



Gaelscoil Choráin

Eochail

Polasaí Um Chosáint Sonraí / Data Protection Policy

Réamhráiteas & Réasúnaíocht / Introduction & Rationale

The school's Data Protection Policy applies to the *personal data* held by the school's Board of Management (BoM), which is protected by the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The policy applies to all school staff, the Board of Management, parents/guardians, students and others (including prospective or potential students and their parents/guardians and applicants for staff positions within the school) insofar as the measures under the policy relate to them. Data will be stored securely, so that confidential information is protected in compliance with relevant legislation. This policy sets out the manner in which personal data and special categories of personal data will be protected by the school

Gaelscoil Choráin operates a “*Privacy by Design*” method in relation to Data Protection. This means we plan carefully when gathering personal data so that we build in the *data protection principles* as integral elements of all data operations in advance. We audit the personal data we hold in order to

1. be able to provide access to individuals to their data
2. ensure it is held securely
3. document our data protection procedures
4. enhance accountability and transparency

Prionsabail Um Chosáint Sonraí / Data Protection Principles

The school BoM is a *data controller* of *personal data* relating to its past, present and future staff, students, parents/guardians and other members of the school community. As such, the BoM is obliged to comply with the principles of data protection set out in the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018 and GDPR, which can be summarised as follows:

1. Sonraí Pearsanta a fháil & a phróiseáil go cóir/ Obtain and process Personal Data fairly

Information on students is gathered with the help of parents/guardians and staff. Information is also transferred from their previous schools. In relation to information the school holds on other individuals (members of staff, individuals applying for positions within the school, parents/guardians of students, etc.), the information is generally furnished by the individuals themselves with full and informed consent and compiled during the course of their employment or contact with the school. All such data is treated in accordance with the Data Protection legislation and the terms of this Data Protection Policy. The information will be obtained and processed fairly

2. Toiliú/ Consent

Where consent is the basis for provision of personal data, (e.g. data required to join sports team/ after-school activity or any other optional school activity) the consent must be a freely-given, specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the data subject's wishes. Gaelscoil Choráin will require a clear, affirmative action e.g. ticking of a box/signing a document to indicate consent. Consent can be withdrawn by data subjects in these situations

3. Ná coimeád na sonraí ach amháin le haghaidh críche sonraithe, sainráite & dleathaí amháin nó níos mó /Keep it only for one or more specified and explicit lawful purposes

The BoM will inform individuals of the reasons they collect their data and the uses to which their data will be put. All information is kept with the best interest of the individual in mind at all times

4. Gan sonraí a phróiseáil ach ar bhealaí a oireann do na cuspóirí a tugadh i dtosach báire iad / Process it only in ways compatible with the purposes for which it was given initially

Data relating to individuals will only be processed in a manner consistent with the purposes for which it was gathered. Information will only be disclosed on a 'need to know' basis, and access to it will be strictly controlled

5. Bíodh Sonraí Pearsanta beacht, comhlán agus suas chun data /Keep Personal Data safe and secure

Only those with a genuine reason for doing so may gain access to the information. Personal Data is securely stored under lock and key in the case of manual records and protected with computer software and password protection in the case of electronically stored data. Portable devices storing personal data (such as laptops) are password-protected

6. Déan cinnte de go bhfuil na sonraí leordhóthanach, ábhartha gan a bheith iomarcach / Keep Personal Data accurate, relevant and not excessive

Only the necessary amount of information required to provide an adequate service will be gathered and stored.

7. Gan an fhaisnéis a choimeád níos faide ná mar is gá don chuspóir nó do na cuspóirí sonraithe ar tugadh í /Retain it no longer than is necessary for the specified purpose or purposes for which it was given

As a general rule, the information will be kept for the duration of the individual's time in the school. Thereafter, the school will comply with DES guidelines on the storage of Personal Data relating to a student. In the case of members of staff, the school will comply with both DES guidelines and the requirements of the Revenue Commissioners with regard to the retention of records relating to employees. The school may also retain the data relating to an individual for a longer length of time for the purposes of complying with relevant provisions of law and or/defending a claim under employment legislation and/or contract and/or civil law. See Appendix 1 [School Record Retention](#) table

