

Proposed amendments to Individual Pupil Information Prescribed Persons Regulations

Consultation Response Form

The closing date for this consultation is: 18 December
2012

Your comments must reach us by that date.



Department
for Education

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

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Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.

Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable)

[REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED]

If you have a query relating to the policy content of the consultation you can contact the Department by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Department's '[Contact Us](#)' page.

If you have a query relating to the consultation process you can contact the Public Communications Unit on:

Telephone: 0370 0002288

e-mail: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk

Please mark an 'X' in the box that best describes you as a respondent.

<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Head teacher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/> Pupil/Student
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Union	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Sector/Not-for-profit Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher/HEI	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Organisation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify:

1 Do you agree with the proposal to widen the purposes for which data from the National Pupil Database can be shared? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments: Sharing this database with businesses would be immoral altogether! This contains very sensitive information and under no circumstances should it be shared with the commercial sector who has definitively not the best of interest of children at heart, rather are concerned with, you guessed it, making profit! Therefore, we could potentially have cases where particular groups of children & young people, already particularly vulnerable, will be targeted by scrupulous businesses.

Equally, the media should not have access to those data. I am particularly concerned with individual pupils data being shared: how could this ever be justified as "benefiting children"?

I can only assume that the Department for Education is only concerned in making money by selling our children's data, as are already doing other government's departments such as the DVLA, Home Office, Justice etc.. But selling children's data, you should be ashamed of yourself!!!

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments: any organisation answering positively here knows that there is a potential to make money in future. This database has been in full existence for 10 years and still, we see a widening gap in educational attainment, proving that collecting data, and sharing it for research, is not useful in any way! Rather, there should be a REAL commitment to equality.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments: None, merely making vulnerable children & young people more vulnerable and helping businesses getting wealthier (and the Department for Education more corrupt?)

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments: I think I have made my point clear; however, I would be very grateful if this could be taken into consideration, rather than just dismissed. It seems that lately, consultation is just a "tick in the box" exercise and voices aren't heard in the slightest. I am confident that you will be just and fair and will see that this is in no way in the best interest of our children (I am sure that if you widened your consultation to them – and if parents were more aware of this consultation, you would receive an overwhelming "NO").

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments: The consultation itself was easy to respond to, however, this should be promoted to parents, children & young people through schools. After all, they are the ones concerned! Even on your website, consultations are not easy to find so I doubt that it meets equality requirements.

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply ✓

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Yes

✓No

All DfE public consultations are required to meet the Cabinet Office Principles on Consultation

The key Consultation Principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and consult with those who are affected (**parents & children are actively engaged in this consultation?**)
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy; and
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

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Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.

Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable) Salisbury Diocese

Address:

[REDACTED]

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify: [REDACTED] Board of Education, Salisbury Diocese with 196 Church of England Schools, 42,000 children and young people, across 6 LA areas

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments: To enable the Diocesan Board access to the school level data for us to carry out our duties as the statutory authority ultimately responsible for standards and quality of education delivered.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments: To monitor each of our schools and academies, observe trends, and use this data in our regular interactions with headteachers and governors, trustees and parish representatives. To target resources at those schools and academies where there is the greatest need to focus upon standards and work alongside leadership teams to bring extra help, advice and support to achieve improvements.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments: At present the only way we can access this data is by asking each of 196 schools if they will share this data. By making it available via Raise on line we can analyse better how each school is performing and see how we compare with other dioceses and LA statistics.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments: We are very pleased to see this being proposed especially as we have been asking for this access for over 5 years.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments: All OK

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply X

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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Organisation (if applicable)

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<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher/HEI	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Organisation
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Please Specify:
[REDACTED] –Anglican Derby Diocese

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments:

Any organisation that is formally recognised as having responsibility for the effectiveness of a school should be granted access to the data for that school so that they can fulfil their role effectively.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

The information would help to:

- set priorities for school improvement activity and facilitate early intervention
- benchmark achievement across the organisation and nationally
- identify good practice to be shared with others
- identify potential school-school support
- ensure that all pupils and groups of pupils receive the education to which they are entitled

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

With access to the same information a wider range of partners (e.g. Local Authority, Diocese, Academy trust...) can act more collaboratively on agreed priorities.

Underperformance is less likely to "slip through the net" if a greater number of the authorised organisations with responsibility for the school have access to the data.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

No

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

On online form may have been more helpful. Putting an X in the box of this form was not automatic.

