



Excellence in Learning

Purposeful **C**ollaboration | Aspirational **C**urriculums | Heart of the **C**ommunity

Records Management Policy

**This policy was adopted by the Trustees
of Osprey Learning Trust
on 14 December 2021**

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1. Introduction

The aim of this policy and the records retention schedule at Appendix A is to enable the Trust to comply with the commitments of the Data Protection Act and Freedom of Information Act and integrates consideration of these and other compliance issues.

Records are defined as all documents and materials, regardless of format, which facilitate the activities carried out by the Trust. These records may be created, received and maintained in hard copy or electronically (including emails).

2. Objectives

Records management is defined as a field of management responsible for the efficient and systematic control of the creation, receipt, maintenance, use, distribution, storage and disposal of records.

Records management helps to:

- a. ensure that the Trust conducts itself in an efficient and accountable manner.
- b. meet legislative and regulatory requirements.
- c. support and document policy formation and decision-making.
- d. facilitate the effective performance of activities and delivery of services throughout the Trust.
- e. provide continuity in the event of a disaster.
- f. protect the interests of the Trust in the event of litigation or otherwise.
- g. establish and maintain the Trust's cultural identity and institutional memory.

3. Responsibilities

The Trust has a corporate responsibility to maintain its records and records management systems in accordance with legislation.

The Trust Data Protection Officer is responsible for providing guidance and advice on good records management practice. Such guidance is formulated within the context of existing Trust policies and guidelines, national legislation and sector-wide standards.

Each school within the Trust is individually responsible for the management of their records generated by its activities.

Individual members of staff should ensure that records, for which they are responsible, are maintained and disposed of in accordance with this policy.

4. Records Management Good Practice

When managing your records, you must consider factors such as how your colleagues can access the files if necessary, how to ensure that records are kept for as long as necessary but not too long so as to be a burden on storage.

The length of time records should be kept can vary depending on the type of documentation and legal constraints, for more details on how long to keep specific records see the Trust's Disposal Schedule.

Records should be held in files - these may be paper based or held electronically in shared directories, databases or document management systems. The files should be organised in

a structured way and have some indication as to their contents and relevance. Where there are confidentially issues, files may be held in a secure storage area, on a computer or email box but bear in mind that colleagues should be able to access them in your absence.

Exactly what records you keep on file will vary according to the work you do, however reasons for keeping records include but are not exhausted to:

- a. There is a legal requirement to keep the information,
- b. The information is needed to carry out the Trust's everyday business,
- c. The information is for financial purposes,
- d. Information explaining why and how a particular decision was made,
- e. The information is needed if a decision is challenged, Publicly accountable

For most topics there should be one lead file – The 'Golden Copy'. This will be the file of the person or department who has the lead on the topic concerned, for example, a committee secretary's set of minutes and papers. Other members of staff may also have a file on the same subject but they should keep this only for so long as is needed for their personal reference.

If you create a folder on a shared drive or on your personal drive, you should take responsibility for maintaining the contents of that folder. Do not allow out-of-date material to accumulate in it. If a document is not accessed in the course of eighteen months, it should probably be deleted from the drive unless it is the master file copy then it should be archived.

Documents and folders should have file titles which are easily understood by all members of staff. Do not name them after yourself, as this will be meaningless to others if you leave. Likewise, only use commonly understood abbreviations. The title should clearly indicate what the document is.

Do not use your computer hard drive (c:// drive) to store information as this drive is not backed up. Use your personal drive only for information which is confidential or personal or does not need to be shared within the Trust.

Shared drives should be used for current work to which your colleagues may need access. Do not password protect material unless your colleagues know the password so that the information can be accessed in your absence. The shared drive can be set up with folder permissions to allow a restricted group of people to have access.

5. Sending attachments

Avoid sending documents as attachments. Instead send a link or tell people where the document can be found. This ensures documents are less likely to get lost and everyone looks at the most up to date copy so there is no confusion over which version is the correct or latest one.

6. Confidential Records

These records should be labelled as 'Confidential' or 'Commercial in Confidence' and be clear as to who within the organisation should be able to access and use these records. It is

also good practice for the record to hold an intended publication date, as few records remain confidential for their entire life-span.

N.B. Labelling a record 'Confidential' does not exempt the record from being admissible under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Further information can be obtained from the Trust's Freedom of Information Policy

Information being supplied in confidence should be stamped, marked, or include a statement that it is confidential or being supplied in confidence, and be treated in a consistent confidential manner.

7. E-Mails

E-mails may be disclosed in response to a freedom of information or data protection request and in legal cases. Electronic messages can be legally binding and we may be held liable for defamatory statements in e-mails. For these reasons, do not put anything in e-mails that you would not say in other forms of communication. If an e-mail contains important information or an important decision, it should be added to the relevant file/folder either electronically or a hard copy. An email can be saved electronically using 'File – Save as - File'.

