

Privacy Notice – Job Applicant

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Privacy Notice - How We Use Job Applicant Information

This Privacy Notice for job applicants explains how we collect, store and use personal data about individuals as part of our recruitment process. It provides a guide to our legal obligations and their own rights. Like any organisation which handles personal data, our school is the 'Data Controller' as such, we are registered with the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) and we comply with UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). Our ICO registration number is Z6918738 Our Data Protection Officer (DPO) is SchoolPro TLC Ltd (see 'Contact' below).

As part of any recruitment process, we collect and process personal data relating to job applicants. We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use that data and to meeting our data protection obligations.

The Categories of Job Applicant Information That We Process Include:

We collect a range of information about you, this includes:

- Your name, address and contact details, including email address and telephone number.
- Relevant documentation which confirms your identification and proof of address.
- Details of your education, qualifications and training, including membership of professional bodies.
- Information about your current level of remuneration, including benefit entitlements.
  - Information about your continuous service in Local Government Employment.
- Details of your skills, experience, current employment and previous employment.
  - Details of relationships you may have with current employees within the Trust.
  - Relevant information to enable us to undertake safer recruitment in education checks, including details of referees.
  - Whether or not you have a disability for which we need to make reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process.
  - Information about your entitlement to work in the UK.
- Equal opportunities monitoring information, including information about your ethnic origin, sexual orientation, health, and religion or belief.
- Information on any incidents or issues that may have been identified in online checks of publicly available information.

Why We Collect and Use Job Applicant Information

We use job applicant data to:

- Take steps at your request prior to entering into a contract with you
- Enter into a contract with you
- Ensure that we are complying with our legal obligations

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), the legal basis / bases we rely on for processing personal information for general purposes are:

(6a) Consent: job applicants, employees and others who work in the school have given clear consent for us to process their personal data for the purposes indicated above. For example, if your application is unsuccessful, we may keep your personal data on file in case there are future employment opportunities for which you may be suited. We will ask for your consent before we keep your data for this purpose and you are free to withdraw your consent at any time.

(6c) A Legal obligation: the processing is necessary for us to comply with the law.

(6d) A duty to safeguard pupils: the processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject (children); (e.g. we are required to have evidence that staff have DBS clearance).

(6e) Public task: the processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the public interest or for our official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law.

The lawful bases for processing personal data are set out in Article 6 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation.

Special Categories of data are set out in Article 9 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation. High Ash will work within the conditions of GDPR - Article 9 of the UK GDPR:

(9.2a) explicit consent. In circumstances where we seek consent, we make sure that the consent is unambiguous and for one or more specified purposes, is given by an affirmative action and is recorded as the condition for processing. Examples of our processing include job applicant dietary requirements, health information we receive from our job applicant who require a reasonable adjustment to access our site and services, or information requested for the purposes of equal opportunities monitoring.

(9.2b) processing is necessary for the purposes of carrying out the obligations and exercising specific rights of the controller or of the data subject in the field of employment and social security and social protection law in so far as it is authorised by Union or Member State law or a collective agreement pursuant to Member State law providing for appropriate safeguards for the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.

(9.2c) where processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person. An example of our processing would be using health information about a job applicant in a medical emergency.

(9.2f) for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims. Examples of our processing include processing relating to any employment tribunal or other litigation.

(9.2g) reasons of substantial public interest. As a school, we are a publicly funded body and provide a safeguarding role to young and vulnerable people. Our processing of personal data in this context is for the purposes of substantial public interest and is necessary for the carrying out of our role. Examples of our processing include the information we seek or receive as part of investigating an allegation.

(9.2j) for archiving purposes in the public interest. The relevant purpose we rely on is Schedule 1 Part 1 paragraph 4 – archiving. An example of our processing is the transfers we make to the County Archives as set out in our Records Management Policy.

We process criminal offence data under Article 10 of the UK GDPR.

Our Data Protection Policy highlights the conditions for processing in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 that we process Special Category and Criminal Offence data under.

Collecting Job Applicant Information

We collect this information in a variety of ways. For example, data might be contained in application forms or CVs, obtained from your passport or other identity documents, or collected through interviews or other forms of assessment.

We will also collect personal data about you from third parties, such as references supplied by former employers, information from employment background check providers, and information from criminal records checks.

