

# Cloud Software Services for Schools

## Supplier self-certification statements with service and support commitments

Please insert supplier details below

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## Introduction

When entering into an agreement with a “cloud” service provider, every school/data controller has to be satisfied that the relevant service provider is carrying out its data processing as per their requirements (ensuring compliance with the Data Protection Act (DPA) by the data controller and also the data processor by default).

It is the responsibility of every school to ensure compliance with the DPA. This document is meant to act as an aid to that decision-making process by presenting some key questions and answers that should be sought from any potential cloud service provider.

The questions answered in sections 3 to 9 below will give a good indication as to the quality of a service provider’s data handling processes, although schools will still need to make their own judgement as to whether any provider fully meets DPA requirements.

The school/data controller should communicate its particular data handling requirements to the cloud provider (and each school could be different in its interpretation of what measures, procedures or policy best meet their DPA requirements), and confirm these by way of contract. The best way to set that out is to also put in place a data processing agreement with your chosen provider.

The principles of the DPA are summarised by the Information Commissioner’s Office at:

[http://ico.org.uk/for\\_organisations/data\\_protection/the\\_guide/the\\_principles](http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/data_protection/the_guide/the_principles)

## 1. Supplier commitments

In order that schools can be confident regarding the accuracy of the self-certification statements made in respect of Furlong Business Solutions Limited cloud service, the supplier confirms:

- that their self-certification responses have been fully and accurately completed by a person or persons who are competent in the relevant fields
- that their self-certification responses have been independently verified for completeness and accuracy by Howard Langley who is a senior company official
- that they will update their self-certification responses promptly when changes to the service or its terms and conditions would result in their existing compliance statement no longer being accurate or complete
- that they will provide any additional information or clarification sought as part of the self-certification process
- that if at any time, the Department is of the view that any element or elements of a cloud service provider's self-certification responses require independent verification, they will agree to that independent verification, supply all necessary clarification requested, meet the associated verification costs, or withdraw their self-certification submission.

## 2. Using the Supplier Responses

When reviewing supplier responses and statements, schools will also wish to consider aspects of data security beyond the supplier-related issues raised in the questions. These include:

- how the school chooses to use the provided cloud service
- the nature, types and sensitivity of data the school chooses to place in the cloud service
- the extent to which the school adapts its own policies (such as acceptable use, homeworking, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and staff training to ensure that the way staff and students use the service is consistent with DPA guidance. Please refer to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) BYOD guidance: [http://ico.org.uk/for\\_organisations/data\\_protection/topic\\_guides/online/byod](http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/data_protection/topic_guides/online/byod)
- the wider policies and practices the school has in place to ensure that the use of cloud services by their staff and students remains DPA compliant,
- the use of robust, strong, frequently changed authentication passwords and encryption keys, policies on BYOD / homeworking / acceptable use

to ensure that school data is accessed securely when either on or off the premises

- The security of the infrastructure that the school uses to access the supplier's cloud service including network and endpoint security.

*The purpose of this particular document is to focus upon some key areas that schools should consider when moving services to cloud providers. Although it is designed to cover the most important aspects of data security, the checklist should not be viewed as a comprehensive guide to the DPA.*

The self-certification checklist consists of a range of questions each of which comprises three elements:

- the checklist question
- the checklist self-certification response colour
- the evidence the supplier will use to indicate the basis for their response

For ease of reference, the supplier responses have been categorised as follows:

Where a supplier is able to confirm that their service <b>fully meets</b> the issue identified in a specific checklist question (in a manner compliant with the obligations of the Data Protection Act where relevant), the appropriate self-certification colour for that question is <b>GREEN</b> .	
Where a supplier is <b>not able</b> to confirm that their service fully meets the issue identified in a specific checklist question (in a manner compliant with the obligations of the Data Protection Act where relevant), the appropriate self-certification colour for that question is <b>AMBER</b> . <i>(It should be made clear that a single "Amber" response is not necessarily a negative, and that any associated clarification should also be considered).</i>	
Where a supplier is able to confirm that a specific checklist question <b>does not apply</b> to their particular service the appropriate self-certification code for that question is <b>BLACK</b> .	