The majority of emails produced are trivial; it is therefore, a drain on Trust resources to store them on our system and can cause a delay in responding to a subject request because of the additional time caused in searching through them. Under the Data Protection Act we should keep information about people for no longer than necessary; this includes e-mails to and from or about people. You should delete e-mails as soon as possible and should not allow a backlog to accumulate as this then becomes difficult to manage. Emails should also be deleted from your deleted items folder and/or recycle bin.

8. Archive and Disposal

Documents should be archived in accordance with the Data Retention Schedule contained in the IRMS Academies Toolkit (see Appendix A)

You may wish to archive electronic files this should be done by creating an archive sub-folder on a Trust network drive. Within the archive sub-folder you can then create a folder named 'do not dispose' and numerous folders with the naming convention as the date of destruction. This will make it easier to dispose of the archived records when they reach their destruction date.

Before you begin to archive you will need to use items that are suitable for storing items long term such as archive cardboard boxes, paper files, plastic-ended treasury tags etc. as over time metal components may damage the files.

Documents and files need to be prepared prior to being put into the archive storage box. Files should be removed from lever arch files and placed into card wallets/files and all metal removed. The documentation should be reviewed to remove and destroy any paperwork that is not required to be stored, i.e. personal notes, duplicate items etc.

POLICY AMENDMENT RECORD

| Version | Date | Amended By | Nature of Change |
|---------|------------|------------------|---|
| 1 | 29.11.2021 | External adviser | New Policy to replace previous Data Retention Policy. |

Appendix A

IRMS Data Retention Schedule (IRMS Academies Toolkit 2019)

1. Governance, Funding and Financial Management of the Academy Trust

Academies are governed by the Academy Trust, which will usually be a company limited by guarantee³. The Academy Trust may also be a charitable trust.

| 1.1 Governance of the Academy Trust | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.1.1 | Governance Statement | No | | Life of governance statement + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.2 | Articles of Association | No | | Life of the Academy | |
| 1.1.3 | Memorandum of Association | No | | This can be disposed of once the Academy has been incorporated | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.4 | Memorandum of Understanding of Shared Governance among Schools | No | <i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i> | Life of Memorandum of Understanding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.5 | Constitution | No | | Life of the Academy | |
| 1.1.6 | Special Resolutions to amend the Constitution | No | | Life of the Academy | |
| 1.1.7 | Written Scheme of Delegation | No | <i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i> | Life of Written Scheme of Delegation + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

³ A **company limited by guarantee** does not usually have a share capital or shareholders, but instead has members who act as guarantors. The guarantors give an undertaking to contribute a nominal amount (typically very small) in the event of winding up of the **company**. In the case of an Academy, the guarantors will guarantee the sum of £10 each.

1.1 Governance of the Academy Trust

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|--------|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1.1.8 | Directors – Appointment | No | | Life of appointment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.9 | Directors – Disqualification | No | Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 | Date of disqualification + 15 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.10 | Directors – Termination of Office | No | | Date of termination + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.11 | Annual Report – Trustees Report | No | <i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i> | Date of report + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.12 | Annual Report and Accounts | No | <i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i> | Date of report + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.13 | Annual Return | No | <i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i> | Date of report + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.14 | Appointment of Trustees and Governors and Directors | Yes | | Life of appointment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.15 | Statement of Trustees Responsibilities | No | | Life of appointment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.16 | Appointment and removal of Members | No | | Life of appointment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.17 | Strategic Review | No | | Date of the review + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

1.1 Governance of the Academy Trust

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|--------|---|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1.1.18 | Strategic Plan [also known as School Development Plans] | No | | Life of plan + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.1.19 | Accessibility Plan | There may be if the plan refers to specific pupils | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Life of plan + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.2 Board of Directors, Members Meetings and Governing Body | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| | Board of Directors | | | | |
| 1.2.1 | Board Meeting Minutes | Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals | Companies Act 2006 section 248 | Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meeting | OFFER TO ARCHIVES |
| 1.2.2 | Board Decisions | Could be if the decisions refer to living individuals | | Date of the meeting + a minimum of 10 years | OFFER TO ARCHIVES |
| 1.2.3 | Board Meeting: Annual Schedule of Business | No | | Current year | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.4 | Board Meeting: Procedures for conduct of meeting | No | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Date procedures superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Committees⁴ | | | | |
| 1.2.5 | Minutes relating to any committees set up by the Board of Directors | Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals | | Date of the meeting + a minimum of 10 years | OFFER TO ARCHIVES |
| | General Members' Meeting | | | | |