8. Cóip dá sonraí pearsanta fhéin a sholáthar d'aon duine ar iarratas /Provide a copy of their own personal data to any individual on request

Individuals have a right to know and have access to a copy of personal data held about them, by whom, and the purpose for which it is held

Scóip/ Scope

The Data Protection legislation applies to the keeping and processing of *Personal Data*. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school to meet its statutory obligations, to explain those obligations to school staff, and to inform staff, students and their parents/guardians how their data will be treated

The policy applies to all school staff, the Board of Management, parents/guardians, students and others (including prospective or potential students and their parents/guardians, and applicants for staff positions within the school) insofar as the school handles or processes their *Personal Data* in the course of their dealings with the school

Sainmhíniú ar Théarmaí um Chosaint Sonraí/ Definition of Data Protection Terms

In order to properly understand the school's obligations, there are some key terms, which should be understood by all relevant school staff:

Sonraí Pearsanta/ Personal Data means any data relating to an identified or identifiable natural person i.e. a living individual who is or can be identified either from the data or from the data in conjunction with other information that is in, or is likely to come into, the possession of the Data Controller (BoM)

Rialathóir Sonraí/ Data Controller is the Board of Management of the school

An Duine is Ábhar Dos na Sonraí /Data Subject is an individual who is the subject of personal data

Próiseáil Sonraí/ Data Processing - performing any operation or set of operations on data, including:

- Obtaining, recording or keeping the data,
- Collecting, organising, storing, altering or adapting the data
- Retrieving, consulting or using the data
- Disclosing the data by transmitting, disseminating or otherwise making it available
- Aligning, combining, blocking, erasing or destroying the data

Próiseálaí Sonraí/ Data Processor - a person who processes personal information on behalf of a data controller, but **does not include an employee of a data controller** who processes such data in the course of their employment, for example, this might mean an employee of an organisation to which the data controller out-sources work. The Data Protection legislation places responsibilities on such entities in relation to their processing of the data (e.g. Aladdin & school accounting/wages processors).

Sonraí Pearsanta Íogaire do Shonraí Pearsanta/ Special categories of Personal Data refers to *Personal Data* regarding a person's

- racial or ethnic origin
- political opinions or religious or philosophical beliefs
- physical or mental health
- sexual life and sexual orientation
- genetic and biometric data
- criminal convictions or the alleged commission of an offence
- trade union membership

Sárú ar Shonraí Pearsanta/ Personal Data Breach - a breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to personal data transmitted, stored or otherwise processed. This means any compromise or loss of personal data, no matter how or where it occurs

Réasúnaíocht/Rationale

In addition to its legal obligations under the broad remit of educational legislation, the school has a legal responsibility to comply with the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018 and the GDPR

This policy explains what sort of data is collected, why it is collected, for how long it will be stored and with whom it will be shared. The school takes its responsibilities under data protection law very seriously and wishes to put in place safe practices to safeguard

individual's personal data. It is also recognised that recording factual information accurately and storing it safely facilitates an evaluation of the information, enabling the Principal and Board of Management to make decisions in respect of the efficient running of the school. The efficient handling of data is also essential to ensure that there is consistency and continuity where there are changes of personnel within the school and Board of Management

Dualgáis Dhlíthiúil Eile/ Other Legal Obligations

Implementation of this policy takes into account the school's other legal obligations and responsibilities. Some of these are directly relevant to data protection. *For example:*

Under *Section 9(g) of the Education Act, 1998*, the parents of a student, or a student who has reached the age of 18 years, must be given access to records kept by the school relating to the progress of the student in their education

Under *Section 20 of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000*, the school must maintain a register of all students attending the School

Under *Section 20(5) of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000*, a Principal is obliged to notify certain information relating to the child's attendance in school and other matters relating to the child's educational progress to the Principal of another school to which a student is transferring. Gaelscoil Choráin sends, by post, a copy of a child's *Education Passport*, as provided by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, to the Principal of the Post-Primary School in which the pupil has been enrolled. An Education Passport is a suite of materials to support the reporting and transfer of pupil information from Primary to Post-Primary schools.

Where reports on pupils which have been completed by professionals, apart from Gaelscoil Choráin staff, are included in current pupil files, such reports are only passed to the Post-Primary school following express written permission having been sought and received from the parents of the said pupils

Under *Section 21 of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000*, the school must record the attendance or non-attendance of students registered at the school on each school day

Under *Section 28 of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000*, the School may supply *Personal Data* kept by it to certain prescribed bodies (the Department of Education and Skills, Tusla, the National Council for Special Education and other schools). The BoM must be satisfied that it will be used for a 'relevant purpose' (which includes recording a person's educational or training history or monitoring their educational or training progress; or for carrying out research into examinations, participation in education and the general effectiveness of education or training)

Under *Section 14 of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act, 2004*, the school is required to furnish to the National Council for Special Education (and its employees, which would include Special Educational Needs Organisers) such information as the Council may from time to time reasonably request

The *Freedom of Information Act 2014* provides a qualified right to access to information held by public bodies which does not necessarily have to be “personal data”, as with data protection legislation. While most schools are not currently subject to freedom of information legislation, (with the exception of schools under the direction of Education and Training Boards), if a school has furnished information to a body covered by the Freedom of Information Act (such as the Department of Education and Skills, etc.) these records could be disclosed by that body if a request is made to that body

Under *Section 26(4) of the Health Act, 1947* a school shall cause all reasonable facilities (including facilities for obtaining names and addresses of pupils attending the school) to be given to a health authority who has served a notice on it of medical inspection, e.g. a dental inspection

Under *Children First Act 2015*, mandated persons in schools have responsibilities to report child welfare concerns to TUSLA- Child and Family Agency (or in the event of an emergency and the unavailability of TUSLA, to An Garda Síochána)

Gaol le Spíorad Sainiúil na Scoile/ Relationship to Characteristic Spirit of the School

Gaelscoil Choráin seeks to:

- enable students to develop their full potential
- provide a safe and secure environment for learning
- promote respect for the diversity of values, beliefs, traditions, languages and ways of life in society

We aim to achieve these goals while respecting the privacy and data protection rights of students, staff, parents/guardians and others who interact with us. The school wishes to achieve these aims/missions while fully respecting individuals’ rights to privacy and rights under the Data Protection legislation.

Sonraí Persanta/ Personal Data

The *Personal Data* records held by the school may include:

1. *Taifid Foirne/ Staff records:*

a) *Catagóirí sonraí foirne/ Categories of staff data:*

As well as existing members of staff (and former members of staff), these records may also relate to applicants applying for positions within the school, trainee teachers and teachers under probation. These staff records may include:

- Name, address and contact details, PPS number.
- Name and contact details of next-of-kin in case of emergency.
- Original records of application and appointment (including application forms, interview marking schemes and other documents relating to recruitment and selection such as references, Garda vetting outcomes and Medmark assessments).
- Record of appointments to promotion posts.
- Details of approved absences (career breaks, secondment, parental leave, study leave, etc.)
- Details of work record (qualifications, classes taught, subjects, etc.)
- Details of complaints and/or grievances, including consultations or competency discussions, action, improvement, evaluation plans and record of progress.
- Details of any accidents/injuries sustained on school property or in connection with the staff member carrying out their school duties
- Records of any reports the school (or its employees) have made in respect of the staff member to State departments and/or other agencies under Children First Act 2015

b) *Cuspóirí/ Purposes:*

Staff records are kept for the purposes of:

- the management and administration of school business (now and in the future)
- to facilitate the payment of staff, and calculate other benefits/entitlements (including reckonable service for the purpose of calculation of pension payments, entitlements and/or redundancy payments where relevant)
- to facilitate pension payments in the future
- human resources management
- recording promotions made (documentation relating to promotions applied for) and changes in responsibilities, etc.
- to enable the school to comply with its obligations as an employer, including the preservation of a safe, efficient working and teaching environment (including complying with its responsibilities under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005)
- to enable the school to comply with requirements set down by the Department of Education and Skills, the Revenue Commissioners, the National Council for Special Education, TUSLA, the HSE, and any other governmental, statutory and/or regulatory departments and/or agencies
- and for compliance with legislation relevant to the school.

c) *Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures*

- a. Manual records are kept in a secure, locked filing cabinet in a locked administration office only accessible to personnel who are authorised to use the

data. Employees are required to maintain the confidentiality of any data to which they have access.

- b. Digital records are stored on password-protected computer with adequate firewall software in a locked office. The school has the intruder alarm activated during out-of-school hours.

2. Taifid Daltaí/ Student records:

a) Catagóirí sonraí daltaí/ Categories of student data:

These may include:

- Information which may be sought and recorded at enrolment and may be collated and compiled during the course of the student's time in the school. It is also sought for the Primary Online Database (POD).
- These records may include:
 - name, address and contact details, PPS number
 - date and place of birth
 - names and addresses of parents/guardians and their contact details (including any special arrangements with regard to guardianship, custody or access)
 - religious belief
 - racial or ethnic origin
 - membership of the Traveller community, where relevant
 - whether they (or their parents) are medical card holders
 - what the child's first language is and whether or not other languages are spoken in the home
 - any relevant special conditions (e.g. special educational needs, health issues, etc.) which may apply
- Information on previous academic record (including reports, references, assessments and other records from any previous school(s) attended by the student)
- Psychological, psychiatric and/or medical assessments
- Attendance records
- Photographs and recorded images of students (including at school events and noting achievements)
- Academic record – subjects studied, class assignments, examination results as recorded on official school reports
- Records of significant achievements
- Whether the student is exempt from studying Irish
- Records of disciplinary issues/investigations and/or sanctions imposed
- Other records e.g. records of any serious injuries/accidents, etc. (Note: it is advisable to inform parents that a particular incident is being recorded).
- Records of any reports the school (or its employees) have made in respect of the student to State Departments and/or other agencies under Children First Act 2015.

b) Cuspóirí/ Purposes:

Student records are kept for the purpose of:

- to enable each student to develop to his/her full potential
- to comply with legislative or administrative requirements
- to ensure that eligible students can benefit from the relevant additional teaching or financial supports
- to support the provision of religious instruction
- to enable parents/guardians to be contacted in the case of emergency or in the case of school closure, or to inform parents of their child's educational progress or to inform parents of school events, etc.
- to meet the educational, social, physical and emotional requirements of the student
- photographs and recorded images of students are taken to celebrate school achievements, e.g. establish a school website, record school events, and to keep a record of the history of the school.
- to ensure that the student meets the school's admission criteria
- to ensure that students meet the minimum age requirement for attendance at Primary School.
- to ensure that any student seeking an exemption from Irish meets the criteria in order to obtain such an exemption from the authorities
- to furnish documentation/information about the student to the Department of Education and Skills, the National Council for Special Education, TUSLA, and other schools, etc. in compliance with law and directions issued by government departments
- to furnish, when requested by the student (or their parents/guardians in the case of a student under 18 years) documentation/information/references to second-level educational institutions.

c). Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures (as above)

3. Taifid an Bhoird Bhainistíochta/ Board of Management records:

a) Catagóirí de shonraí an Bhoird/ Categories of Board of Management data:

- Name, address and contact details of each member of the Board of Management (including former members of the Board of Management)
- Records in relation to appointments to the Board
- Minutes of Board of Management meetings and correspondence to the Board which may include references to individuals.

b) Cuspóirí/ Purposes:

To enable the Board of Management to operate in accordance with the Education Act 1998 and other applicable legislation and to maintain a record of Board appointments and decisions.

c). Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures (as above)

4. Taifid Eile/ Other Records: Creditors

Gaelscoil Choráin will hold other records relating to individuals. The format in which these records will be kept are manual record (personal file within a relevant filing system), computer record (database). Some examples of the type of other records which the school will hold are set out below (this list is not exhaustive):

Creidiúnaithe/ Creditors

a) Catagóirí sonraí/ Categories of details:

The school may hold some or all of the following information about creditors (some of whom are self-employed individuals):

- name
- address
- contact details
- PPS number
- tax details
- bank details and
- amount paid

b) Cuspóirí/ Purposes: The purposes for keeping creditor records are:

This information is required for routine management and administration of the school's financial affairs, including the payment of invoices, the compiling of annual financial accounts and complying with audits and investigations by the Revenue Commissioners.

c). Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures

In a secure filing cabinet in the secretary's office.

5. Foirmeacha Aisíocaíocht Cánach ar Charthanacht/ Other Records: Charity Tax-back Forms

a) Catagóirí de shonraí an Bhoird/ Categories of Board of Management data:

The school may hold the following data in relation to donors who have made charitable donations to the school:

- name
- address
- telephone number
- PPS number
- tax rate
- signature and
- the gross amount of the donation.

b) Cuspóirí/ Purposes: The purposes for keeping creditor records are:

Schools are entitled to avail of the scheme of tax relief for donations of money they receive. To claim the relief, the donor must complete a certificate (CHY2) and forward it to the school to allow it to claim the grossed up amount of tax associated with the donation. The information requested on the appropriate certificate is the parents' name, address, PPS number, tax rate, telephone number, signature and the gross amount of the donation. This is retained by the school in the event of audit by the Revenue Commissioners.

c) Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures

In a secure filing cabinet in the secretary's office.

6. Torthaí Measúnaithe/ Assessment Results

a) Catagóirí/ Categories

The school will hold data comprising examination results in respect of its students. These include class, mid-term, annual and continuous assessment results and the results of Standardised Tests

b) Cuspóirí/ Purposes:

The main purpose for which these examination results are held is to monitor a student's progress and to provide a sound basis for advising them and their parents or guardian about educational attainment levels and recommendations for the future. The data may also be aggregated for statistical/reporting purposes, such as to compile results tables. The data may be transferred to the Department of Education and Skills, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and other schools to which pupils move.

c) Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures

Standardised test results are saved digitally on the ALADDIN database in the cloud. ALADDIN is a comprehensive software administrative package for schools. Hardcopies of the results as kept in a secure cabinet in the second SEN room downstairs. Class examination results are kept by the teachers in their classrooms. Manual records are kept in a secure, locked filing cabinet in the classroom. Digital records are stored on the school server via password-protected laptops and with adequate firewall software.

7. Teastais Breithe & Baiste/ Baptismal and Birth Certificates

a) Catagóirí/ Categories

The school may hold a copy of the following certificates:

- Birth certificate
- Baptismal certificate
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b). Cuspóirí/ Purposes

The main purpose for which these certificates are held is to ensure that the student meets the school's admission criteria, to have access to specific information that is required to populate the POD database and to ensure that the students who wish to be prepared for the sacraments meet the Catholic Church requirements.

c). Láthair & Slándáil/ Location and Security procedures

These certificates are held in manual form and are kept in a secure, locked cabinet in the secretary's office. The Birth Certificates are destroyed once the children have started school and the POD database has been populated. Copies of the Baptismal Certificates are kept from second class to sixth class and destroyed (shredded) thereafter once both Communion and Confirmation Sacraments have been received.

Nasc le Polasaithe Eile & le Soláthair Churaclaím/ Links to Other Policies & to Curriculum Delivery

Our school policies need to be consistent with one another, within the framework of the overall School Plan. Relevant school policies already in place or being developed or reviewed, shall be examined with reference to the *Data Protection Policy* and any implications which it has for them shall be addressed.

The following policies may be among those considered:

- Pupil Online Database (POD): Collection of the data for the purposes of complying with the Department of Education and Skills' pupil online database.
- Child Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Code of Behaviour
- Enrolment Policy
- ICT Acceptable Usage Policy
- Supervision Policy
- Staff Rotation Policy
- Critical Incident Policy
- RSE Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Substance Abuse Policy
- Administration of Medicine Policy

Próiseáil de Réir Cearta an Ábhar Sonraí/ Processing in Line with a Data Subjects Rights

Data in Gaelscoil Choráin will be processed in line with the data subject's rights. Data subjects have a right to:

- Know what personal data the school is keeping on them
- Request access to *any data* held about them by a data controller
- Prevent the processing of their data for direct-marketing purposes
- Ask to have inaccurate data amended
- Ask to have data erased once it is no longer necessary or irrelevant.

Sárú ar Shonraí Pearsanta/ Personal Data Breaches

All incidents in which personal data has been put at risk must be reported to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner within 72 hours.

E-mail: info@dataprotection.ie

Contact Numbers: 057 8684800 / 076 1104800 / 1890 252231

When the personal data breach is likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons, the BoM must communicate the personal data breach to the data subject without undue delay.

If a data processor becomes aware of a personal data breach, it must bring this to the attention of the data controller (Board of Management) without undue delay. Data processors should not investigate the matter themselves. Either the Chairperson or the Principal can be contacted as data controller representatives on the Board of Management.

Chairperson: Antóin Ó Laoire - 087 2862000

Principal: Caitríona Ní Riada - 024 93547 / 087 0905196

Déileáil le h-iarratas ar rochtain ar shonraí/ Dealing with a data access request

Individuals are entitled to a copy of their personal data on written request.

The individual is entitled to a copy of their personal data.

Request must be responded to within one month. An extension may be required e.g. over holiday periods.

No fee may be charged except in exceptional circumstances where the requests are repetitive or manifestly unfounded or excessive.

No personal data can be supplied relating to another individual apart from the data subject.

Eolas a Chur ar Fáil ar an nGuthán/ Providing Information Over the Phone

An employee dealing with telephone enquiries should be careful about disclosing any personal information held by the school over the phone. In particular, the employee should:

- Ask that the caller put their request in writing
- Refer the request to the Principal for assistance in difficult situations

- Not feel forced into disclosing personal information

Socraíthe, Ról & Freagrachtaí Maidir le Cur i bhFeidhm/ Implementation Arrangements, Roles & Responsibilities

The BoM is the data controller and the Principal implements the Data Protection Policy, ensuring that staff who handle or have access to *Personal Data* are familiar with their data protection responsibilities.

The following personnel have responsibility for implementing the Data Protection Policy:

Rialathóir Sonraí/Data Controller

Bord Bainistíochta Gaelscoil Choráin/ Board of Management of Gaelscoil Choráin

Cur i bhFeidhm an Pholasaí/ Implementation of Policy

Principal: Caitríona Ní Riada

Daingniú & Cumarsáid/ Ratification & Communication

Ratified at the BoM meeting on 10.12.2018 and signed by Chairperson. Secretary recorded the ratification in the Minutes of the meeting. Data Protection Policy uploaded on to school website and parents informed of same on 17.12.2018

Monatóireacht ar Cur i bhFeidhm an Pholasaí/ Monitoring the Implementation of the Policy

The implementation of the policy shall be monitored by the Principal, staff and the Board of Management of Gaelscoil Choráin.

Athbhreithniú & Measúnú an Pholasaí/ Reviewing & Evaluating the Policy

The policy will be reviewed and evaluated after 2 years. On-going review and evaluation will take cognisance of changing information or guidelines (e.g. from the Data Protection

Commissioner, Department of Education and Skills or TUSLA), legislation and feedback from parents/guardians, students, school staff and others. The policy will be revised as necessary in the light of such review and evaluation and within the framework of school planning

Daingnithe thar cheann an Bord Bainistíochta/ Ratified on behalf of the Board of Management

Síniú:

Dáta:

Antóin Ó Laoire
Cathaoirleach An Bhoird Bhainistíochta

10.12.2018

AGUISÍN/APPENDIX 1
TRÉIMHSE CHOINNEÁLA/RETENTION RECORD

Student Records	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
Registers/Roll books	Indefinitely	N/A	Indefinitely. Archive when class leaves + 2 years
State exam results	N/A	N/A	SEC responsibility to retain, not a requirement for school/ETB to retain.

Records relating to pupils/students	Primary	Confidential shredding	Comments
Enrolment Forms	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	18 is age of majority plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Student transfer forms (Applies from primary to primary; from one second-level school to another)	If a form is used- Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Disciplinary notes	Never destroy	N/A	Never destroy
Results of in-school tests/exams (i.e. end of term, end of year exams, assessment results)	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	18 is age of majority plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school).

End of term/year reports	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	18 is age of majority plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Records of school tours/trips, including permission slips, itinerary reports	Never destroy	N/A	Never destroy
Scholarship applications e.g. Gaeltacht, book rental scheme	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	18 is age of majority plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Garda vetting form & outcome - STUDENTS	N/A as primary schools pupils will not be undergoing vetting	Confidential shredding	Record of outcome retained for 12 months. School to retain the reference number and date of disclosure on file, which can be checked with An Garda Siochana in the future.

Sensitive Personal Data Students	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
Psychological assessments	Indefinitely	N/A - Never destroy	Never destroy
Special Education Needs' files, reviews, correspondence and Individual Education Plans	Indefinitely	N/A	Never destroy
Accident reports	Indefinitely	N/A	Never destroy
Child protection records	Indefinitely	N/A	Never destroy
Section 29 appeal records	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Enrolment/transfer forms where child is not enrolled or refused enrolment	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years	Confidential shredding	Student reaching 18 years + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Records of complaints made by parents/guardians	Depends entirely on the nature of the complaint.	Confidential shredding or N/A, depending on the nature of the records.	Depends entirely on the nature of the complaint. If it is child-safeguarding, a complaint relating to teacher-handling, or an accident, then retain

			<p>indefinitely. Never destroy. If it is a complaint of a more mundane nature (e.g. misspelling of child's name, parent not being contacted to be informed of parent-teacher meeting) or other minor matter, then student reaching 18 years + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim, and 1 year for proceedings to be served on school)</p>
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Staff Records	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
<p>Recruitment process Note: these suggested retention periods apply to unsuccessful candidates only. They do NOT apply to successful candidates, or candidates who are/were also employees already within your school applying for another post/position. For successful candidates, or candidates who are/were also employees already within your school applying for another post/position, see retention periods set out below.</p>	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
<p>Applications & CVs of candidates called for interview</p>	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.

Database of applications	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Selection criteria	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Applications of candidates not shortlisted	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Unsolicited applications for jobs	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Candidates shortlisted but unsuccessful at interview	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to

			inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Candidates shortlisted and are successful but do not accept offer	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Interview board marking scheme & board notes	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.
Panel recommendation by interview board	✓	Confidential shredding	18 months from close of competition: 12 months from close of competition plus 6 months for the Equality Tribunal to inform the school that a claim is being taken.

Staff personnel files (whilst in employment)	Primary	Final Disposition	Comments
e.g. applications, qualifications, references, recruitment, job specification, contract, Teaching Council registration, records of staff training etc.		Confidential shredding. Retain an anonymised sample for archival purposes.	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Application &/CV	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Qualifications	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
References	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1

			year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Interview: database of applications (the section which relates to the employee only)	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Selection criteria	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Interview board marking scheme & board notes	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Panel recommendation by interview board	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Recruitment medical	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6

			years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Job specification/description	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Contract/Conditions of employment	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Probation letters/forms	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
POR applications and correspondence (whether successful or not)	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)

Leave of absence applications		Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Job share	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Career Break	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Maternity leave	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
Paternity leave	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for 2 years following retirement/resignation or the duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in

			which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the greater).
Parental leave	✓	Confidential shredding	Must be kept for 8 years - Parental Leave Act 1998 Retain for 8 years or the duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the greater). There is a statutory requirement to retain for 8 years.
Force Majeure leave	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for 8 years or the duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the greater). There is a statutory requirement to retain for 8 years.
Carers leave	✓	Confidential shredding	Must be kept for 8 years - Carer's Leave Act 2001 Retain for 8 years or the duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the

			school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the greater). There is a statutory requirement to retain for 8 years
Working Time Act (attendance hours, holidays, breaks)	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school). There is a statutory requirement to retain for 3 years
Allegations/complaints	✓	ETB one doesn't have a time period advised	Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years to take a claim, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served). Please note the relevant DES Circular re Disciplinary Procedures in relation to the period of time for which a warning remains "active" on an employee's record.
Grievance and Disciplinary records	✓		Retain for duration of employment plus 7 years (6 years to take a claim, plus 1 year for proceedings to be

			served). Please note the relevant DES Circular re Disciplinary Procedures in relation to the period of time for which a warning remains “active” on an employee’s record.
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Occupational Health Records	Primary	Confidential Shredding	Comments
Sickness absence records/certificates	✓	Confidential shredding Or do not destroy.	Re sick leave scheme (1 in 4 rule) ref DES C/L 0060/2010 Retain for 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), unless sickness absence relates to an accident/ injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual’s duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy.
Pre-employment medical assessment	✓	Confidential shredding Or do not destroy?	Retain for 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), unless sickness absence relates to an

			accident/ injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual's duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy.
Occupational health referral	✓	Confidential shredding Or Do not destroy.	Retain for 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), unless sickness absence relates to an accident/ injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual's duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy.
Correspondence re retirement on ill-health grounds	✓	Confidential shredding Or Do not destroy.	Retain for 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), unless sickness absence relates to an accident/ injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual's duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy.

Accident/injury at work reports	✓	Confidential shredding	Retain for 10 years, or the duration of the employment plus 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), whichever is the greater (unless sickness absence relates to an accident/injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual's duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy).
Medical assessments or referrals	✓	Confidential shredding Or Do not destroy.	Retain for 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school), unless Medmark assessment relates to an accident/ injury/ incident sustained in relation to or in connection with the individual's duties within the school, in which case, do not destroy.
Sick leave records (sick benefit forms)	✓	Confidential shredding	In case of audit/refunds, Current year plus

			7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school)
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Superannuation /Pension /Retirement records	Primary	Final Disposition	Comments
Records of previous service (incl. correspondence with previous employers)	✓	N/A	DES advise that these should be kept indefinitely.
Pension calculation	✓	Confidential shredding	Duration of employment + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) or for the life of employee/former employee plus + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the longer)
Pension increases (notification to Co. Co.)	✓	Confidential shredding	Duration of employment + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to

			be served on the school) or for the life of employee/former employee plus + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the longer)
Salary forms	claim	✓	Confidential shredding Duration of employment + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) or for the life of employee/former employee plus + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim against the school, plus 1 year for proceedings to be served on the school) (whichever is the longer)

Government returns	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
Any returns which identify individual staff/pupils,		N/A	Depends upon the nature of the return. If it relates to pay/pension/benefits of staff, keep indefinitely as per DES guidelines. If it relates to information on students, e.g. October Returns, Annual Census etc., keep in line with "Student Records" guidelines above.

Board of Management Records	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
Board agenda and minutes	✓	N/A	Indefinitely. These should be stored securely on school property
School closure	✓		On school closure, records should be transferred as per Records Retention in the event of school closure/amalgamation . A decommissioning exercise should take place with respect to archiving and recording data.
Other school based reports/minutes	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
CCTV recordings	✓	Safe/secure deletion.	28 days in the normal course, but longer on a case-by-case basis e.g. where recordings/images are requested by An Garda Síochána as part of an investigation or where the records /images capture issues such as damage/vandalism to school property and where the images/recordings are retained to investigate those issues.
Principal's monthly report including staff absences	✓	N/A	Indefinitely. Administrative log and does not relate to any one employee in particular: the monthly reports are not structured, either by reference to

			individuals or by reference to criteria relating to individuals, in such a way that specific information relating to a particular individual is readily accessible. Not a “relevant filing system”.
Financial Records	Primary	Final disposition	Comments
Audited Accounts	✓	n/a	Indefinitely
Payroll and taxation	✓		Revenue Commissioners require that records be kept for at least six years after the end of the tax year. Records must be made available for inspection by authorised officers of the Revenue Commissioners or of the Dept. of Social Protection. Note: The DES requires of schools that “pay, taxation and related school personnel service records should be retained indefinitely within the school. These records can be kept either on a manual or computer system.
Invoices/back-up records/receipts	✓	✓	Retain for 7 years

Promotion process	Primary	Final Disposition	Comments
Posts of Responsibility	✓	N/A	Retain indefinitely on master file as it relates to pay/pension etc. (See DES guidelines)
Calculation of service	✓	N/A	Retain indefinitely on master file
Promotions/POR Board master files	✓	N/A	Retain indefinitely on master file
Promotions/POR Boards assessment report files	✓	N/A	Retain original on personnel file in line with retention periods in “Staff Records” retention guidelines above
POR appeal documents	✓	N/A	Retain original on personnel file, and copy of master & appeal file. Retain for duration of employment + 7 years (6 years in which to take a claim, plus 1 year to serve proceedings on school). Copy on master and appeal file.

Correspondence from candidates re feedback	✓	N/A	Depends upon nature of feedback. If feedback is from unsuccessful candidate who is not an employee within the school, keep in line with retention periods in “Staff Records” above. If feedback is from successful candidate or from unsuccessful candidate who is already an employee within the school, keep in line with “Staff personnel while in employment” above.
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