**Confidentiality Policy**

**Statement of Intent**

The General Data Protection Regulations May 2018 (GDPR) gives you rights to do with the information that businesses, the Government and other organisations hold about you.

Personal information that West Wycombe Preschool uses and holds is covered by the GDPR.

This policy is to make families fully aware of how we may use your personal information should you send your child to West Wycombe Pre-School.

**This Policy Covers**

* [How we collect information about you and any children who attend West Wycombe Pre-school,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link1)
* [How we use personal information,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link2)
* [How long we keep personal information,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link8)
* [Who we share personal information with,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link3)
* [Where we process personal information,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link4)
* Our Staff’s practice to keep information confidential
* [Our commitment to you,](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link5)
* [What rights you have over personal information.](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link6)
* [Use of cookies by West Wycombe](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/?page_id=217#link7) Pre-school

**The Information We Will Collect About You and Your Child**

When you send your child/ren to West Wycombe Pre-school, we receive information about you and any children who attend in a number of ways.

This may happen when you:

* Register on our waiting lists
* Complete our Registration Forms
* Complete Government Funding or Pupil Premium Forms
* When you let us know about a change in your personal circumstances (for example, if you change your name or move house).
* When Health Care Plans or Medication Forms are completed
* For the purpose of completing your child’s development records and observations.
* When you authorise referrals to outside agencies for involvement in your child’s development and wellbeing.

We may receive information from other organisations, for example, should we be required to work with paediatric consultants, health visitors or social services (This is not a complete list).

**How We Use Your Personal Information**

We use information that we have about you and your children for business purposes and to meet the requirements set out within the Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Standards 2017. These purposes generally fall into the following areas.

**Administration –** This applies to past, current and potential future children and their parents / guardians / Emergency Contacts. We use this information for the provision of child care and safeguarding.

The personal information we collect and use include:

* The personal details of your child;
* The payment of fees due;
* Details of the child’s Family
* Details of Emergency Contacts
* Medical information (so we can cater for any special needs)
* Religious Preferences
* Ethnic background of your child (this is collected by Oxfordshire County Council as part of the process to obtain Nursery Education Funding for your child). This is also used when West Wycombe Pre-school applies for grants and funding from Government bodies.

**Provision of Education** – This applies to past, current and potential future children and their parents / guardians.

We use this information to ensure that your child’s development needs are catered for.

The types of information we collect and use include:

* Education and Training Details (so we can ensure your child’s development needs are catered for).

**Keeping you informed** – This applies to current, past and potential future children and their parents / guardians.

We use this information to keep you updated about events at West Wycombe (e.g. to let you know about events and changes to schedules).

The types of information we collect and use include:

* Email address. So we can email you updates and generate an account on our Tapestry Account so we can keep you up to date on your child’s journey.
* Facebook accounts to link you with our Pre-school Facebook Page  
  (Note: This is optional, and you can opt out of receiving email and Facebook updates at any time).

Details of all events and notices will always be posted on the West Wycombe Pre-school’s Calendar on our Website.

**Retention Periods for Personal Information**

We are required to keep personal information for a number of years after a child has left West Wycombe Pre-school. This is in order to comply with ‘Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Requirements’ (given legal force by Childcare Act 2006) and other relevant legislation (see below).

| **Children’s Records** | **Retention Period** | **Status** | **Authority** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Children’s records – including registers, medication and accident records pertaining to the children | A reasonable period of time after the child has left the setting (e.g. until the next OFSTED inspection) | Requirement | Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (given legal force by the Childcare Act 2006) |
| Until the child reaches the age of 21 | Recommendation | Limitation Act 1980 |
| Records of any reportable death, injury, disease or dangerous occurrence | 3 years after the date the record was made, when it involves a child until they turn 21. | Requirement | The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) |
| **Employment Records** | **Retention Period** | **Status** | **Authority** |
| Staff and student personal files | 6 years after employment ceases | Recommendation | Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development |
| Disclosure and Barring Checks | 6 months | Recommendation | Disclosure and Barring Code of Practice |
| **Health and Safety** | **Retention Period** | **Status** | **Authority** |
| Staff accident records | 3 years after the date the record was made | Requirement | Social Security Regulations 1979 |
| Accident/Medical records as specified by the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) | 40 years from date of last entry | Requirement | The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH) |
| **Financial Records** | **Retention Period** | **Status** | **Authority** |
| Accounting Records | 6 years from end of the financial year for companies with charity status | Requirement | Charities Act 2011 |
| **Administration Records** | **Retention Period** | **Status** | **Authority** |
| Insurance Certificates | 40 years from the date insurance commences or is renewed. | Requirement | The Employers’ Liability Regulations 1998 |
| Minutes / Meeting Records | 6 years from the date of the meeting for Charity Registered Organisations | Requirement | The Charitable Incorporated Organisation Regulations 2012 |

**Sharing Personal and Private Information**

Generally we only use your information within West Wycombe Pre-school. However there are some occasions when we need to share personal information about you and / or your child with outside agencies. Your personal information is never shared with an outside agency unless consent has been granted to do so. However if we decide there is a high risk safeguarding concern that puts your child in immediate danger then we do have authority to share your personal information with the First Response Team and Police.

