents permit
Divorce, annulment or separation document	Benefits or Tax Credit letter	Letter from doctor, solicitor or probation officer

If they have difficulty supplying these documents please refer to the DPO for advice and confirm you will call the requester back.

Section 3

Please ask which of their/subject right they wish to exercises – please tick all boxes that apply:

- a. Access to their personal information
- b. Corrections to inaccurate personal data held by the school
- c. Deletion of personal information (this can only be done if it meets certain conditions)
- d. Restriction of the processing of personal information

If you have ticked **a.** please go to **Section 4**

If you have ticked **b-d** please request further information and detail this in the box below. Advise the requester that it is important that we have enough detail so that we can identify the relevant information and decide how we will respond to their request.

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Section 4

To enable us to target and process the request as efficiently as possible please ask which areas of the school's records they are interested in obtaining personal information from. Please tick all applicable from the options below:

- Admissions
- Education – including exams, attainment, progress

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Educational Needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trips and Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Payment systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel/Employee Administration | |

Please ask for any additional details which may help the school to identify the personal information they would like access to:

Please ask whether they would like to receive the requested information in electronic or paper format.

- Paper format
- Electronic Format

Section 5

Please read the Declaration and ask requester to accept this

I understand that it may be necessary for the school to obtain more detailed information in order to be satisfied as to my identity, and that the period in which the school must, under law, respond will not commence until they are satisfied.

I confirm that the reply to my application may be sent to the name and postal address and/or email address given in Section 1 above.

The declaration was read to the requester and they have confirmed they understand this. Please tick:

Yes No

Signed

Date

Staff Member's Name

PLEASE PASS THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE HEADTEACHER

Office use only

Date received in school	Request received by:
ID verified by school	ID 1 seen: Initials: ID 2 seen: Initials:
Date passed to DPO	
Request acknowledged	Initials:
Date completed	Initials:

APPENDIX 2

DATA PROTECTION ACT

DATA SUBJECT RIGHTS REQUEST

YOUR RIGHTS

The Data Protection Act 2018 gives you a number of information rights. You are entitled to:

- Access to the personal information that the school holds about you
- Know the types of information that we hold about you
- Know what your information is being used for and why
- Know where the information came from and who we might share it with
- Know how long we will keep your personal information
- Have information about you erased if it meets certain conditions
- Have corrections made to inaccurate information and in certain circumstances restrict what we do with your information

In certain circumstances:

- The right to data portability where we provide you with your personal information in a commonly used, machine readable form.

HOW WE WILL RESPOND TO YOUR REQUEST

Your right to access your information

If you would like access to your personal information we will provide you with:

- A copy of the requested information within one month (30 days), free of charge.
- Your information in either paper or electronic form. Please let us know when you make your request your preferred format.

Following your request for access if you feel that any of the data is inaccurate and should be corrected or erased please submit a further Data Subject Rights Request.

When we complete your request we will keep a copy of your application, identity documents and the information provided to you for six years.

Please be aware:

- If your request is particularly complex we have the right to extend the period of compliance by a further two months (60 days). In this case we will contact you within the first month to let you know. We may also ask if you can provide more detail about the specific information you hope to obtain.
- We reserve the right to charge a fee where the request is manifestly unfounded, excessive or where we have already provided a copy. This fee will be based on the administrative cost of providing you with the information.
- In exceptional circumstances, where a request is deemed to be manifestly unfounded, excessive and in particular repetitive we may refuse to respond. If we decide to refuse your request we will, within one month of receiving your request, explain why and

inform you of your right to complain to the Information Commissioner and to a judicial remedy.

Your other information Rights

Your request will be passed to the Headteacher and the Data Protection Officer.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like further information about your information rights under the Data Protection Act 2018 please contact the school's Data Protection Officer at Plymouth High School;

Kathryn Rogers, Plymouth High School, St. Lawrence Road, Plymouth, PL4 6HT.

telephone 01752 208308 email kr Rogers@phsg.org

Please contact us if:

- you have any questions about this privacy notice or how we handle your personal information;
- you would like us to update the information we hold about you;
- you would prefer that certain information is kept confidential;
- you object to us using your information for marketing purposes e.g. to send you information about school events. We will stop using your information for marketing purposes if you tell us not to.

