Data Protection
Data Breach Procedure

Last reviewed: August 2023

This document applies to all academies and operations of the Vale Academy Trust. www.vale-academy.org

Document Control			
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Owner	Data Protection Officer	Approver	Board
Category	Public	Type	Global

This procedure complies with guidance on personal data breaches produced by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

- On finding or causing a data breach, or potential breach, the staff member or data processor must immediately telephone the Data Protection Officer (DPO) below. **DO NOT RELY ON EMAIL**. Any relevant physical material, such as printed material or memory sticks, must be taken immediately to the school/Trust office with an instruction to put them under lock and key until they are contacted by the DPO.
    - **DPO: Vicky Roberts: Tel 07387 019785**
    - **email: InformationTeam@vale-academy.org**
- Should the DPO be unavailable, ask the Headteacher or CEO to nominate a member of staff to manage this procedure and undertake the DPO actions until the DPO becomes available
- The DPO will investigate the report, and determine whether a breach has occurred. To decide, the DPO will consider whether personal data has been accidentally or unlawfully:
    - Lost
    - Stolen
    - Destroyed
    - Altered
    - Disclosed or made available where it should not have been
    - Made available to unauthorised people
- All staff and governors/trustees will cooperate with the investigation (including allowing access to information and responding to questions). The investigation will not be treated as a disciplinary investigation
- The DPO will ensure that, as appropriate, the relevant headteacher and LGB chair, or the CEO and the Chair of the Board of Directors, are informed
- The DPO will make all reasonable efforts to contain and minimise the impact of the breach, assisted by relevant staff members or data processors where necessary.
- The DPO will assess the potential consequences, based on how serious they are, and how likely they are to happen
- The DPO will work out whether the breach must be reported to the ICO using the ICOs self assessment tool. This must be judged on a case-by-case basis. To decide, the DPO will consider whether the breach is likely to negatively affect people's rights and freedoms, and cause them any physical, material or non-material damage (e.g. emotional distress), including through:
    - Loss of control over their data
    - Discrimination
    - Identify theft or fraud
    - Financial loss
    - Unauthorised reversal of pseudonymisation (for example, key-coding)
    - Damage to reputation
    - Loss of confidentiality
    - Any other significant economic or social disadvantage to the individual(s) concerned

  If it's likely that there will be a risk to people's rights and freedoms, the DPO must notify the ICO.
- The DPO will document the decision (either way), in case it is challenged at a later date by the ICO or an individual affected by the breach.

- Where the ICO must be notified, the DPO will do this via the 'report a breach' page of the ICO website within 72 hours. As required, the DPO will set out:
    - A description of the nature of the personal data breach including, where possible:
        - The categories and approximate number of individuals concerned
        - The categories and approximate number of personal data records concerned
    - The name and contact details of the DPO
    - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach
    - A description of the measures that have been, or will be taken, to deal with the breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned
- If all the above details are not yet known, the DPO will report as much as they can within 72 hours. The report will explain that there is a delay, the reasons why, and when the DPO expects to have further information. The DPO will submit the remaining information as soon as possible
- The DPO will also assess the risk to individuals, again based on the severity and likelihood of potential or actual impact. If the risk is high, the DPO will promptly inform, in writing, all individuals whose personal data has been breached. This notification will set out:
    - The name and contact details of the DPO
    - A description of the likely consequences of the personal data breach
    - A description of the measures that have been, or will be, taken to deal with the data breach and mitigate any possible adverse effects on the individual(s) concerned
- The DPO will notify any relevant third parties who can help mitigate the loss to individuals – for example, the police, insurers, banks or credit card companies
- The DPO will document each breach, irrespective of whether it is reported to the ICO. For each breach, this record will include the:
    - Facts and cause
    - Effects
    - Action taken to contain it and ensure it does not happen again (such as establishing more robust processes or providing further training for individuals)

  Records of all breaches will be stored
- The DPO and relevant headteacher or Trust executive will meet to review what happened and how it can be stopped from happening again. This meeting will happen as soon as reasonably possible

Actions to minimise the impact of data breaches

We will take the actions set out below to mitigate the impact of different types of data breach, focusing especially on breaches involving particularly risky or sensitive information. We will review the effectiveness of these actions and amend them as necessary after any data breach.

Sensitive information being disclosed via email (including safeguarding records)

- If special category data (sensitive information) is accidentally made available via email to unauthorised individuals, the sender must attempt to recall the email as soon as they become aware of the error
- Members of staff who receive personal data sent in error must alert the sender and the DPO as soon as they become aware of the error
- If the sender is unavailable or cannot recall the email for any reason, the DPO will ask the ICT department to recall it
- In any cases where the recall is unsuccessful, the DPO will contact the relevant unauthorised individuals who received the email, explain that the information was sent in error, and request

that those individuals delete the information and do not share, publish, save or replicate it in any way

- The DPO will try to ensure we receive a written response from all the individuals who received the data, confirming that they have complied with this request
- The DPO will carry out an internet search to check that the information has not been made public; if it has, we will contact the publisher/website owner or administrator to request that the information is removed from their website and deleted

END