⁴ The board can establish any committee and determine the constitution, membership and proceedings that will apply.

| 1.2 Board of Directors, Members Meetings and Governing Body | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.2.6 | Records relating to the management of General Members' Meetings | Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals | Companies Act 2006 section 248 | Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meetings ⁵ | OFFER TO ARCHIVES |
| 1.2.7 | Records relating to the management of the Annual General Meetings ⁶ | Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals | Companies Act 2006 section 248 | Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meeting ⁷ | OFFER TO ARCHIVES |
| | Governors | | | | |
| 1.2.8 | Agendas for Governing Body meetings | May be data protection issues, if the meeting is dealing with confidential issues relating to staff | | One copy should be retained with the master set of minutes. All other copies can be disposed of | SECURE DISPOSAL ⁸ |

⁵ The signed minutes must be kept securely together with the notice and agenda for the meeting and supporting documentation provided for consideration at the meeting. Documentation is generally filed in a dedicated minute book, which is usually in the form of a loose-leaf binder to which additional pages can be easily added.

⁶ Not all Academies are required to hold an Annual General Meeting for the Members – the requirement will be stated in the Constitution.

⁷ The signed minutes must be kept securely together with the notice and agenda for the meeting and any supporting documentation provided for consideration at the meeting. Documentation is generally filed in a dedicated minute book, which is usually in the form of a loose-leaf binder to which additional pages can be easily added.

⁸ In this context, SECURE DISPOSAL should be taken to mean disposal using confidential waste bins, or if the school has the facility, shredding using a cross-cut shredder.

| 1.2 Board of Directors, Members Meetings and Governing Body | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----------------------|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.2.9 | Minutes of, and papers considered at, meetings of the Governing Body and its committees | May be data protection issues, if the meeting is dealing with confidential issues relating to staff | | | |
| | Principal Set (signed) | | | Life of Academy | |
| | Inspection Copies ⁹ | | | Date of meeting + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.10 | Reports presented to the Governing Body | May be data protection issues, if the report deals with confidential issues relating to staff | | Reports should be kept for a minimum of 6 years. However, if the minutes refer directly to individual reports, then the reports should be kept for the life of the Academy | SECURE DISPOSAL or retain with the signed set of minutes |

⁹ These are the copies which the clerk to the Governor may wish to retain, so that requestors can view all the relevant information, without the clerk needing to print off and collate redacted copies of the minutes each time a request is made.

| 1.2 Board of Directors, Members Meetings and Governing Body | | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.2.11 | Meeting papers relating to the annual parents' meeting held under Section 33 of the Education Act 2002 | No | Education Act 2002, Section 33 | Date of the meeting + a minimum of 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.12 | Trusts and Endowments managed by the Governing Body | No | | PERMANENT | |
| 1.2.13 | Records relating to complaints dealt with by the Governing Body | Yes | | Date of the resolution of the complaint + a minimum of 6 years then review for further retention in case of contentious disputes | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.14 | Annual Reports created under the requirements of the Education (Governor's Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 | No | Education (Governor's Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 SI 2002 No 1171 | Date of report + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.2 Board of Directors, Members Meetings and Governing Body | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| | Statutory Registers¹⁰ | | | | |
| 1.2.15 | Register of Directors | | Companies Act 2006 | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.16 | Register of Directors' interests [this is not a statutory register] | | | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.17 | Register of Directors' residential addresses | | Companies Act 2006 | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.18 | Register of gifts, hospitality and entertainments | | Companies Act 2006 | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.19 | Register of members | | Companies Act 2006 | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.20 | Register of secretaries | | Companies Act 2006 | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.21 | Register of Trustees interests | | | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.2.22 | Declaration of Interests Statements [Governors] [this is not a statutory register] | | | Life of the Academy + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁰ Academies are required by law to keep specific records, collectively known as statutory registers or the statutory books. The registers record information relating to the Academy's operations and structure, such as the current directors. Records should be kept up-to-date to reflect any changes that take place.

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| | Strategic Finance | | | | |
| 1.3.1 | Statement of financial activities for the year | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.2 | Financial planning | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.3 | Value for money statement | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.4 | Records relating to the management of VAT | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.5 | Whole of government accounts returns | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.6 | Borrowing powers | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.7 | Budget plan | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.8 | Charging and remissions policy | No | | Date policy superseded + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Audit Arrangements | | | | |
| 1.3.9 | Audit Committee and appointment of responsible officers | No | | Life of the Academy | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.10 | Independent Auditor's report on regularity | No | | Financial year report relates to + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.11 | Independent Auditor's report on financial statements | No | | Financial year report relates to + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| | Funding Agreements | | | | |
| 1.3.12 | Funding Agreement with Secretary of State and supplemental funding agreements ¹¹ | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.13 | Funding Agreement – Termination of the funding agreement ¹² | | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.14 | Funding Records – Capital Grant | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.15 | Funding Records – Earmarked Annual Grant (EAG) | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.16 | Funding Records – General Annual Grant (GAG) | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.17 | Per pupil funding records | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.18 | Exclusions agreement ¹³ | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹¹ Where there is multi-Academy governance.