Occasions where we might share your personal information include;

* If you chose to pay for West Wycombe Pre-school using childcare vouchers. We will share the minimum amount of your personal information necessary with the voucher scheme operator so they can identify you and make the appropriate payments to West Wycombe Pre-school on your behalf.
* If your child is entitled to Government Entitled Funding, we are required to share your personal details with Buckinghamshire County Council in order to identify your child and prove entitlement to funding.
* If you are eligible for Pupil Premium we will share your details with Buckinghamshire County Council and possibly the Department for Work and Pensions.
* If contacted by another Early Years Setting or school we would only ever share your child’s development record and not disclose any personal details.
* Personal information would be used for the purposes of recovering overdue fees.
* In case of an emergency, we may need to share with the emergency services details of your child including details of any medical conditions as provided to us by you.
* To contact you when we want to inform you about events at West Wycombe.

**Practice used by our staff to ensure your information is kept confidential**

* Staff will not discuss personal information given by parents with other members of staff, except where it affects planning for the child’s needs.
* Staff will not discuss personal information given by parents outside of work.
* Staff induction includes an awareness of the importance of confidentiality.
* Any concerns/evidence relating to a child’s personal safety are kept in a secure, confidential file and are shared with as few people as possible on a “need-to-know” basis.
* Personal information about children, families and staff are kept securely in the Pre-school office which is locked when not in use.
* Issues concerning the employment of staff, whether paid or unpaid, remain confidential to the Pre-school Manager and Committee Chair, Susie Chester.
* Parents’ permission will be sought before observations and photographs are taken of children, either as individuals or in groups. Permission is requested in the Registration Form.
* Parent’s permission is gained for children’s photos to be used for marketing and social media on our Registration Forms. At social events such as sports day all parents will be asked to only display photos of their own child on their personal social media accounts.

**Where We Process Personal Information**

We will only store and use your personal information in the United Kingdom

**Our Commitment to You**

We will process your personal information in line with the Data Protection Act. This means that we will:

* only collect and hold information about you which we need for a reason;
* keep your personal information up to date and accurate (to help us do this, please let us know if any of your details change);
* take appropriate steps to protect your personal information from being used without permission, or illegally, and to safeguard your rights; and
* destroy your personal information in a secure way once we no longer need it.

**Your Rights over Personal Records**

You have certain rights over your personal information. Most importantly, you have a right to ask for a copy of all the personal information we hold about you but there are some legal exceptions to this, such as information which is confidential to West Wycombe Pre-school. If you would like a copy of your personal information, you should contact the Pre-school Manager. We will process your request within one month from the date of your request. You may need to pay £10 administrative cost to cover our time spent collecting your files.

**Use of Cookies on Our Website**

When someone visits [*www.West Wycombepreschool.co.uk*](http://www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk/) we collect standard internet log information and details of visitor behaviour patterns. We do this to find out things such as the number of visitors to the various parts of the site. We collect this information in a way which does not identify anyone. We do not make any attempt to find out the identities of those visiting our website.

Cookies are small text files that are placed on your computer by websites that you visit. They are widely used in order to make websites work, or work more efficiently, as well as to provide information to the owners of the site.

The only cookie we use is to allow us to find out more about how people use our website so that we can improve it and make it more user friendly. You may delete and block all cookies from this site. Details of the cookie we use can be found below:

| **Cookie** | **Name** | **Purpose** | **Where to find**  **out more** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Google Analytics | \_utma  \_utmb  \_utmc  \_utmz | These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. We use the information to compile reports and to help us improve the site. The cookies collect information in an anonymous form, including the number of visitors to the site, where visitors have come to the site from and the pages they visited. Note: We do not share this information with 3rd parties. | [Google Privacy Policy](http://www.google.co.uk/intl/en/analytics/privacyoverview.html) |

This policy was adopted by West Wycombe Pre-school Playgroup in October 2010. Policies are updated when necessary and reviewed on a yearly basis.

Reviewed and Amended June 2025