

Privacy Notices

Who does the Department for Education pass pupil data to?

The Department for Education (DfE) also passes pupil data to the following third party organisations, as the law allows. A brief description of the purposes the information is used for is set out below, along with web links if you want to know more about what they do and how to contact them.

The **Department of Health (DH)** uses anonymised information about pupils' height and weight collected in primary and middle schools as part of the National Child Measurement Programme to inform, influence and improve health policy. The Department of Health also provides aggregate PCT-level data to the Care Quality Commission for performance assessment of the health service.

Ofsted uses information about the progress and performance of pupils to help inspectors evaluate the work of schools, to assist schools in their self-evaluation, and as part of their assessment of the effectiveness of education initiatives and policy. Ofsted also uses information about the views of children and young people to inform children's services inspections in local authority (LA) areas. Inspection reports do not identify individual pupils. DfE will also provide Ofsted with pupil data for use in school inspection. Where relevant, pupil information may also be shared with post-16 learning institutions to minimise the administrative burden on application for a course and to aid the preparation of learning plans.

The Chief Executive of Skills Funding uses information about pupils aged 14 and over (or enrolling for post-14 qualifications) for statistical purposes in order to evaluate and develop education policy and monitor the performance of the education service as a whole. Further information on how this data is used may be found **Skills Funding Agency website**.

The Chief Executive of Skills Funding also administers the Learning Records Service (previously known as the Managing Information Across Partners Programme) which uses a minimum set of personal data to:

- issue and maintain a Unique Learner Number (ULN) for pupils of 14 years and over and for those registering for post-14 qualifications

- create and offer a Personal Learning Record (PLR)

- enable advice and guidance to be offered to the learner (for example, helping to choose the right course)

- facilitate the processing of qualification awards by approved awarding organisations.

Approved organisations (including other schools) will be allowed to access the limited set of personal data. More information on the Personal Learning Record, Unique Learner Number, Learner Plan and Qualification Credit Framework is available on the **Learning Records Service website**. This sharing of data reduces the need for learners having to supply the same information repeatedly to different organisations and significantly reduces the risk of inaccurate information being held about them.

Details of how an individual may opt-out of sharing achievement data in their Personal Learning Record with these organisations are also available from the Learning Records Service.

The **Qualifications and Curriculum Development Authority (QCDA)** uses information about pupils to administer the National Curriculum assessments portfolio throughout Key Stages 1 to 3. This includes both assessments required by statute and those that are optional. The results of these are passed on to DfE to compile statistics on trends and patterns in levels of achievement. The QCDA uses the information to evaluate the effectiveness of the National Curriculum and the associated assessment arrangements, and to ensure that these are continually improved.