



# Your information

Why the Welsh Government needs it and what we do with it

# Your information

The Welsh Government gets information from schools and local authorities.

## Schools and local authorities collect information, such as:

- how many learners are in each school
- attendance records
- exam results
- test results
- what young people choose to do after they're 16
- how many children are educated somewhere other than school.

## Schools and local authorities also collect personal information, such as:

- your name
- your address
- your date of birth
- the names of your parents or carers.

It helps people know who you are and what you need.

# A new law

There are rules on how to keep information safe and how it's shared. These rules are in **The Data Protection Act 1998**.

In 2018, there will be a new law called the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**. It gives you more control over your information.

It makes sure anyone collecting information has to:

- be honest about why they want it
- be clear about what they will do with it.

**So, this booklet tells you about why we need your information and what we do with it.**



# What information do we get?

The Welsh Government has to be given information from schools and local authorities. It's the law.

## Information with personal details



The information we get about you includes:

- personal details like your name, address, date of birth
- your attendance records and any actions taken to deal with problems
- any extra support you need to help you learn
- any support you get from social services
- your school tests and exam results.

This information helps us know who you are and what you need.



We also get information that is grouped together and becomes **information without your personal details.**

This information includes you but you're not named. It's just numbers.

With this information, no one knows who you are.

Information in numbers gives us a quick and easy way to see how schools in Wales are doing. We get numbers showing how many learners:

- pass exams and their grades
- need extra help
- get free school meals
- come from different backgrounds
- come from other countries.

### For example:

In 2016, 60% of pupils in Year 11 got grade A\*-C in English or Welsh first language and Mathematics.

# What are we doing with your information?

We use information in different ways.

## We study it



We study information without your personal details.

It helps us:

- check that all schools and other education settings are working well
- improve education systems
- make better decisions
- check that money is being used in the best ways
- make new policies and plan for the future.

## We publish it



We publish information without your personal details.

We publish information so people can see how well schools and education are doing in Wales.

- We put statistics on our [website](#).
- We have data tables on [StatsWales](#).
- We make sure there's information on the [My Local School](#) website.
- We have lists on [wales.gov.uk/statistics](https://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics).



## We share it

**When we share your information, we make sure it's kept safe and we follow the rules set out in law.**



We only share information with personal details with organisations listed in the regulations. The list has organisations like:

- a new school
- Careers Wales so you get the right training for work.



We also share information without personal details. We share it with organisations that we've asked to study it for us. They do this:

- for a reason like helping us plan for the future
- following the rules
- for a set time
- then they must destroy the information.

## We keep it



We keep information with your personal details until your 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.



We keep other information without your personal details to study for as long as we need to.

## Your rights



You have the right to:

- see any personal information we have about you
- ask us to change any information that you think is wrong
- ask us to not share your information, but not when we need to get you support or keep you safe
- ask us to remove information from our systems.

**You can complain if you think we're not respecting your rights.**

There's an Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to help.



# More information

Thanks for reading this.

If you want to know more, then contact:

**Welsh Government**  
**Cathays Park**  
**Cardiff**  
**CF10 3NQ**

e-mail: [Data.ProtectionOfficer@gov.wales](mailto:Data.ProtectionOfficer@gov.wales)

You can also contact:

**Information Commissioner's Office**  
**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow**  
**Cheshire**  
**SK9 5AF**

Tel: **01625 545 745** or **0303 123 1113**

[ico.org.uk](http://ico.org.uk)