¹² Either party may give not less than 7 financial years' written notice to terminate the Agreement, such notice to expire on 31 August. Or, where the Academy has significant financial issues or is insolvent, the Agreement can be terminated by the Secretary of State to take effect on the date of the notice.

¹³ The Academy can enter into an arrangement with a Local Authority (LA), so that payment will flow between the Academy and the LA, in the same way as it would do were the Academy a maintained school.

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.3.19 | Funding records ¹⁴ | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.20 | Gift Aid and Tax Relief | No | | Date of last payment of funding + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.21 | Records relating to loans | No | | Date of last payment on loan + 6 years if the loan is under £10,000 or date of last payment on loan + 12 years if the loan is over £10,000 | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Payroll and Pensions | | | | |
| 1.3.22 | Maternity pay records | Yes | Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations 1986 (SI1986/1960), revised 1999 (SI1999/567) | Current year + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁴ Funding agreement which says that the Academy can receive donations and can only charge where the law allows maintained schools to charge [see Charging and Remission Policy].

1.3 Funding and Finance

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrativ |
|--------|--|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| 1.3.23 | Records held under Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995 | Yes | Regulation 15 Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995 (SI 1995/3103) | From the end of the year in which the accounts were signed for a minimum of 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.24 | Management of the Teachers' Pension Scheme | Yes | | Date of last payment on the pension + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.25 | Records relating to pension registrations | Yes | | Date of last payment on the pension + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.26 | Payroll records | Yes | | Date payroll run + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Risk Management and Insurance | | | | |
| 1.3.27 | Insurance policies | No | | Date the policy expires + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.28 | Records relating to the settlement of insurance claims | No | | Date claim settled + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.29 | Employer's Liability Insurance Certificate | No | | Closure of the school + 40 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Endowment Funds and Investments | | | | |
| 1.3.30 | Investment policies | No | | Life of the investment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.3.31 | Management of Endowment Funds | No | | Life of the fund + 6 years | |
| | Accounts and Statements | | | | |
| 1.3.32 | Annual accounts | No | | Current year + 6 years | STANDARD DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.33 | Loans and grants managed by the school | No | | Date of last payment on the loan + 12 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.34 | Student Grant applications | Yes | | Current year + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.35 | All records relating to the creation and management of budgets, including the Annual Budget statement and background papers | No | | Life of the budget + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.36 | Invoices, receipts, order books and requisitions, delivery notices | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.37 | Records relating to the collection and banking of monies | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.3.38 | Records relating to the identification and collection of debt | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Contract Management | | | | |
| 1.3.39 | All records relating to the management of contracts under seal | No | Limitation Act 1980 | Last payment on the contract + 12 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.40 | All records relating to the management of contracts under signature | No | Limitation Act 1980 | Last payment on the contract + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.41 | Records relating to the monitoring of contracts | No | | Current year + 2 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | Asset Management | | | | |
| 1.3.42 | Inventories of furniture and equipment | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.43 | Burglary, theft and vandalism report forms | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.44 | Records relating to the leasing of shared facilities, such as sports centres | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.45 | Land and building valuations | No | | Date valuation superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.3.46 | Disposal of assets | No | | Date asset disposed of + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.47 | Community School leases for land | No | | Date lease expires + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.48 | Commercial transfer arrangements | No | | Date of transfer + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.49 | Transfer of land to the Academy Trust | No | | Life of land ownership then transfer to new owner | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.50 | Transfers of freehold land | No | | Life of land ownership then transfer to new owner | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | School Fund | | | | |
| 1.3.51 | School Fund – Cheque books | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.52 | School Fund – Paying in books | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.53 | School Fund – Ledger | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.54 | School Fund – Invoices | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.55 | School Fund – Receipts | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.56 | School Fund – Bank statements | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 1.3 Funding and Finance | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.3.57 | School Fund – Journey books | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | School Meals¹⁵ | | | | |
| 1.3.58 | Free school meals registers | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.59 | School meals registers | Yes | | Current year + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.3.60 | School meals summary sheets | No | | Current year + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

As a charity, an Academy is not permitted to trade and make a profit. It is, however, possible to set up a subsidiary trading company, which can sell products or services and Gift Aid profits back to the Academy. If the Academy operates a subsidiary company, it is expected that these records will be managed in line with standard business practice.

| 1.4 Policies, Frameworks and Overarching Requirements | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.4.1 | Data Protection Policy, including data protection notification | No | | Date policy superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.2 | Freedom of Information Policy | No | | Date policy superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁵ Unless it would be unreasonable to do so, school lunches should be provided when they are requested by, or on behalf of, any pupil. A school lunch must be provided free of charge to any pupil entitled to free school lunches. From September 2014, free school lunches must be provided to all KS1 pupils.

| 1.4 Policies, Frameworks and Overarching Requirements | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 1.4.3 | Information Security Breach Policy | No | | Date policy superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.4 | Special Educational Needs Policy | No | | Date policy superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.5 | Complaints Policy | No | | Date policy superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.6 | Risk and Control Framework | No | | Life of framework + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.7 | Rules and Bylaws | No | | Date rules or bylaws superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.9 | Home School Agreements ¹⁶ | No | | Date agreement revised + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 1.4.10 | Equality Information and Objectives (public sector equality duty) Statement for publication | No | | Date of statement + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁶ This should be drawn up in consultation with parents and should apply to all pupils.

2. Human Resources

| 2.1 Recruitment ¹⁷ | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 2.1.1 | All records leading up to the appointment of a new Head Teacher | Yes | | Date of appointment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.2 | All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – unsuccessful candidates | Yes | | Date of appointment of successful candidate + 6 months | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.3 | All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – successful candidate | Yes | | All relevant information should be added to the Staff Personal File (see below) and all other information retained for 6 months | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.4 | Pre-employment vetting information – DBS Checks ¹⁸ | No | DBS Update Service Employer Guide June 2014 | The organisation should take a copy of the DBS certificate when it is shown to them by the individual and should be added to the Staff Personal File | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.5 | Proofs of identity collected as part of the process of checking “portable” enhanced DBS disclosure | Yes | | Where possible, these should be checked, and a note kept of what was seen and what has been checked. If it is felt necessary to keep copy documentation, then this should be added to the Staff Personal File | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁷ Academies do not necessarily have to employ people with qualified teacher status; only the SEN and designated LAC teacher must be qualified.

¹⁸ Academies are bound by the legislation that applies to independent schools NOT maintained schools.

| 2.1 Recruitment ¹⁷ | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|--|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 2.1.6 | Pre-employment vetting information – Evidence proving the right to work in the United Kingdom ¹⁹ | Yes | An employer’s guide to right to work checks [Home Office May 2015] | Where possible, these documents should be added to the Staff Personal File, but if they are kept separately, then the Home Office requires that the documents are kept for termination of employment plus not less than 2 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.7 | Records relating to the employment of overseas teachers | Yes | | Where possible, these documents should be added to the Staff Personal File, but if they are kept separately, then the Home Office requires that the documents are kept for termination of employment plus not less than 2 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.1.8 | Records relating to the TUPE process | Yes | | Date last member of staff transfers or leaves the organisation + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

¹⁹ Employers are required to take a “clear copy” of the documents which they are shown as part of this process.

2.2 Operational Staff Management

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2.2.1 | Staff Personal File, including employment contract and staff training records | Yes | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Termination of employment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.2.2 | Timesheets | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.2.3 | Annual appraisal/assessment records | Yes | | Current year + 5 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.2.4 | Records relating to the agreement of pay and conditions | No | | Date pay and conditions superseded + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.2.5 | Training needs analysis | No | | Current year + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |

2.3 Management of Disciplinary and Grievance Processes

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|--|--|---|
| 2.3.1 | Allegation which is child protection in nature against a member of staff, including where the allegation is unfounded ²⁰ | Yes | “Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges March 2015”; “Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children March 2015” | Until the person’s normal retirement age or 10 years from the date of the allegation, whichever is longer, then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL These records must be shredded |
| 2.3.2 | Disciplinary Proceedings | Yes | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral warning | | | Date of warning ²¹ + 6 months | SECURE DISPOSAL ²² |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written warning – level 1 | | | Date of warning + 6 months | SECURE DISPOSAL ²³ |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written warning – level 2 | | | Date of warning + 12 months | SECURE DISPOSAL ²⁴ |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final warning | | | Date of warning + 18 months | SECURE DISPOSAL ²⁵ |

²⁰ This review took place when the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse was beginning. In light of this, it is recommended that all records relating to child abuse are retained until the Inquiry is completed. This section will then be reviewed again to take into account any recommendations the Inquiry might make concerning record retention.

²¹ Where the warning relates to child protection issues, see above. If the disciplinary proceedings relate to a child protection matter, please contact your Safeguarding Children Officer for further advice.

²² If warnings are placed on personal files, then they must be weeded from the file.

