



Data Protection Breach & Non Compliance Procedure

All staff, governors and trustees must be aware of what to do in the event of a DPA / GDPR breach.

The 'Data Breach Flowchart' outlines the process.

The 'Data Breach Form' must be completed and updated as the process progresses.

Most breaches, aside from cyber criminal attacks, occur as a result of human error. They are not malicious in origin and if quickly reported are often manageable.

Everyone needs to understand that if a breach occurs it must be swiftly reported.

Examples of breaches are:-

- Information being posted to an incorrect address which results in an unintended recipient reading that information
- Loss of mobile or portable data device, unencrypted mobile phone, USB memory stick or similar
- Sending an email with personal data to the wrong person
- Dropping or leaving documents containing personal data in a public place
- Personal data being left unattended at a printer enabling unauthorised persons to read that information
- Not securing documents containing personal data (at home or work) when left unattended
- Anything that enables an unauthorised individual access to school buildings or computer systems
- Discussing personal data with someone not entitled to it, either by phone or in person. How can you be sure they are entitled to that information?
- Deliberately accessing, or attempting to access or use personal data beyond the requirements of an individual's job role e.g. for personal, commercial or political use. This action may constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act as well as the Data Protection Act.
- Opening a malicious email attachment or clicking on a link from an external or unfamiliar source, which leads to school's equipment (and subsequently its records) being subjected to a virus or malicious attack, which results in unauthorised access to, loss, destruction or damage to personal data.

What to do?

Being open about the possible breach and explaining what has been lost or potentially accessed is an important element of working with the ICO and to mitigate the impact. Covering up a breach is never acceptable and may be a criminal, civil or disciplinary matter.

Report the breach to the Data Controller, School Business Manager and Data Protection Officer as soon as possible, this is essential.

The breach notification form will be completed and the breach register updated.