There is space provided within the supplier response for links to relevant further information and clarification links.

Schools are invited to use the checklist to support their assessment of the extent to which the cloud services from a particular supplier meet their educational, technical and commercial needs in a DPA-compliant manner.

Schools should make a decision on the selection of a supplier based on an overall assessment of the extent to which their product meets the needs of the school, the overall level of risk and the nature and extent of support available from the supplier.

### 3. Supplier Response - Overarching Legal Requirements

Schools are required to ensure that all cloud services used enable them to meet their legal obligations under the DPA. To assist schools in that assessment, Furlong Business Solutions Limited confirms the position to be as follows for its services, fuller details of which can be found at [www.furlongsolutions.com](http://www.furlongsolutions.com)

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 3.1 – Does your standard contract for the supply of cloud services to UK schools fully comply with the DPA?	Yes	Our standard contract fully complies with the Data Protection Act.
Q 3.2 – If your standard contract does not fully comply with the DPA, do you offer additional commitments to UK schools to help ensure such compliance?	N/A	NA, see 3.1

Q 3.3 – Is your contract with UK customers enforceable both in the UK and in the country in which your company is registered?	Yes	Yes, Furlong Business Solutions Limited is a registered company in the UK, 04879660.
Q 3.4 – Do your services ensure that schools are able to comply with their obligations with regard to the exercise of data subjects' rights?	Yes	Yes, our services provide reports enabling them to provide the data. Further reports are available on request.

#### 4. Supplier Response - Data Processing Obligations

The Data Protection Act (DPA) relates to personal data that is processed and is likely to be relevant to most of the operations that comprise a cloud computing service. This includes simple storage of data, the obtaining and handling of information, operations such as adaptation, organisation, retrieval and disclosure of data, through to erasure or destruction.

Schools, as data controllers, have a responsibility to ensure that the processing of all personal data complies with the DPA and this includes any processing carried out on their behalf by a cloud service provider.

To assist schools in understanding whether the cloud service being provided by Furlong Business Solutions Limited is likely to comply with the DPA in relation to data processing, Furlong Business Solutions Limited has responded as follows:

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 4.1 – Taking account of the UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidance on Data Controllers and Data Processors, when providing the service, do you act at any time as a data controller in respect of the data processed as part of this service?	No	No, the school remains the Data Controller in all situations.
Q 4.2 – Where you act as a data processor does your contract ensure that you will only act on the instructions of the data controller?	Yes	Yes Furlong will keep secure any such data, and not divulge it to any third party without the prior agreement of the school as per the accompanying confidentiality agreement.
Q. 4.3 – Does your contract document the security measures that you implement to enable a school to ensure compliance with the DPA's security obligations?	Yes	Yes, as detailed in our confidentiality agreement which is signed by all our customers and supported by extensive company procedures.
Q 4.4 – Is the processing of personal data or metadata limited to that necessary to	Yes	Since we host the data, it will be impossible not to have access to that data. However we would not access the data without the schools knowledge. We restrict access

deliver [or improve] the service?		to only those staff members that require it.
Q 4.5 – Where your contract does not cover every aspect of data processing, are you prepared to enter into a separate data-processing agreement with your cloud services customer?	Yes	Yes, if customer so requests and contracts with us to do so.

## 5. Supplier Response - Data Confidentiality

When choosing a cloud service provider, schools must select a data processor providing sufficient guarantees about the technical and organisational security measures governing the processing to be carried out, and must take reasonable steps to ensure compliance with those measures.

The cloud customer should therefore review the guarantees of confidentiality that the cloud provider can commit to. To assist in understanding if the service being provided by Furlong Business Solutions Limited is likely to comply with UK law in relation to data confidentiality Furlong Business Solutions Limited has responded as follows:

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
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<p>Q 5.1 – Do you prohibit personal data or metadata being shared across other services that you as a supplier do or may offer?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes we prohibit the transfer of information between separate services. At present we only offer a single service.</p>
<p>Q 5.2 – Do you prohibit personal data or metadata being shared with third parties?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Furlong will keep secure any such data and not divulge it to any third party without the prior agreement of the school as per the accompanying confidentiality agreement.</p>
<p>Q 5.3 – Does your service have a robust authentication process in place to protect access to personal data and/or user accounts?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes our robust authentication includes secure sign on processes for all our sites.</p>
<p>Q 5.4 – Does your service have in place arrangements to assist schools in protecting access to personal data and/or user accounts?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes, Furlong has a secure system which prevents multiple password attempts. We provide a number of options for logins.</p>
<p>Q 5.5 – Are appropriate controls in place to ensure only authorised staff have access to client/customer data?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Our confidentiality agreement states that, Furlong will “implement measures that reserve access to the confidential information only to trusted employees and advisors who require such information to facilitate the</p>

development.”

Questions 5.6 to 5.9 address the supplier approach to data encryption. The ICO guidance on encryption is as follows:

*There have been a number of reports recently of laptop computers, containing personal information which have been stolen from vehicles, dwellings or left in inappropriate places without being protected adequately. The Information Commissioner has formed the view that in future, where such losses occur and where encryption software has not been used to protect the data, regulatory action may be pursued.*

*The ICO recommends that portable and mobile devices, including magnetic media, used to store and transmit personal information, the loss of which could cause damage or distress to individuals, should be protected using approved encryption software which is designed to guard against the compromise of information.*

*Personal information which is stored, transmitted or processed in information, communication and technical infrastructures, should also be managed and protected in accordance with the organization’s security policy and using best practice methodologies such as using the International Standard 27001. Further information can be found at <https://www.getsafeonline.org/>*

*There are a number of different commercial options available to protect stored information on mobile and static devices and in transmission, such as across the internet.*

Q 5.6 – Does your cloud service insist that communications with access devices are encrypted?

Yes

Yes, all access is encrypted. Any unencrypted attempts are redirected to a secure connection.

Q 5.7 – Does your cloud service ensure that data at rest is encrypted?		Data is not encrypted but it is stored in secure data centres. Our provider’s data centres are accredited to PCI DSS, ISO27001, and ISAE 3402 Type II standards, ensuring our sites and applications are secured by the best processes and technologies.
Q 5.8 – Does your cloud service ensure that data in transit between your data centres is encrypted?	Yes	Yes, any links between our data centres use secure VPN’s.
Q 5.9 – Does your cloud service ensure that email traffic between your cloud service and other cloud service providers can be encrypted?	Yes	Our cloud service can be configured to encrypt all email traffic. However, this is dependent on the email provider used by the school.
Q 5.10 – Does your service provide defined timescales in respect of data destruction and deletion both during the contract and at contract end?	Yes	Backups are taken on an hourly and weekly basis. Hourly backups are deleted after 4 weeks; weekly backups are kept for 1 year. If any backups are taken to assist software development and testing these will be deleted within 3 months. Any backups can be deleted immediately on request.
Q 5.11 – Does your service ensure that you use a secure deletion and erasure process which encompasses all copies of		All copies except the live copy are held encrypted storage. As such, their deletion is secure.

client/customer data?		
Q 5.12 – Does your service provide a mechanism free of charge whereby users can access a complete and secure copy of their data?	Yes	Yes, if requested Furlong will provide the customer with their data. On termination “The data within the system remains the property of the school,” as defined in our proposal.

## 6. Supplier Response - Data Integrity

Data integrity has been defined as “the property that data is authentic and has not been maliciously or accidentally altered during processing, storage or transmission”. To assist schools in understanding if the cloud service being provided by Furlong Business Solutions Limited is likely to comply with the DPA in relation to data integrity Furlong Business Solutions Limited has confirmed the position to be as follows:

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 6.1 – Do you allow a trusted independent third party to conduct regular detailed security audits of the physical, technical and organisational aspects of your service?		Physical security is audited by third party host

Q 6.2 – Where the above audits are conducted, do you make the findings available to current and/or prospective cloud customers?	Yes	Our third party hosting publically declares its security certification. Our customers are aware of our provider and can verify the claims.
Q 6.3 – Does your service ensure that where such audits are carried out, they are conducted to best industry standards?	Yes	Our third party provider is accredited to PCI DSS, ISO27001, and ISAE 3402 Type II standards.
Q 6.4 – Are audit trails in place enabling users to monitor who is accessing their data?		We have company policies in place that staff will not access data without written permission from the client. There are records within the software for users accessing certain areas.
Q 6.5 – Does your service ensure you could restore all customer data (without alteration) from a back-up if you suffered any data loss?	Yes	Yes, Furlong ensures that automatic backups are configured in reference to cloud services. Hourly backups are kept for four weeks and weekly backups for a year.
Q 6.6 – Does your service have a disaster	Yes	The information is available upon request

recovery plan, and is information on this plan made available to current/prospective cloud service customers?



## 7. Supplier Response - Service Availability

Service availability means ensuring timely and reliable access to personal data. One threat to availability in the cloud which is often outside the responsibility of the cloud service provider is the accidental loss of network connectivity between the client and the provider of service.

Data controllers should therefore check whether the cloud provider has adopted reasonable measures to cope with the risk of disruptions, such as backup internet network links, redundant storage and effective data backup mechanisms.

To assist schools in understanding if the service being provided by a particular company is likely to comply with the DPA in relation to service availability Furlong Business Solutions Limited has confirmed as follows:

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 7.1 – Can you confirm that you have sufficient capacity to ensure you can provide a resilient, reliable and accessible	Yes	Yes, Furlong use data centres in the UK and monitoring to alert us if there are any problems.

service at all times?		
Q 7.2 – Does your service offer guaranteed service levels?	Available on request	Our standard contract does not include guaranteed service levels; however we would be willing to consider this on request.
Q 7.3 – Does your service provide remedies to customers in the event that service levels are not met?	Available on request	Furlong aims to deliver exceptional quality service at all times. We aim to go the extra mile in order to meet the client's expectations. If for some reason these expectations are not met, we will try our very to resolve every matter which not only meets the client's needs but go beyond the client's expectations.

## 8. Supplier Response - Transfers beyond the European Economic Area (EEA)

The eighth principal of the DPA permits the transfer of personal data beyond the EEA when adequate arrangements are in place to ensure rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of personal data. The eighth principal of the DPA states:

*“Personal data shall not be transferred to any country or territory outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of personal data”*

Guidance on data transfers published by the ICO states:

*“Cloud customers should ask a potential cloud provider for a list of countries where data is likely to be processed and for information relating to the safeguards in place there. The cloud provider should be able to explain when data will be transferred to these locations.”*

The European Commission has approved four sets of standard contractual clauses (known as model clauses) as providing an adequate level of protection where data is transferred outside the EEA. If your service provider uses these model clauses in their entirety in their contract, you will not have to make your own assessment of adequacy.

To assist schools in understanding where its data is likely to be held and if the cloud service being provided is likely to comply with the DPA in relation to permitted transfers of personal data beyond the EEA Furlong Business Solutions Limited has responded as follows:

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 8.1 – In providing the service do you limit the transfer of personal data to countries within the EEA?	Yes	Yes, for UK schools we only process data in the UK.
Q 8.2 – If you transfer data outside the EEA do you explain to schools when (and under what circumstances) data will be	N/A	N/A

transferred to these locations?		
Q 8.3 – If you transfer data outside the EEA does your standard contract include the unmodified EU approved “model clauses” in respect of such transfers?	N/A	N/A
Q 8.4 – If you transfer data outside the EEA, (and do not offer the unmodified EU approved "model clauses", can you confirm that the requirements of the DPA are met in respect of the need for adequate protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in connection with the cross-border transfer and processing of their personal data?	N/A	N/A

## 9. Supplier Response - Use of Advertising

Recognising the particularly sensitive nature of the data likely to be processed in a cloud service aimed at schools, there is particular concern in relation to the use of advertising and the extent of data mining which providers of cloud-based services may adopt in relation to user data.

To assist schools in understanding if the cloud service provided by a particular company will involve serving advertisements or engaging in advertisement-related data mining or advertisement-related profiling activities, suppliers will be asked to indicate in respect of services to **pupil and staff users** as follows:

*ICO cloud computing guidance states that “In order to target advertisements the cloud provider will need access to the personal data of cloud users. A cloud provider may not process the personal data it processes for its own advertising purposes unless this has been authorised by the cloud customer and the cloud customer has explained this processing to cloud users. Individuals have a right to prevent their personal data being used for the purpose of direct marketing”.*

*So a school would have to agree to the advertising and then would have a duty to explain to staff and pupils what personal data would be collected, how it will be used and by whom, and what control they have over the use of their data in this way.*

*As there are obvious difficulties with schools deciding if children are competent enough to understand any explanation of their data being used for advertising, and to understand and exercise their right to object, without parental involvement it would seem sensible to avoid this in solutions for schools, especially where children are concerned.*

Question	Supplier Response Code	Response Statement with Supporting Evidence (where applicable)
Q 9.1 – In providing the cloud service, is the default position that you enter into a	Yes	Furlong does not supply any advertising supported services.

legally binding obligation not to serve advertisements to any pupil or staff users via your school cloud service?		
Q 9.2 – In providing the cloud service, is the default position that you enter into a legally binding obligation not to conduct any advertisement-related data mining in respect of pupil or staff data or metadata?	Yes	Yes, see response 9.1.
Q 9.3 – In providing the cloud service, is the default position that you enter into a legally binding obligation never to use for any commercial purpose (or pass on to others) persona l data or metadata in respect of pupil or staff users of your service?	Yes	Yes, Furlong has a commitment “not to use the confidential information in any way other than for the purpose of development.” We do not engage in the selling of data for commercial purposes.

# Appendix 1: Availability and extent of support available to schools when using cloud software services.

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## Section 1.0 Introduction

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The Department for Education intends that schools who are considering the use of cloud based services should have easy access to information in relation to:

- Responsibilities in respect of Data Protection Act compliance. General guidance for schools can be found at [http://ico.org.uk/for\\_organisations/sector\\_guides/education](http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/sector_guides/education)
- The general levels of security inherent in the solutions offered by many of cloud service providers as compared to what might apply to their current arrangements – this information is provided in the general guidance statements to be found at ([hyperlink tba.gov](#))
- The data protection implications of using a particular supplier's cloud services – addressed through the self-certification process detailed in the associated checklist document found above
- The normal support mechanisms available in respect of routine administrative or technical support issues – this is addressed by inviting cloud service providers who are participating in the self-certification process to complete the statements summarising their routine support arrangements as above.
- **The additional support** that would be available in the unlikely event of some **serious data-related incident** related to the use by schools of cloud services – this is addressed by inviting cloud service suppliers to indicate how they would respond to a number of specific challenges which a school might face in the event of such a serious breach or failure.

**Section 2.0** of this document sets out the rationale underpinning the need for greater clarity in the event of some serious data-related event.

**Section 3.0** sets out those areas where specific supplier commitments on additional support are invited.

## Section 2.0 Managing Worst Case Scenarios

Whilst there is much to be gained from adopting a cloud service platform, it is only prudent that schools should, as part of their overall risk assessment, and prior to deploying a cloud service, understand (in the event of a data-protection related “worst case scenario”) the nature and extent of the support that would be forthcoming from a potential cloud service provider.

It is also clearly in the interests of cloud service providers themselves to work with schools to address the technical, business, reputational and legal issues which would flow from some such incident, and which resulted in for example:

- A significant data loss flowing from a breach of security associated with the provision of cloud service
- A breach of privacy whereby confidential data was released to a person or persons not authorised to receive it
- A serious disruption to the school’s business, educational or administrative processes

The key headings that cloud service providers are invited to respond against are set out in **Section 3**. When responding to the various issues set out in Section 3, cloud service providers should draft their response assuming that the intended audience is non-technical senior staff in schools.

Suppliers may, of course, make reference to supporting management or technical documents but the response provided here should go beyond referring to “terms of service” and should set out clearly and simply what additional support could be expected in the event of a data protection-related “worst case scenario”.

## Section 3.0 Key Support Areas

The key areas that cloud service providers are invited to respond against in respect of a serious incident are:

- Solution configuration
- Communicating serious breaches
- Supplier responsibilities
- Restoring data
- Managing media attention
- Engaging with the child protection agencies
- Engaging with the wider school community

These are minimum suggested areas and suppliers are free to set out additional support capabilities which could be used in the event of a serious incident and which they feel will engender confidence in schools and differentiate the supplier in this competitive and growing marketplace.

### 3.1 ADDRESSING SERIOUS INCIDENTS

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Cloud service providers should as a minimum clarify in this area of their response:

- How schools should log any serious issues regarding the use of the service, providing as a minimum a UK phone number and support email address. It is better to provide an indication of the individuals or roles that should be the first point of contact – for example “you should also contact our Head of Security [J.Smyth@company.com](mailto:J.Smyth@company.com) phone number +44 (0) 12345678 who will also make sure our education /public sector team at [xxx] is contacted”. It would also be useful to cover all time scenarios – out of hours, weekends etc.
- The nature of the support that might be available – for example, is it limited to phone and/or email or are there circumstances when on-site support might be required.
- How the cloud service provider might work with schools to address the consequences of the serious incident
- Whether in addition to contacting the incident support centre there are other resources that could be made available – for example via online tools and resources, a partner ecosystem, a local public sector or education support team or identified escalation routes within the company that should be utilised.

*Supplier response:*

Furlong uses Rackspace for all cloud hosting in the UK. Our agreement with Rackspace is a 24/7 service. Our servers are monitored by Rackspace 24 hours a day. In the event of any incident, they will email Furlong details of the incident and a ticket number. This number can be tracked on their website.

These emails are received by three members of Furlong's staff. Furlong staff shall evaluate the incident and take appropriate action. This action can include informing the schools if it is felt they will be affected by the incident.

Where a hosted school discovers an incident, they can contact Furlong directly. The Furlong support team are available via telephone (0044 1264 354111) from 0700 through to 1800 on all UK working days, Monday to Friday. Outside of these hours, schools should email [SBHosting@furlongsolutions.com](mailto:SBHosting@furlongsolutions.com). This email address is copied to the same three staff who receive the Rackspace emails. This site is checked during working days from 1800 through to 2200. At weekend and bank-holidays, the address is checked not less than hourly from 0800 through to 2200.

All three recipients have access to Rackspace to seek a solution to the incident. Rackspace can take direct action where this is deemed appropriate.

### 3.2 SUPPLIER RESPONSIBILITIES

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In this section cloud service providers should, as a minimum, set out (in language aimed at school managers), their responsibilities when working with schools to address the implications of a serious incident.

In addition, cloud service providers should describe what practical assistance they would be able to offer which *goes beyond* the "contractual minimum" as set out in their terms and conditions.

#### *Supplier response:*

In all cases to date, issues have been at the school and are resolved by telephone intervention. We also use a process called Beam-Your-Screen that allows us to interface with schools and resolve issues for them.

We would ask, that at the earliest opportunity, schools make contact with us where they feel there is a serious issue. This should then avoid the 'little old lady who swallowed a fly' syndrome. We will then work with schools to resolve the issue.

However, the best defence is to train users. Furlong offers a free training service and we would strongly advise schools to make use of this to ensure their staff know what they are doing. We would also expect schools to test situation where they may be critical, sometime before their deadline date. For example, if a school is planning on publishing their reports to the parent portal on Friday (say) then it is rather late to test it at 1500 on Friday afternoon.

### 3.3 SOLUTION CONFIGURATION.

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Whilst virtually all cloud service providers have detailed technical advice on how their systems should be configured, this section of the supplier response should set out the general principles which school management should expect to see implemented to ensure maximum security of their cloud implementation.

This might cover for example:

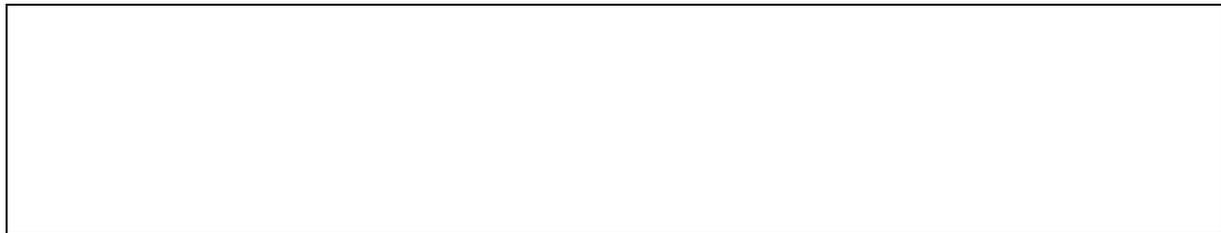
- The need for correct configuration of access devices
- The use of additional backup / data synchronisation arrangements for sensitive or business critical data
- Configuration options or additional services that provide greater level of security than is available in your free offering
- Sample password policies in relation to the age and ability of the users of their service
- Policies in respect of helpdesk and security staff access to client data

*Supplier response:*

All devices used to access system should be configured with reasonable security measures. We expect these to include antivirus programs and use of passwords as standard. We advise against the use of password saving options as these reduce the levels of security provided by our software. Portable devices are at greater risk and as such should have additional security to prevent unauthorised use.

All of our services provide the same high level of security with enforced user sessions expiry and account locking on multiple unsuccessful access attempts. No data will be released by Furlong staff without written confirmation from a previously confirmed staff member.

Our hosted solutions include regular automated backups which can be restored at any time on request. The user interface provides opportunities to export key data, while this permits schools to ensure they have a copy they can access should there be any issue with the service, this places additional responsibility on schools to ensure it is stored securely.



### 3.4 RESTORING DATA

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Where a serious event had occurred which resulted in the loss of data by a school, cloud service, providers should set out what steps they would take to work with the school to recover and restore to the maximum extent possible the data which has been lost (or corrupted). This section should also include indicative timescales.

*Supplier response:*

Data is fully backed up hourly and these can be restored on demand, either replacing or temporarily alongside the live data. To prevent excess data loss from restoring the entire system to an earlier point, we can also integrate specific data from backups into the live system. This is achieved by first restoring the data alongside allowing the school to confirm it is in the state expected before copy the specific data into the live system. Data will be restored within an hour 0800 to 1700 on UK working days. On weekends and UK bank-holidays the urgency would be assessed and a suitable timescale agreed with the school. The integration of specific data into a live system can take longer, dependent on the complexity of the integration required.

### 3.5 MANAGING MEDIA ATTENTION

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Where a serious event had occurred which resulted in significant media attention falling on the school, suppliers should indicate the steps they would take as a responsible service provider to work with the school in managing the media attention.

*Supplier response:*

Furlong will provide details of the procedures in place to secure a School's data. This will be about:

- the physical security of the Furlong servers hosted by Rackspace
- electronic security including firewall details
- Our procedures whereby all employees are DBS cleared before employment

- The weekly audit conducted as to our staff's access to a school's data
- The physical security within our offices.

Thus we will furnish schools with clear evidence that security of their data is of paramount importance to Furlong

### 3.6 ENGAGING WITH CHILD SUPPORT AGENCIES

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Where a serious event had resulted in issues being raised that related to child protection – for example the loss of sensitive pupil data, the cloud service provider should indicate what it would do to assist the school in engaging with the relevant child protection agencies, over and above the contractual minimum.

#### *Supplier response:*

Furlong will offer to support a school at every stage of any onward contact the school is required to make to appropriate authorities. This will be by furnishing the school or the third party bodies they are dealing with, with all of the information and procedures itemised in 3.5. In addition Furlong will provide a senior consultant or Company Director to present such evidence alongside the school in any enquiry or similar circumstances.

### 3.7 ENGAGING WITH THE WIDER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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Where a serious incident had resulted in issues being raised that related to the wider school community – for example parents, the local authority, the curriculum or examination bodies or the Information Commissioners Office, the cloud service provider should indicate what it would do to assist the school in engaging with the relevant organisation to address the implications of the serious incident. Again, this should describe available support over and above the contractual minimum.

*Supplier response:*

Furlong will offer to support a school at every stage of any onward contact the school is required to make to appropriate authorities. This will be by furnishing the school or the third party bodies they are dealing with, with all of the information and procedures itemised in 3.5. In addition Furlong will provide a senior consultant or Company Director to present such evidence alongside the school in any enquiry or similar circumstances.