²³ If warnings are placed on personal files, then they must be weeded from the file.

²⁴ If warnings are placed on personal files, then they must be weeded from the file.

²⁵ If warnings are placed on personal files, then they must be weeded from the file.

2.3 Management of Disciplinary and Grievance Processes

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|--|--|-----------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case not found | | | If the incident is child protection related, then see above; otherwise, dispose of at the conclusion of the case | SECURE DISPOSAL |

2.4 Health and Safety

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| 2.4.1 | Health and Safety policy statements | No | | Life of policy + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.2 | Health and Safety risk assessments | No | | Life of risk assessment + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.3 | Records relating to accident/injury at work | Yes | | Date of incident + 12 years In the case of serious accidents, a further retention period will need to be applied | SECURE DISPOSAL |

2.4 Health and Safety

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|--|------------------------|---|---|--|
| 2.4.4 | Accident reporting | Yes | Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979 Regulation 25. Social Security Administration Act 1992 Section 8. Limitation Act 1980 | The official Accident Book must be retained for 3 years after the last entry in the book. The book may be in paper or electronic format The incident reporting form may be retained as below | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults | | | Date of incident + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children | | | Date of birth of the child + 25 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.5 | Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) | No | | Current year + 10 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.6 | Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with asbestos | No | | Last action + 40 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.7 | Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with radiation | No | | Last action + 50 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.8 | Fire precautions log books | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 2.4.9 | Fire risk assessments | No | Fire Service Order 2005 | Life of the risk assessment + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 2.4 Health and Safety | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 2.4.10 | Incident reports | Yes | | Current year + 20 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

3. Management of the Academy

| 3.1 Admissions | | | | | |
|----------------|--|------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 3.1.1 | All records relating to the creation and implementation of the School Admissions' Policy | No | School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014 | Life of the policy + 3 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.1.2 | Admissions – if the admission is successful | Yes | School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014 | Date of admission + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 3.1 Admissions | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 3.1.3 | Admissions – if the appeal is unsuccessful | Yes | School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014 | Resolution of case + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.1.4 | Register of admissions | Yes | School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014 | Every entry in the admission register must be preserved for a period of 3 years after the date on which the entry was made ²⁶ | REVIEW Schools may wish to consider keeping the admission register permanently, as often schools receive enquiries from past pupils to confirm the dates they attended the school |
| 3.1.5 | Admissions – Secondary Schools – Casual | Yes | | Current year + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |

²⁶ School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014 p6.

3.1 Admissions

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|--|------------------------|--|--|--|
| 3.1.6 | Proofs of address supplied by parents as part of the admissions process | Yes | School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014 | Current year + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.1.7 | Supplementary information form, including additional information such as religion and medical conditions | Yes | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For successful admissions | | | This information should be added to the pupil file | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For unsuccessful admissions | | | Until appeals process completed | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 3.2 Head Teacher and Senior Management Team | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------|---|---|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 3.2.1 | Log books of activity in the school maintained by the Head Teacher | There may be data protection issues if the log book refers to individual pupils or members of staff | | Date of last entry in the book + a minimum of 6 years then REVIEW | These could be of permanent historical value and should be offered to the County Archives Service, if appropriate |
| 3.2.2 | Minutes of Senior Management Team meetings and meetings of other internal administrative bodies | There may be data protection issues if the minutes refers to individual pupils or members of staff | | Date of the meeting + 3 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.2.3 | Reports created by the Head Teacher or the Management Team | There may be data protection issues if the report refers to individual pupils or members of staff | | Date of the report + a minimum of 3 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.2.4 | Records created by Head Teachers, Deputy Head Teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities | There may be data protection issues if the records refer to individual pupils or members of staff | | Current academic year + 6 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.2.5 | Correspondence created by Head Teachers, Deputy Head Teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities | There may be data protection issues if the correspondence refers to individual pupils or members of staff | | Date of correspondence + 3 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.2.6 | Professional Development Plans | Yes | | Life of the plan + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 3.3 Operational Administration | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 3.3.1 | Management of complaints | Yes | | Date complaint resolved + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.2 | Records relating to the management of contracts with external providers | No | | Date of last payment on contract + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.3 | Records relating to the management of software licences | No | | Date licence expires + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.4 | General file series | No | | Current year + 5 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.5 | Records relating to the creation and publication of the school brochure or prospectus | No | | Current year + 3 years | STANDARD DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.6 | Records relating to the creation and distribution of circulars to staff, parents or pupils | No | | Current year + 1 year | STANDARD DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.7 | Newsletters and other items with a short operational use | No | | Current year + 1 year | STANDARD DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.8 | Visitors' books and signing in sheets | Yes | | Current year + 6 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 3.3.9 | Records relating to the creation and management of Parent Teacher Associations and/or Old Pupils Associations | No | | Current year + 6 years then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |

4. Property Management

This section covers the management of buildings and property.

| 4.1 Property Management | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 4.1.1 | Title deeds of properties belonging to the school | No | | These should follow the property, unless the property has been registered with the Land Registry | |
| 4.1.2 | Plans of property belonging to the school | No | | These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed onto any new owners if the building is leased or sold | |
| 4.1.3 | Leases of property leased by or to the school | No | | Expiry of lease + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.1.4 | Records relating to the letting of school premises | No | | Current financial year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.1.5 | Business continuity and disaster recovery plans | No | | Date the plan superseded + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

4.2 Maintenance

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 4.2.1 | All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by contractors | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.2.2 | All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by school employees, including maintenance log books | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

4.3 Fleet Management

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 4.3.1 | The process of acquisition and disposal of vehicles through lease or purchase, e.g., contracts/leases, quotes, approvals | N | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Disposal of the vehicle + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.3.2 | The process of managing allocation and maintenance of vehicles, e.g., lists of who was driving the vehicles and when, maintenance | N | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Disposal of the vehicle + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.3.3 | Service logs and vehicle logs | N | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Life of the vehicle, then either to be retained for 6 years by school or to be returned to lease company | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 4.3.4 | GPS tracking data relating to the vehicles | N | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Date of journey + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

5. Pupil Management

This section includes all records which are created during the time a pupil spends at the school. For information about accident reporting, see under Health and Safety above.

| 5.1 Pupil's Educational Record | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 5.1.1 | Pupil's Educational Record required by The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 | Yes | The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 SI 2005 No. 1437 | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary | | | Retain whilst the child remains at the primary school | <p>The file should follow the pupil when they leave the primary school. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To another primary school To a secondary school To a pupil referral unit <p>If the pupil dies whilst at primary school, the file should be returned to the LA to be retained for the statutory retention period.</p> <p>If the pupil transfers to an independent school, transfers to home schooling or leaves the country, the file should be returned to the LA to be retained for the statutory retention period.</p> <p>Primary schools do not ordinarily</p> |

5.3 Special Educational Needs

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|---|---|---|
| 5.3.2 | Statement maintained under section 234 of the Education Act 1990 and any amendments made to the statement | Yes | Education Act 1996 Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 1 | Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years [This would normally be retained on the pupil file] | SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold |
| 5.3.3 | Advice and information provided to parents regarding educational needs | Yes | Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 2 | Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years [This would normally be retained on the pupil file] | SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold |
| 5.3.4 | Accessibility strategy | Yes | Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 14 | Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years [This would normally be retained on the pupil file] | SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold |

6. Curriculum Management

| 6.1 Statistics and Management Information | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 6.1.1 | Curriculum returns | No | | Current year + 3 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.1.2 | Examination results (schools copy) | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | SATs records – | Yes | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results | | | <p>The SATS results should be recorded on the pupil's educational file and will therefore be retained until the pupil reaches the age of 25 years</p> <p>The school may wish to keep a composite record of all the whole year SATs results. These could be kept for current year + 6 years to allow suitable comparison</p> | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination papers | | | The examination papers should be kept until any appeals/validation process is complete | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.1.3 | Published Admission Number (PAN) reports | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.1.4 | Value added and contextual data | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.1.5 | Self-evaluation forms | Yes | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 6.2 Implementation of Curriculum | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 6.2.1 | Schemes of work | No | | Current year + 1 year | It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.2.2 | Timetable | No | | Current year + 1 year | It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.2.3 | Class record books | No | | Current year + 1 year | It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.2.4 | Mark books | No | | Current year + 1 year | It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.2.5 | Record of homework set | No | | Current year + 1 year | It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 6.2.6 | Pupils' work | No | | Where possible, work should be returned to the pupil at the end of the academic year. If this is not the school's policy, then current year + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |

7.Extracurricular Activities

| 7.1 Educational Visits outside the Classroom | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 7.1.1 | Records created by schools in order to obtain approval to run an educational visit outside the classroom – Primary schools | No | Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance website http://oeapng.info specifically Section 3 – "Legal Framework and Employer Systems" and Section 4 – "Good Practice". | Date of visit + 14 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 7.1.2 | Records created by schools in order to obtain approval to run an educational visit outside the classroom – Secondary schools | No | Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance website http://oeapng.info specifically Section 3 – "Legal Framework and Employer Systems" and Section 4 – "Good Practice". | Date of visit + 10 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 7.1.3 | Parental consent forms for school trips where there has been no major incident ²⁷ | Yes | | Conclusion of the trip | Although the consent forms could be retained for date of birth + 25 years, the requirement for them being needed is low and most schools do not have the storage capacity to retain every single consent form issued by the school for this period of time |