Data Protection Officer at Plymouth City Council

Liz Easterbrook, Finance, Plymouth City Council, Ballard House, West Hoe Road, Plymouth, PL1 3BJ.

telephone 01752 398380 email dataprotectionofficer@plymouth.gov.uk

Independent advice

You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Office to seek an independent opinion. You can call them on 03031231113, write to them at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or visit the [Information Commissioner's](#) website.

Privacy Notice

For information about how the school will use the information you supply in this form and the information rights you have please see our Privacy Notice.

EXERCISING YOUR RIGHTS

Please complete the form below and return this to:

The Data Protection Officer
Plymouth High School
St. Lawrence Road
Plymouth
PL4 6HT
Tel: 01752 208308
email phs@phsg.org

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM USING CAPITAL LETTERS

Section 1

1 a. Please provide **your** name, date of birth and address in the space provided.

Your Full Name	
Title	Date of birth (DOB)
Address	
Postcode	Telephone No.
Email	
Relationship with the school Please select: Parent* / Pupil / Employee / Governor / Volunteer / Other (please specify)	
* If you are a parent please specify the student name	

1 b. You only need to complete this section if you are making a Subject Access Request **on behalf of another living person**. Please provide **their** details below:

Surname	Forenames
Title	Date of birth (DOB)
Address	
Postcode	Telephone No.
Email	
Relationship with the school Please select: Parent* / Pupil / Employee / Governor / Volunteer / Other (please specify)	
* If you are a parent please specify the student name	

If you are making this request **on behalf of another living person** you must provide their written consent or other evidence that you have the legal right to act on their behalf.

Please tick **one** of the following:

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am enclosing written consent on behalf of the individual named in section 1b
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a parent or guardian acting on behalf of a child who does not have the capacity to understand the nature and reason of the request.

Please give brief details on why the request is in the best interests of the child

Section 2

With your application you will need to provide two original forms of identification from the list below. If you send these to us by post they will be returned to you either in person or via Royal Mail recorded delivery.

Birth certificate	Passport	Photo card driving licence
Marriage certificate	Utility bill	Bank statement
Medical card	Pay slips, P45/P60	UK residents permit
Divorce, annulment or separation document	Benefits or Tax Credit letter	Letter from doctor, solicitor or probation officer

If you have difficulty supplying these documents please call 01752 208308 or email: phs@phsg.org

Section 3

Please indicate which of your right(s) you wish to exercise – please tick all boxes that apply:

- a. Access to your personal information
- b. Corrections to inaccurate personal data held by the school
- c. Deletion of personal information (this can only be done if it meets certain conditions)
- d. Restriction of the processing of personal information

If you have ticked **a.** please go to **Section 4**

If you have ticked **b-d** please provide further information below. It is important that we have enough detail so that we can identify the relevant information and decide how we will respond to your request.

Now go to **Section 5**

Section 4

To enable us to target and process your request as efficiently as possible please indicate, by ticking the relevant box(s), which areas of the school’s records you are interested in obtaining personal information from.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Education – including exams, attainment, progress |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Educational Needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trips and Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Payment systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel/Employee Administration | |

Please provide any additional details which may help to identify the personal information you would like access to:

Please tick below whether you would like to receive the requested information in electronic or paper format.

- Paper format
- Electronic Format

Section 5

Declaration

I understand that it may be necessary for the school to obtain more detailed information in order to be satisfied as to my identity, and that the period in which the school must, under law, respond will not commence until they are satisfied.

I confirm that the reply to my application may be sent to the name and postal address and/or email address given in Section 1 above.

Signed

Date

Please print your name

PLEASE PASS THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE HEADTEACHER

Office use only

Date received in school	Request received by:
ID verified by school	ID 1 seen: Initials: ID 2 seen: Initials:
Date passed to DPO	
Request acknowledged	Initials:
Date completed	Initials: