

Policy name:	Data Protection
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Version	Date	Control reason
Version 1	Re-written	To ensure the policy is up to date
Reviewed and updated	June 2016	Following external audit
New Policy incorporating GDPR regulations May 2018	June 2018	Incorporating GDPR regulations May 2018

Linked to other policies	Owner
Freedom of Information	AHO/DBL
Staff and Student Privacy Notices	AMO/DBL
Staff Code of Conduct	LBA

Aquinas College, through its policies and day to day work is committed to promoting equality and fairness. This applies to everyone, regardless of gender, racial or ethnic background, disability, religion, sexual orientation or age and embraces the College's legal responsibility. The persons/group responsible for this document reserve the right to amend this document at any time should the need arise. All appropriate staff will be informed should this occur.

AQUINAS COLLEGE DATA PROTECTION POLICY

1. Introduction

Aquinas College collect and use certain types of information relating to Data Subjects, (i.e employees, students and others), who come into contact with the College. This personal information must be collected and dealt with appropriately whether it is collected on paper, stored in a computer database, or recorded on other material to ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 as well as the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR).

2. Data Controller

Aquinas College is the Data Controller under the Act, which means that it determines what purpose personal information held, will be used for. It is also responsible for notifying the Information Commissioner of the data it holds or is likely to hold, and the general purpose that this data will be used for. The college's registration number is Z606211X.

3. Disclosure

Aquinas College may share data with other agencies such as the local authority and educational support providers.

The Data Subject will be made aware in most circumstances how and with whom their information will be shared. There are circumstances where the law allows College to disclose data (including sensitive personal data) without the data subject's consent.

These are:

- a) Carrying out a legal duty or as authorised by the Secretary of State
- b) Protecting vital interests of a Data Subject or other person
- c) The Data Subject has already made the information public
- d) Conducting any legal proceedings, obtaining legal advice or defending any legal rights
- e) Monitoring for equal opportunities purposes – i.e. race, disability or religion

Aquinas College regards the lawful and correct treatment of personal information as very important to successful working, and to maintaining the confidence of those with whom we deal.

Aquinas College intends to ensure that personal information is treated lawfully and correctly. To this end, the College will adhere to the Principles of Data Protection, as detailed in the Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR 2018. Specifically, the Principles require that personal information:

- a) Shall be processed fairly and lawfully and, in particular, shall not be processed unless specific conditions are met,**
- b) Shall be obtained only for one or more of the purposes specified in the Act, and shall not be processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes,**
- c) Shall be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to those purpose(s)**
- d) Shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date,**
- e) Shall not be kept for longer than is necessary**

f) Shall be processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects under the Act,

g) Shall be kept secure by the Data Controller who takes appropriate technical and other measures to prevent unauthorised or unlawful processing or accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, personal information,

h) Shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area unless that country or territory ensures an adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of the Data Subject in relation to the processing of personal information.

Aquinas College will, through appropriate management and strict application of criteria and controls:

- * Observe fully, conditions regarding the fair collection and use of information
- * Meet its legal obligations to specify the purposes for which information is used
- * Collect and process appropriate information, and only to the extent that it is needed to fulfil its operational needs or to comply with any legal requirements
- * Ensure the quality of information used
- * Ensure that the rights of people about whom information is held, can be fully exercised under the Act. These include:
 - * The right to be informed that processing is being undertaken,
 - * The right of access to one's personal information
 - * The right to prevent processing in certain circumstances and
 - * The right to correct, rectify, block or erase information which is regarded as incorrect
- * Take appropriate technical and organisational security measures to safeguard personal information
- * Ensure that personal information is not transferred abroad without suitable safeguards
- * Treat people justly and fairly whatever their age, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity when dealing with requests for information
- * Set out clear procedures for responding to requests for information.

4. Data collection

Informed consent is when

- * A Data Subject clearly understands why their information is needed, who it will be shared with, the possible consequences of them agreeing or refusing the proposed use of the data
- * And then gives their consent.

Aquinas College will ensure that data is collected within the boundaries defined in this policy. This applies to data that is collected in person, or by completing an electronic or paper form.

When collecting data, Aquinas College will ensure that the Data Subject:

- a) Clearly understands why the information is needed
- b) Understands what it will be used for and what the consequences are should the

Data Subject decide not to give consent to processing

c) As far as reasonably possible, grants explicit consent, either written or verbal for data to be processed

d) Is, as far as reasonably practicable, competent enough to give consent and has given so freely without any duress

e) Has received sufficient information on why their data is needed and how it will be used

Use of Biometric Information

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, includes measures that will affect schools and colleges that use biometric recognition systems, such as fingerprint identification and facial scanning:

* For all pupils in schools and colleges under 18, they must obtain the written consent of a parent before they take and process their child's biometric data.

* They must treat the data with appropriate care and must comply with data protection principles as set out in the Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR.

* They must provide alternative means for accessing services where a parent or pupil has refused consent.

5. Data Storage

Information and records relating to service users will be stored securely and will only be accessible to authorised staff and volunteers.

Information will be stored for only as long as it is needed or required statute and will be disposed of appropriately. It is the responsibility of Aquinas College to ensure all personal and company data is non-recoverable once deemed to be redundant.

This includes both paper-based copies as well as copies held on any computer system previously used within the organisation, which has been passed on/sold to a third party.

6. Data access and accuracy

All Data Subjects have the right to access the information Aquinas College holds about them. Aquinas College will also take reasonable steps ensure that this information is kept up to date by asking data subjects whether there have been any changes.

In addition, Aquinas College will ensure that:

* It has a Data Protection Officer with specific responsibility for ensuring compliance with Data Protection

* Everyone processing personal information understands that they are contractually responsible for following good data protection practice

* Everyone processing personal information is appropriately trained to do so

* Anybody wanting to make enquiries about handling personal information knows what to do

* It deals promptly and courteously with any enquiries about handling personal information

* It describes clearly how it handles personal information

* It will regularly review and audit the ways it holds, manages and uses personal information

* It regularly assesses and evaluates its methods and performance in relation to handling personal information

* All staff are aware that a breach of the rules and procedures identified in this policy may lead to disciplinary action being taken against them

This policy will be updated as necessary to reflect best practice in data management, security and control and to ensure compliance with any changes or amendments made to the Data Protection Act 1998 or GDPR 2018.

AHO/DBL