

GDPR Statement

What is GDPR?

The initials GDPR stand for General Data Protection Regulation. The new regulations will take effect from 25th May 2018. On this date The Data Protection Act (DPA) will be replaced by GDPR which changes the way schools store and manage data and information. The European Commission (EC) has passed GDPR as a Regulation to strengthen and unify data protection laws for European Union (EU) and UK Citizens not just in the EU but working outside of the EU as well. GDPR also addresses the transfer of personal data outside the EU. The Commission hopes to give citizens back the control of their personal data and to simplify the regulatory environment for international business by unifying the regulation within the EU.

The UK government has confirmed that the UK's decision to leave the EU will not affect the commencement of the GDPR. The ICO acknowledge that there may still be questions about how GDPR will apply in the UK on leaving the EU, but state this should not distract from the important task of compliance.

Furlong and GDPR

Schools currently hold a wealth of information for a variety of purposes. GDPR is about tightening up data security, who has access to that data and how it is used. Most schools usually have policies in place around the use and storage of data.

As a provider of Management Information Systems (MIS) to schools, Furlong have an obligation to ensure schools' data is protected. This is an obligation we are duty bound to meet and take extremely seriously. Due to the sensitive nature of the data our software holds, many elements required for GDPR are already in place. We are working to guidelines of the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and will make any changes necessary to comply with the legislation in our system, policies and staff training.

We will continue to:

- Only manage data with agreement of the Data Controller.
- Use and update safeguards around data handling and secure data processing with customers and partners.
- Continue to impose strict confidentiality requirements on our personnel and provide training accordingly.
- Work to help you, the Data Controller, to meet the rights of the data subjects.

We have for GDPR compliance:

- Created a full Audit Tracking System within our MIS to allow data managers and other authorised users to look at detailed changes to data, who has performed them and how data has been deleted.
- Created a 'Housekeeping' section within the Audit System. This allows you to remove sections of the audit database by area and by a specific date control, keeping you (along with other tools) GDPR compliant.
- Commenced assessment of our 3rd parties to ensure valid compliance with all changing legislation.

For further details and information on GDPR legislation - please visit the UK Information Commissioner's Office website. <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/>

If you have further questions, please contact us at enquiries@furlongsolutions.com