We will also carry out an online search about you for information that is publicly available online. This will include social media accounts you may hold. This will only be carried out on shortlisted candidates and before interview. This processing of data will be conducted under the legal basis of Article 6(e) public task in line with the guidance laid out in para 226 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2024. Any data collected during this search will be retained in line with our retention schedule which is available on request.

Storing Job Applicant Information

We hold data securely for the set amount of time shown in our data retention schedule. For more information on our data retention schedule and how we keep your data safe, please see our Data Protection Policy and our Data Retention Policy by visiting the school's website.

Data will be stored in a range of different places, including on your application record, in HR management systems and on other IT systems (including email).

Who We Share Job Applicant Information With

Your information will be shared internally for the purposes of the recruitment exercise. This includes members of the academy staff who carry out HR activities, the central HR team and interviewers involved in the recruitment process, managers in the business area with a vacancy and IT staff if access to the data is necessary for the performance of their roles.

To meet our duties under Keeping Children Safe in Education, we are required to obtain references from your former employers as part of the interview process. We will not share your data with third parties for this purpose without your consent.

The organisation will share data with third parties with employment background check providers to obtain necessary background checks and the Disclosure and Barring Service to obtain necessary criminal records checks.

Requesting Access to Your Personal Data

The UK-GDPR gives you certain rights about how your information is collected and used. To make a request for your personal information, contact the School Business Manager in the first instance.

You also have the following rights:

- the right to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data – this is called 'right to be informed'.
- the right to ask us for copies of personal information we have about you – this is called 'right of access', this is also known as a subject access request, data subject access request or right of access request.
- the right to ask us to change any information you think is not accurate or complete – this is called 'right to rectification'.
- the right to ask us to delete your personal information – this is called 'right to erasure'
- the right to ask us to stop using your information – this is called 'right to restriction of processing'.
- the 'right to object to processing' of your information, in certain circumstances
- rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.
- the right to withdraw consent at any time (where relevant).
- the right to complain to the Information Commissioner if you feel we have not used your information in the right way.

There are legitimate reasons why we may refuse your information rights request, which depends on why we are processing it. For example, some rights will not apply:

- right to erasure does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation or public task.
- right to portability does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is legal obligation, vital interests, public task or legitimate interests.
- right to object does not apply when the lawful basis for processing is contract, legal obligation or vital interests. And if the lawful basis is consent, you don't haven't the right to object, but you have the right to withdraw consent.

If you have a concern about the way we are collecting or using your personal data, you should raise your concern with us in the first instance or directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at raise a concern with ICO

Alternatively, you can contact our Data Protection Officer which is SchoolPro TLC Ltd via DPO@schoolpro.uk.

For further information on how to request access to personal information held centrally by the Department for Education (DfE), please see the 'How Government uses your data' section of this notice.

What if You Do Not Provide Personal Data?

You are under no statutory or contractual obligation to provide data to us during the recruitment process. However, if you do not provide the information, we may not be able to process your application properly or at all.

You are under no obligation to provide information for equal opportunities monitoring purposes and there are no consequences for your application if you choose not to provide such information.

Withdrawal of Consent and the Right to Lodge a Complaint

Where we process your personal data based on your consent, you have the right to withdraw that consent at any time.

To request the withdrawal of your consent, please contact the School Business Manager by email (buinessmanager@highashschool.co.uk). We will respond to your request promptly and ensure that your data is no longer processed on the basis of consent, unless another lawful basis applies.

Under Section 164A of the Data Protection Act 2018, you have a statutory right to complain if you believe your personal data has been handled inappropriately.

If you wish to raise a concern about how we process your personal data, please contact us directly at via our complaints procedure. We will acknowledge your complaint within 30 days of receipt and take appropriate steps to investigate and respond without undue delay.

If you are not satisfied with our response, you may escalate your complaint to the Information Commission at: Information Commissioner's Office

Last Updated

We may need to update this privacy notice periodically so we recommend that you revisit this information from time to time. This version was last updated on 7th November, 2025

Contact

If you would like to discuss anything in this privacy notice, please contact:

School Business Manager, internal data protection lead: businessmanager@highashschool.co.uk,

SchoolPro TLC Ltd, Data Protection Officer: DPO@schoolpro.uk.