

INFORMATION SECURITY & DATA PROTECTION: PRIVACY NOTICE FOR STUDENTS

This policy is annually reviewed to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Approved by: Chief Operating Officer	
Reviewed by: Data Protection Officer	
Date of next review	October 2026

This policy and procedure is subject to The Equality Act 2010 which recognises the following Protected Characteristics: Age, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion and Belief, Sex, Sexual orientation and Disability.

1. Document Control

1.1. Document Details

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Author	Robbie Wallis
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1.2. Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	June 2023	Robbie Wallis	Definitive Release
1.1	October 2023	Robbie Wallis	Definitive Release
2.0	October 2024	Robbie Wallis	Definitive Release – Change of Data Protection Officer details.
3.0	October 2025	Evalian Limited	Changed from 'GDPR' to 'UK GDPR' and added the right to complain
3.1	November 2025	Sharon Posey	Section on 'Bring Your Own Device Strategy' added

1.3. Distribution

Name	Email	Organisation
All Staff	Uploaded to SharePoint	Boston College
Everyone	Website	General Public

Privacy Notice for Learners

Notice about how we use your personal information

We are the Data Controller of personal information about you. We are: Boston College
Our address is: Skirbeck Road, Boston, PE21 6JF.

Our Data Protection Officer is Evalian Ltd. If you have any questions about this policy or the ways in which we use your personal information, please contact our Data Protection Officer at DataProtection@boston.ac.uk

This privacy notice has been prepared in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation ("UK GDPR") and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Which College Department would you like more information about?

Admissions

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT?

The information that you give us:

As part of your admission to Boston College we may collect your personal details including name, address, date of birth, next of kin, email address, first language, work assessment data, dates of attendance, exam/test results, ethnicity, health information, behaviour record, sex, gender, genetic data, special needs details, any social care involvement, criminal disclosure and biometric data (fingerprint). We will also be collecting the computer IPR address for our application and enrolment system, as we are required to keep data and students safe.

The uses made of your personal information:

We will use your information to manage and administer your education. This will include putting together class lists, sending event invitations, communicating with you, dealing with admissions, putting together reports and registers, checking entry exam results, allocating you to the correct classes for assessments, making arrangements for exams or visits, considering whether to offer places to learners, considering whether special provision or assistance is required for exams and visits and informing other colleges of your attendance dates if you leave.

The legal basis on which we collect and use your personal information:

Generally, the information is processed as part of our public interest task of providing education to you.

Where that information is special category personal information (e.g. medical information) we will process it because there is a substantial public interest for us to do so.

How long will we keep your personal information?

Your application form will be held for 3 years, at which point it will be destroyed in line with the College Retention Policy.

How we share your personal information:

Application data is shared internally with the Learner Services staff and teaching staff. This is to enable the College to ensure that courses are relevant to your career aspirations. Information is collected and shared internally to ensure that the relevant people are aware of your support needs. The College may share your data with external agencies, including Lincolnshire County Council for transport, your current school, as well as other support services as required.

Enrolment & Exams**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT?*****The information that you give us:***

The Enrolment & Exams department will collect your personal and educational details including, but not limited to your name, address, email address, date of birth, next of kin, telephone number, exam results, attendance, photo, dates of attendance, ethnic origin, residency, nationality, health records/conditions (inc. mental health), special needs details, sex and gender, as well as information relating to your fee remission e.g. wage slip, benefits etc.

The uses made of your personal information:

We will use your information to manage and administer your education. This will include information to determine your funding eligibility, enrolment, exam entry, claiming of achievements, course fees, access arrangements, providing letters to confirm attendance.

Basis on which we collect and use your personal information:

Generally, the information is processed as part of our public interest task of providing education to you.

Where that information is special category personal information (e.g. medical information) we will process it because there is a substantial public interest for us to do so.

How long will we keep your personal information?

All your enrolment data will be held for a minimum of 7 years (or in line with the funding contract); registers and logbooks will be held for 7 years, and exam results for 3 years, at which point it will be destroyed in line with the College Retention Policy. Where you have provided documentation to us, such as ID, wage slips, benefit letter, photo etc, to support your eligibility for funding, copies of such documents may be retained for audit purposes.

How we share your personal information:

Enrolment and exam data is shared with internal College staff to assist with your education and is shared externally with the Education and Skills Funding Agency, awarding organisations, examining bodies, Office for Students if you are studying a higher education course, LincHigher, Lincolnshire County Council, your previous school as well as other external bodies as required. It may also be necessary for the College to share information with the Police, Courts and Tribunals, health, social and welfare organisations.

Finance

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT?

The information that you give us:

In order to manage the financial affairs of the College we collect and hold the following information about you: name, address, telephone number, email, funding information, bank details, your financial information for processing bursary applications etc.

The uses made of your personal information:

We will use your information to ensure your place is appropriately funded, make payments to or receive payment from you, and to invoice you for your course fees.

The legal basis on which we collect and use your personal information:

Generally, the information is processed as part of our public interest task of providing education to you.

Where that information is special category personal information (e.g. medical information) we will process it because there is a substantial public interest for us to do so.

How long will we keep your personal information?

Your financial data will be held for 6 years, at which point it will be destroyed in line with the College Retention Policy.

How we share your personal information:

Financial data will be shared with the College auditors and externally with the County Court or Sheriff's Office, if required for debt collection.

Teaching

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT?

The information that you give us:

As part of the delivery of our courses to you, our staff will collect your coursework or portfolio for marking purposes, as well as data related to attendance, behaviour and progress.

The uses made of your personal information:

We will use your information for the purposes of teaching you, supporting you on your course and measuring your achievements.

The legal basis on which we collect and use your personal information:

Generally, the information is processed as part of our public interest task of providing education to you.

How long will we keep your personal information?

Your course work or portfolio will be held for 12 weeks after certification, at which point it will be available for you to collect in line with the College Retention Policy. The

attendance data is held for 7 years then destroyed; behaviour and progress data is archived at the end of your period of study.

How we share your personal information:

We may share your data with Awarding Organisations to enable us to certificate your qualification and with the Internal and External Verifiers to confirm the quality of your work. If you are aged 18 or under, educational records, (which may include attendance, performance, grades and progression) will be shared with Parents or Guardians. As part of external inspections e.g. OFSTED, we may need to share examples of your coursework and information relating to your progress on your course.

Marketing

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT?

The information that you give us:

For marketing purposes, we collect names, telephone number, dates of birth, email addresses, former school information and year group, and on occasions your photograph.

The uses made of your personal information:

Marketing may use your details to contact you regarding your course, college events and information, or future courses that may be of interest to you. The marketing department may also approach you for photographs whilst studying here. These may be used for the college website, social media, printed material, outdoor media, and digital media including promotional videos, publications, and newspapers.

The legal basis on which we collect and use your personal information:

Where you have previously studied at the College or commenced an application process with us, we will send you information about the courses we provide on the basis of our legitimate business interests. In doing so, we will comply with the requirements of the "soft opt in" and offer you an opportunity to refuse marketing when your details are first collected and in subsequent messages (by clicking unsubscribe in the message).

Any other marketing, we carry out will be on the basis of consent.

How long will we keep your personal information?

Your consent to marketing will be retained for 3 years after completion of your studies, at which time it will be archived in line with the College Retention Policy.

How we share your personal information:

Marketing data will be shared with internal members of staff at the College to assist with your application and enrolment on to a course. Photographs taken of you whilst studying at college, may be used for the college website, social media, printed material, outdoor Media, digital media including promotional videos, publications and newspapers.

Bring Your Own Device Strategy

To support a safe and secure digital environment for all students and staff, Boston College applies web filtering to all devices connected to the College Wi-Fi network. This ensures we meet our statutory safeguarding duties and obligations under UK law.

When you connect your personal device (e.g. phone, tablet, laptop) to the College Wi-Fi, access to certain websites and online content may be restricted in line with our Safeguarding Policy, Acceptable Use Policy, and our duties under:

- **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025** – requires schools and colleges to provide appropriate filtering and monitoring to protect learners from harmful online content.
- **Prevent Duty (Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015)** – requires institutions to prevent students being drawn into extremism or terrorism, including through online materials.
- **Data Protection Act 2018 & UK GDPR** – ensures any monitoring or filtering respects privacy and data protection principles.

Key Points

- **Filtering**
 - Applied to all internet traffic when using the College Wi-Fi.
 - Designed to protect learners from inappropriate, harmful, or illegal content.
 - Supports the College's statutory safeguarding obligations.
- **Monitoring**
 - The College does not access or inspect the contents of personal devices.
 - No apps, files, or personal activity stored on your device are monitored or collected.
 - The College only applies filtering and security rules to traffic passing through the College network.
- **Privacy**
 - Your privacy remains protected — filtering is limited to internet traffic via the College Wi-Fi.
 - The College does not carry out surveillance of personal devices.

Any data collected for safeguarding or security purposes (e.g. attempts to access blocked content) is handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the College's Data Protection Policy.

If you have questions or concerns about filtering, monitoring, or your privacy when using College Wi-Fi, please contact:

- **IT Helpdesk** – for technical queries.
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** – for safeguarding concerns.
- **Data Protection Officer (DPO)** – for data privacy concerns.

Bursary laptops are not considered personal devices and will be monitored

General Information

How we transfer your personal information outside Europe:

We do not store or transfer your personal data outside Europe.

How will we monitor your use of the College's computers?

We monitor how you use the College's equipment and computers and what websites you go on when you are browsing the internet at college. This is because we have legal obligations to protect you and we also have a legitimate interest in making sure you are using our computer equipment correctly and that you are not looking at any inappropriate content.

If you want to browse the internet privately, you will need to use your own devices which are not linked to the College's network or internet connection.

Your rights over your personal information:

You have a number of rights over your personal information, which are:

- the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if you are unhappy about the way your personal data is being used – please refer to the ICO's website for further information about this (<https://ico.org.uk/>)
- the right to ask us what personal information about you we are holding and to have access to a copy of your personal information
- the right to ask us to correct any errors in your personal information
- the right to lodge a complaint directly with the College regarding the handling of your personal data.
- the right, in certain circumstances (such as where our use of your personal information is based on your consent, and we have no other legal basis to use your personal information) to ask us to delete your personal information
- the right, in certain circumstances (such as where we no longer need your personal information) to request that we restrict the use that we are making of your personal information.
- the right, in certain circumstances, to ask us to review and explain our legitimate interests to you.
- the right, where our use of your personal information is carried out for the purposes of an agreement with us and is carried out by automated means, to ask us to provide you with a copy of your personal information in a structured, commonly used, machine-readable format.

Changes to the Privacy Policy:

The College will keep this privacy policy under regular review. Any changes made to this privacy policy in the future will be notified to you by email.