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Yes

No

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Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable)

Gloucester Diocese

Address:

[REDACTED]

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<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher/HEI	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Organisation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify:

Representing the Diocese of Gloucester Board of Education

1 Do you agree with the proposal to widen the purposes for which data from the National Pupil Database can be shared? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments:

Any body with responsibility for the effectiveness of its schools should be granted access to the data that enables them to fulfil their role. Without access to the data it is not easily possible to monitor standards and effectiveness of schools and ensure that all young people are getting the best possible education/

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

To monitor the performance of Church of England schools in the Diocese so that appropriate and timely support could be given to schools to help them to raise standards. It would help the Diocese to target resources effectively.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

It would allow all those responsible for schools (in this new educational landscape) to be held fully accountable for performance

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

Accessible and easy to complete

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Please acknowledge this reply x

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X Yes

 No

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Reason for confidentiality:

Name [REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable) Lancaster Catholic Diocese
Address: [REDACTED]

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments: Dioceses are increasingly being held accountable for standards in their schools but do not have the necessary information to scrutinise this in an effective manner. We work with three Local Authorities and despite requests for access to Raise on Line this has not been forthcoming in any of them. It is very time consuming to phone schools requesting a copy of their RoL report. Given the move towards Dioceses becoming sponsors of academies it is essential that we have direct access to this information.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

Regular scrutiny of RoL to determine trends in school attainment and achievement over a three year period. This would alert us to the potential need for intervention before being inspected and possibly being placed in a category.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

This would enable Diocese to become more effective in monitoring standards in their schools. We can then act as a broker on behalf of the school to find suitable school improvement support.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

This is long overdue.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

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Please acknowledge this reply X

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X Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable) Chester Diocesan Board of Education

Address:

[REDACTED]

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments:

Organisations which may be seen as accountable for standards in schools should have access to the data about those schools. This is the case for Church of England Schools.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

The data would highlight schools requiring additional support and also schools able to be approached to provide support.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

It would provide accurate up-to-date information without us having to rely on individual schools or local authorities to release it to us.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

The information should be made available as soon as possible.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

Reasonable and appropriate questions, easy to understand and complete.

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Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable) wavehill

Address:

[REDACTED]

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Please mark an 'X' in the box that best describes you as a respondent.

<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Head teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/> Pupil/Student
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Union	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary Sector/Not-for-profit Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Researcher/HEI	<input type="checkbox"/> Government Organisation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify: social research – school surveys – see WoW travel to school evaluation survey for an example

1 Do you agree with the proposal to widen the purposes for which data from the National Pupil Database can be shared? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments: more on weight / height / social data

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments: analysis of data for evaluation purposes at project and programme level

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments: better data > better evaluations > better decisions on what works = better use of public funds

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments: yes easy – but the word form is awful.

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

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Yes

No

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Proposed amendments to Individual Pupil Information Prescribed Persons Regulations

Consultation Response Form

The closing date for this consultation is: 18 December
2012

Your comments must reach us by that date.



Department
for Education

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify:

Also a Doctoral Researcher in Computer Security.

1 Do you agree with the proposal to widen the purposes for which data from the National Pupil Database can be shared? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments:

There is no meaningful way for parents or students to opt out of the collection of this data, and many people are not aware of its existence. The people about whom data is currently being collected cannot be said to have given informed consent. To widen yet further, and de-anonymise, the data is a breach of trust, especially from a government which claimed to be opposed to the database state. The sale on the open market of this data set is effectively the re-invention of contact point.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

N/A

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

N/A

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

The proposed purposes, in section 7.1, amount to selling a dataset collected about children on the open market ("advice or applications useful to families" and "market for services underpinned by the data" amount to "sale to anyone with the money"). This is simply unacceptable, and represents the DfE failing to learn the lessons of ContactPoint.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

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Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.

Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable) Gloucestershire Virtual School

Address:

[REDACTED]

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Please Specify: Targeted Intervention Co-ordinator for the Virtual School for Children in Care in Gloucestershire. With responsibility for data analysis and evaluation.

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Comments: Currently it is very difficult to access accurate information about pupil cohorts and specific attainment/issues. Access to these records will allow local authorities to allocate resources more appropriately and effectively for their young people and so improve outcomes.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments: Using information on different cohort groups including Children Looked After, will allow us to make more accurate predictions on outcomes and enable us to allocate resources effectively and efficiently in order to have the most impact. This will allow our interventions budget to be used in a more effective way and allow more young people to achieve their potential.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments: Widening the purpose will allow local authorities to share in research opportunities and make the use of data more effective. It will also allow different local authorities to advise on effective strategies with more comprehensive data and allow a better and more efficient allocation of resources and prediction.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments: I feel that allowing local authorities to access this data in more detail will result in real advances in attainment across the pupil cohort.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments: The consultation was easy to find, the questions seemed appropriate and of an appropriate number. It was also straightforward to complete.

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Reason for confidentiality:

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable) Brighton & Hove City Council

Address:

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Please Specify:

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Comments:

We agree but only if access to this resource is equally available to those of us working in Children's Services in Local Authorities.

2 How could you or your organisation potentially use the data?

Comments:

To provide better data for schools and children services, thus enabling them to allocate resources effectively for those children most in need.

3 What do you see as the benefits of widening the purposes for which data can be shared?

Comments:

The more transparent the data the more organisations, parents and professionals are able to hold those responsible for outcomes to account, positively challenge and better inform.

4 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation document?

Comments:

None.

5 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

Comments:

We would prefer to do this as a web form.

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