

## DATA PROTECTION POLICY

*Designated Data Protection Officer: Ian Harris*

### Overview

Collecting and using personal information is vital for the operation of Venture Training as an educational organisation and the Company views the correct and lawful handling of data about individuals as key to its success.

The Venture Training is committed to complying with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the UK Data Protection Act 2018 which aims to make organisations fully accountable for the data that they process about individuals. This policy sets out the steps that the Company takes to demonstrate that it has robust and effective processes in place to protect individuals' data.

The policy applies to:

- Venture Training staff, Directors, contractors, consultants, trainee teachers, volunteers and third party agents;
- Students where they are College Apprentices or are working for the Venture Training in a paid or unpaid capacity.

### DETAILS

#### 1. Definitions

##### 1.1 Consent

Any freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the data subject's wishes by which he or she, by a statement or by a clear affirmative action, signifies agreement to the processing of personal data relating to him or her.

##### 1.2 Data

Any data which identifies a living individual (subject). There are two categories of data in relation to individuals:

**Personal data** is any data which could be used to identify a living individual e.g. name, contact details (address, telephone number, email address), date of birth, age, gender, bank details, next of kin, photographs, CCTV images, audio recordings.

**Special category personal data** (was known as sensitive data under the Data Protection Act 1998) is any data which an individual may not wish others to be aware of e.g. ethnicity/nationality, mental/physical health, criminal convictions, socio economic status, personal life (marital status, pregnancy/maternity, interests/hobbies), genetic/biometric profile\*, sexuality\*, faith/religion\*, membership of Trades Unions\*

Items marked \*may not be processed by Venture Training unless the student/employee gives their consent for this data to be processed for specific and lawful purposes. In most cases, the Venture Training has to process special category personal data to meet vital interests and legal obligations but will always seek explicit consent for processing.

### **1.3 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.

### **1.4 Data Controller**

A public authority, agency or other body which, alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data. Venture Training is the Data Controller in relation to the processing of data for Company purposes.

### **1.5 Data Processor**

A person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller e.g. a subcontractor.

### **1.6 Data subject**

An identified or identifiable, living person.

### **1.7 Processing**

Any activity in relation to personal data e.g. collection, storage, adaptation, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, erasure, destruction etc.

### **1.8 Pseudonymisation**

The processing of personal data in such a manner that the personal data can no longer be attributed to a specific data subject without the use of additional information e.g. use of an encryption code.

## **2. The Data Protection Principles**

The GDPR sets out six principles with which any party handling data about individuals must comply. The Regulation states that data shall be:

1. processed fairly, lawfully and transparently;
2. collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes;
3. adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary;
4. accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate...are erased or rectified without delay;
5. kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed;
6. processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage.

## **3. Lawful basis for processing data**

The GDPR imposes a requirement for organisations to determine a lawful basis for processing data to include at least one of the following criteria:

- Consent – where an individual has given their consent via clear, affirmative action e.g. providing a signature or ticking a box;
- Performance of a contract e.g. an employment contract, learning agreement etc;
- Legal obligations – because the law requires the data to be processed e.g. for the

purposes of HMRC payments;

- Vital interests – to protect the individual in the case of an emergency;
- Public interest or exercise of official authority e.g. provision of statistical returns, to comply with government funding requirements etc;
- Legitimate interests – does not apply to public authorities and the Company cannot therefore rely on this basis.

Venture Training has a Register of Processing Activities for staff and students which details the type of data which is processed, the lawful basis for processing, how the data is stored and who the data may be shared with/accessed by. The Company publishes a separate retention schedule which details how long data is retained for.

#### **4. Data Protection Standards**

Staff and any individuals officially appointed to work on behalf of Venture Training must abide by the principles outlined in this policy and the data protection charter. Specifically, they must ensure that:

- All personal data collected and processed for and on behalf of Venture Training by any party is collected and processed fairly and lawfully;
- Data subjects are made fully aware of the reasons for the collection of personal data and are given details of the purpose for which the data will be used;
- Personal data is only collected to the extent that is necessary to fulfil the stated purpose(s);
- All personal data is accurate at the time of collection; Venture Training must keep it accurate and up-to-date while it is being held and/or processed;
- No personal data is held for any longer than necessary in light of the stated purpose(s);
- All personal data is held in a safe and secure manner, taking all appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect the data;
- All personal data is transferred using secure means, electronically or otherwise;
- Data is not unnecessarily duplicated or distributed;
- Data protection risks will be considered and mitigated by carrying out a Data Protection Impact Assessment in certain circumstances (see section 7).
- No personal data is transferred outside of the UK or EEA (as appropriate) without first ensuring that appropriate safeguards are in place in the destination country or territory.

Venture Training shall ensure that the following measures are taken with respect to the processing of personal data:

- A designated data protection officer (DPO) within the Company holds the responsibility of overseeing data protection and ensuring compliance with the legislation. The DPO will be a qualified GDPR Practitioner.
- All staff and other parties working on behalf of Venture Training will be made fully aware of both their individual responsibilities and the College's statutory responsibilities and shall be either provided a copy of this policy or directed to a copy available on the Venture Training's website.
- All staff or other parties working on behalf of Venture Training who process personal data will be appropriately trained to do so. New staff will undertake training

in data protection when they commence employment and participate in refresher training at least every three years after that.

- All staff and other parties working on behalf of Venture Training who process personal data will be appropriately supervised.
- Methods of collecting, holding and processing personal data shall be regularly evaluated and reviewed and internal data audits carried out at least every three years.
- All staff or other parties working on behalf of Venture Training who process personal data will be bound to do so in accordance with data protection legislation and this Policy by contract. Failure by an employee to comply shall constitute a disciplinary offence. Failure by any contractor, agent, consultant, partner or other party to comply shall constitute a breach of contract. In all cases, failure to comply may also constitute a criminal offence under data protection legislation.
- All contractors, agents, consultants, partners or other parties working on behalf of Venture Training who process personal data must ensure that any and all of their employees who are involved in the processing of personal data are held to the same conditions as those relevant employees of Venture Training arising out of this Policy and data protection legislation. The Company will carry out due diligence on all external parties prior to engagement to seek assurances in respect of compliance with data protection legislation.
- Where any contractor, agent, consultant, partner or other party working on behalf of Venture Training fails in their obligations under this Policy that party shall indemnify and hold harmless Venture Training against any costs, liability, damages, loss, claims or proceedings which may arise out of that failure.
- Upon terminating service to Venture Training all employees, contractors, consultants, partners or other parties working on behalf of the Venture Training warrant that they have returned and destroyed all duplicate copies of any personal data they have held whilst undertaking activities on behalf of the Company and will not use, retain or transfer any such information collected whilst in the services of the Company.
- Upon terminating services to Venture Training all employees, contractors, consultants, partners or other parties working on behalf of the Company will have their work email account and access to the Company network terminated with immediate effect.
- A data subject must inform the Company in writing if they wish to exclude their personal data from particular data processing provisions contained within this Policy, being mindful that complete exclusion would result in the individual being unable to continue as an employee or student since the Company would be unable to carry out basic operations.

## **5. Processing Personal Data**

5.1 Venture Training collects and processes information for various purposes, including educational administration, funding, statistical research, health and safety, employment, training, career guidance, equality and disability policy monitoring, security and insurance reasons. The Company only holds personal data which is

directly relevant to its dealings with a given individual. Venture Training holds data in electronic and paper form; data will be held and processed in accordance with legislative requirements and with this policy. All information concerning individuals is treated in the strictest of confidence and will not be released unless the individual gives consent.

5.2 Student's personal data may be disclosed within Venture Training for administrative purposes. Personal data may be passed from one area to another in accordance with legislation and this policy. Under no circumstances will personal data be passed to any area or any individual within the Company that does not reasonably require access to that personal data with respect to the purpose(s) for which it was collected and is being processed.

5.3 Personal data shall also be used by Venture Training in meeting any and all relevant obligations imposed by law and for its own security, disciplinary or insurance reasons. The data will be used for administrative purposes as outlined above while the student is at College and after course completion for marketing purposes. Personal data shall not be passed to external parties without the student's agreement. The Venture Training appoints external and internal auditors who have access to student's personal data but this information is treated in the strictest of confidence.

5.4 Staff data is used by Venture Training to administer and facilitate efficient transactions with third parties including, but not limited to, its partners, associates, affiliates and government agencies and to efficiently manage its employees, contractors, agents and consultants.

5.5 Venture Training has certain statutory obligations under which it may be required to pass personal information relating to an individual to external agencies. Where possible the individual will be informed about these disclosures but in some cases it is not possible to do this. Personal data may be disclosed without an individual's permission in the case of protecting an individual's or others' vital interests, to support criminal investigations and in matters of national security.

5.7 Data release to parents, carers or guardians who are detailed on a student's records will normally be made without written consent of the student unless the student is aged 18 or over. Where students are aged 18 and over and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or where they do not have the capacity to make their own decisions, parents/carers and guardians who are authorised to act on behalf of the student may have access to the student's data without the student's consent. Parents, carers and guardians may have access to their child's learning and progress records through the Parent Portal. Staff must always check whether they are permitted to share information with a parent, carer or guardian.

## **6. Roles and responsibilities**

All individuals identified in the scope of this policy have a responsibility to work in accordance with the policy and legislative requirements and ensure that they have sufficient training and competence on data protection. However, the following roles have specific accountabilities:

#### Executive and Governors

- Ensures that adequate resources are available for the implementation of data protection policies and procedures;
- Champions data protection and models good practice.

#### Data Protection Officer (DPO)

- Informs and advises the College and its staff about obligations to comply with the GDPR and other data protection laws;
- Monitors compliance with the GDPR and other data protection laws, including managing internal data protection activities, advising on data protection impact assessments; training staff and conducting internal audits;
- Advises and guides on the application of policy and procedure;
- To be the first point of contact for the ICO and for individuals whose data is processed (employees, customers etc);
- Reporting data breaches to the ICO;
- Advising the Executive and Governors about their obligations under data protection legislation;
- Maintains and updates knowledge and expertise on data protection sufficient to effectively fulfil the role of DPO.

#### Head of IT

- Ensures that appropriate and adequate technical measures are in place to safeguard the security of data;

#### Head of HR

- Takes the lead on information processed with regard to staff and assures the security and integrity of personal data.

#### Assistant Principal/College Services Manager

- Takes the lead on information processed with regard to students. This includes examinations data, academic performance and disciplinary procedures;
- Arranges for the archiving of student data and the disposal of data at the expiry of the data retention period.
- Reporting data breaches to the ICO when the DPO is absent.

## **7. Data Protection Impact Assessments**

The purpose of a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is to consider and mitigate the risks associated with processing personal data. Venture Training will conduct a DPIA in all the following circumstances:

- When introducing new systems and processes
- When making changes to existing systems and processes which involves a higher level or risk for personal data
- When processing 'high risk' data e.g. about vulnerable individuals, those with criminal convictions etc.
- When introducing new technologies that involve personal data processing

A DPIA form will be completed by the member of staff responsible for the area/project and sent to the DPO. There must be a clear action plan to identify and address any issues with regard to data protection. These actions must be completed

and signed off by the respective Head of area/Senior person before any data processing is undertaken. The DPO will provide advice and guidance on carrying out DPIAs.

## **8. Data Privacy notices**

In all cases, Venture Training will publish data privacy notices (also known as fair processing notices) at each stage of processing to advise individuals:

- What data will be collected
- Why the Venture Training needs it
- The legal basis for processing the data
- Data Subject's rights
- Who will have access to the data
- How long the data will be retained for
- Contact Details for the DPO

## **9. Data breaches**

A breach of data is defined as a security incident that has adversely affected the confidentiality, integrity or availability of personal data. This could include:

- access by an unauthorised third party;
- deliberate or accidental action (or inaction) by a controller or processor;
- sending personal data to an incorrect recipient;
- computing devices containing personal data being lost or stolen;
- alteration of personal data without permission; and
- loss of availability of personal data.

Venture Training will comply with its statutory duty to report all data breaches to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) within 72 hours of becoming aware of the breach.

Staff must follow the Data Breach procedure in all such circumstances. Failure to notify the ICO about a breach could result in significant penalties i.e. a maximum fine of €20,000,000 or 4% of annual turnover.

## **10. Data Security**

All staff and any individuals working on behalf of the Venture Training must ensure the security of personal data by working in accordance with this policy and the data protection charter. A separate IT Security Procedure provides specific details about the measures taken by IT staff to protect the security of data.

## **11. Data Retention**

Venture Training undertakes to dispose of data upon expiry of the data's retention period. There

is a separate Data Retention and Archiving procedure in place which all staff need to comply with.

## **12. Subject Access Requests**

A data subject may make a subject access request (“SAR”) at any time in relation to the information which the College holds about them. Subjects must submit their request in writing to Data Protection Officer and will be required to validate their identity before any data is released. Responses will be provided within 20 calendar days. There is a separate Subject Access Request Procedure which provides details about the process. Authorised third parties who may make a Subject Access Request without the consent of the individual for the purposes of fulfilling a legal or public interest purpose e.g. investigating and preventing crime, must complete the relevant form. Staff must follow the Disclosure of Personal Data to third parties procedure in all such circumstances.

## **13. Complaints**

If individuals have any complaints about how the Company is protecting their data, they must submit the complaint to Data Protection Officer. If the complaint is not resolved to the individual’s satisfaction, they may refer the matter to the ICO:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45 [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

## **14. GDPR**

Article 5 of the GDPR requires that personal data shall be:

*“a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals; b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes; c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed; d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay; e) kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and f) processed in a manner that*

*ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.”*

**Venture training are as required are** *“responsible for, and be able to demonstrate, compliance with the principles.”* As a consequence the following is in place within the organisation:

- You must have a valid lawful basis in order to process personal data ([ico.org.uk](https://ico.org.uk)).
- Our privacy notice should include our lawful basis for processing as well as the purposes of the processing.
- If we are processing special category data we need to identify both a lawful basis for general processing and an additional condition for processing this type of data.
- If we are processing criminal conviction data or data about offences we need to identify both a lawful basis for general processing and an additional condition for processing this type of data.
- We have reviewed the purposes of our processing activities, and selected the most appropriate lawful basis (or bases) for each activity.
- We have checked that the processing is necessary for the relevant purpose, and are satisfied that there is no other reasonable way to achieve that purpose.
- We have documented our decision on which lawful basis applies to help us demonstrate compliance.
- We have included information about both the purposes of the processing and the lawful basis for the processing in our privacy notice.
- Where we process special category data, we have also identified a condition for processing special category data, and have documented this.
- Where we process criminal offence data, we have also identified a condition for processing this data, and have documented this.

## **Appendix A**

### Staff Guidelines for Data Protection

1. All staff will process data about students on a regular basis, when marking registers, or educational work, writing reports or references, or as part of a pastoral

or academic supervisory role. The College will ensure through registration procedures, that all students give their consent to this sort of processing, and are notified of the categories of processing, as required by the 1998 Act. The information that staff deal with on a day-to-day basis will be standard and will cover categories such as:-

- General personal details such as name and address
- Details about class attendance, course work marks and grades and associated comments
- Notes of personal supervision, including matters about behaviour and discipline

2. Information about a student's physical or mental health; sexual life; political or religious views; trade union membership or ethnicity or race is sensitive and can only be collected and processed with the student's consent. If staff need to record this information, they should use the Company standard form. e.g.: recording information about dietary needs, for religious or health reasons prior to taking students on a field trip; recording information that a student is pregnant, as part of pastoral duties.

3. All staff have a duty to make sure that they comply with the data protection principles, which are set out in the Company Data Protection Policy. In particular, staff must ensure that records are: -

- Accurate;
- Up-to-date;
- Fair;
- Kept and disposed of safely, and in accordance with the College policy

4. The College will designate staff as "authorised staff". These staff are the only staff authorised to hold or process data that is:-

- Not standard data; or
- Sensitive data.

The only exception to this will be if a non-authorized staff member is satisfied that the processing of the data is necessary:

- In the best interests of the student or staff member, or a third person, or the Company; AND

- He or she has either informed the authorised person of this, or has been unable to do so and processing is urgent and necessary in all the circumstances.

This should only happen in very limited circumstances. E.g A student is injured and unconscious, but in need of medical attention, and a staff tutor tells the hospital that the student is pregnant or a Jehovah's Witness.

5. Authorised staff will be responsible for ensuring that all data is kept securely. Staff working at home must observe the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. No information, either in hard copy or on computer disk may be taken off site without authorisation from your manager.

6. A breach or failure to observe these requirements will be a disciplinary offence.

7. Staff must not disclose personal data to any student, unless for normal academic or pastoral purposes, without authorisation or agreement from the data controller, or in line with the Company policy.

8. Staff shall not disclose personal data to any other staff member except with the authorisation or agreement of the designated data controller, or in line with Company policy.

9. Before processing any personal data, all staff should consider the checklist.

#### Staff Checklist for Recording Data

- Do you really need to record the information?
- Is the information “standard” or is it “sensitive”?
- If it is sensitive, do you have the data subject’s express consent?
- Has the student been told that this type of data will be processed?
- Are you authorised to collect / store / process the data?
- If yes, have you checked with the data subject that the data is accurate?
- Are you sure that the data is secure?
- If you do not have the data subject’s consent to process, are you satisfied that it is in the best interest of the student or the staff member to collect and retain the data?
- Have you reported the fact of data collection to the authorised person within the required time?

## Appendix B

### Standard Request Form for Access to Data

I, ..... [insert name]

wish to have access to either [delete as necessary]

1. All the data that the College currently has about me, either as part of an automated system or part of a relevant filing system; or
2. Data that the College has about me in the following categories:-

Academic marks or course work details

Academic or employment references

Disciplinary records

Health and medical matters

Political, religious or trade union information

Any statements of opinion about my abilities or performance

Personal details including name, address, date of birth etc

Other information, please state;

.....

.....

[Please delete as appropriate]

I understand that I will have to pay a fee of £10.00

Signed: .....

Dated: .....