²⁷ One-off or blanket consent: The Department for Education (DfE) has prepared a one-off consent form to be signed by the parent on enrolment of their child in a school. This form is intended to cover all types of visits and activities where parental consent is required. The form is available on the DfE website for establishments to adopt and

| 7.1 Educational Visits outside the Classroom | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 7.1.4 | Parental permission slips for school trips – where there has been a major incident | Yes | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Date of birth of the pupil involved in the incident + 25 years The permission slips for all the pupils on the trip need to be retained to show that the rules had been followed for all pupils | |
| 7.1.5 | Records relating to residential trips | Yes | | Date of birth of youngest pupil involved + 25 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 7.2 Walking Bus | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 7.2.1 | Walking bus registers | Yes | | Date of register + 3 years. This takes into account the fact that, if there is an incident requiring an accident report, the register will be submitted with the accident report and kept for the period of time required for accident reporting | SECURE DISPOSAL [If these records are retained electronically any back up copies should be destroyed at the same time] |

adapt, as appropriate, at www.gov.uk/government/publications/consent-for-school-trips-and-other-off-site-activities. A similar form could be used for other establishments, such as Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) providers and youth groups, or at the start of programmes for young people.

8. Central Government and Local Authority (LA)

This section covers records created in the course of interaction between the school and the LA.

| 8.1 Local Authority | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 8.1.1 | Secondary transfer sheets (Primary) | Yes | | Current year + 2 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 8.1.2 | Attendance returns | Yes | | Current year + 1 year | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 8.1.3 | School census returns | No | | Current year + 5 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

| 8.2 Central Government | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 8.2.1 | OFSTED reports and papers | No | | Life of the report then REVIEW | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 8.2.2 | Returns made to central government | No | | Current year + 6 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 8.2.3 | Circulars and other information sent from central government | No | | Operational use | SECURE DISPOSAL |

5.1 Pupil's Educational Record

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|--|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | | have sufficient storage space to store records for pupils who have not transferred in the normal way. It makes more sense to transfer the record to the LA, as it is more likely that the pupil will request the record from the LA |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary | | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 5.1.2 | Records relating to the management of exclusions | Yes | | Date of birth of the pupil involved + 25 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 5.1.3 | Management of examination registrations | Yes | | The examination board will usually mandate how long these records need to be retained | |
| 5.1.4 | Examination results – pupil copies | Yes | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public | | | This information should be added to the pupil file | All uncollected certificates should be returned to the examination board |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal | | | This information should be added to the pupil file | |
| <p>This review took place when the Independent Inquiry on Historical Child Sexual Abuse was beginning. In light of this, it is recommended that all records relating to child abuse are retained until the Inquiry is completed. This section will then be reviewed again to take into account any recommendations the Inquiry might make concerning record retention</p> | | | | | |

| 5.1 Pupil's Educational Record | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|--|--|
| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
| 5.1.5 | Child protection information held on pupil file | Yes | "Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges March 2015"; "Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children March 2015" | If any records relating to child protection issues are placed on the pupil file, it should be in a sealed envelope and then retained for the same period of time as the pupil file | SECURE DISPOSAL – these records MUST be shredded |
| 5.1.6 | Child protection information held in separate files | Yes | "Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges March 2015"; "Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children March 2015" | Date of birth of the child + 25 years then REVIEW This retention period was agreed in consultation with the Safeguarding Children Group on the understanding that the principal copy of this information will be found on the LA Social Services record | SECURE DISPOSAL – these records MUST be shredded |

Retention periods relating to allegations made against adults can be found in the Human Resources section of this retention schedule.

5.2 Attendance

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|--|---|--|
| 5.2.1 | Attendance registers | Yes | School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014 | Every entry in the attendance register must be preserved for a period of 3 years after the date on which the entry was made | SECURE DISPOSAL |
| 5.2.2 | Correspondence relating to authorised absence | | Education Act 1996 Section 7 | Current academic year + 2 years | SECURE DISPOSAL |

5.3 Special Educational Needs

| | Basic file description | Data Protection Issues | Statutory Provisions | Retention Period [Operational] | Action at end of administrative life of the record |
|-------|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 5.3.1 | Special Educational Needs files, reviews and Individual Education Plans | Yes | Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2) | Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years | REVIEW NOTE: This retention period is the minimum retention period that any pupil file should be kept. Some authorities choose to keep SEN files for a longer period of time in order to defend themselves in a “failure to provide a sufficient education” case. There is an element of business risk analysis involved in any decision to keep the records longer than the minimum retention period – this should be documented |