Privacy Notice Children in Care (and the Virtual School)

This notice, in conjunction with Wokingham Borough Councils overarching privacy statement, explains when as a service we collect personal information, what we use your data for, who has access, who we share it with, and what your rights are.

Who are we?

Here4U Children and Young People's team (and the Virtual School)
People Services
Wokingham Borough Council,
46 Church Road,
Woodley,
Berkshire,
RG5 4QL

What is the lawful basis for processing the information?

The lawful basis for processing your information is for the performance of a public task, is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation, and in some circumstances in the vital interests of an individual and by you providing consent to use the service, as specified by the following legislation and guidance:

- Care Act 2014
- Childrens Act 2006
- Childrens Act 2016
- SEND Code of Practice (Childrens Act)
- Leaving Care Act 2000
- The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010
- The Education Act 2002
- Promoting the education of children looked after 2018
- Employment Law Act 2018
- Adoption Act 2004
- Children's Homes Regulations The Children's Homes (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2018

 The National Minimum Standards (N.M.S.) together with Regulations relevant to the placement of children in foster care such as the Fostering Services (England) Regulations 2011

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- Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014
- Statutory Guidance on Adoption July 2013
- The Adoption and Care planning (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2014
- Children Missing in Education
- The role and responsibilities of the designated teacher for looked after children - Statutory guidance for school governing bodies 2018

How do we collect information from you?

Information is collected from you as the service user via online web forms, hard copy documents, e-mail, by telephone or through face-to-face discussion. This information will be collected from either you directly as the data subject, or from a representative acting on your behalf, e.g. a parent providing details for a child to be signed up to the service.

We may also receive information from partner agencies: Health, Education, Police, Adult services, Housing, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Drug & alcohol services, and Placements (residential, fostering).

What type of information is collected from you?

The service collects and processes a range of information about you. The information is provided to enable the Children and Young People's team to carry out its duty and functions, provide you with a service, and continue to make service improvements. We will only collect information from you that is relevant to the circumstances in which we are working with you.

We will collect the following information: Surname of child, Forename of child, Date of birth, Gender, Languages spoken, Parents/carers/legal guardian first name, Parents/carers/legal guardian surname, Address, Postcode, Phone numbers, and E-mail. Sibling(s)/step/legal first name, Sibling(s)/step/legal surname, Medical, Educational outcomes (Personal Education Plans, Educational Health Care Plans), Young carer details, Bank details for foster carers/looked after children/care leavers/special guardianships. NHS Number, Birth Certificate, Passport, Adult Services (Mental Health, Disability), Housing (tenancy agreements, rent arrears, eviction notices, housing list), National Insurance Number, DWP (benefits application, sanctions), Police record (offences, criminal record), Probation (Pre-Sentencing Report), and Remand/Custody details such as prison number.

We may also need to collect information relating to the sibling of the individual such as Sibling(s) date of birth, gender, address, contact telephone number, email, languages spoken, ethnicity.

You will be informed of any other data we collect, that is not listed above, orally or through email at the time of collection of the data.

How do we use the information you have provided?

All information provided is used by Wokingham Borough Council for the purposes of:

- Enables us to support these children and monitor their progress
- Provide them with pastoral care
- Assess performance, set targets and improve services
- Evaluate and improve our policies on children's social care
- Respond to general enquiries and other matters

Who has access to the information about you?

Your information is managed by staff employed in the Here4U Children and Young People's team. Your information may also be shared with officers in People Services for assistance with these matters. All personal data is stored securely; we have in place security measures which are intended to ensure, as far as possible, the security and integrity of all personally identifiable information.

Your data is stored securely on our systems (Mosaic) and accessed only by authorised officers of Wokingham Borough Council by using their own Username and Password all created inline with pre-defined user credentials. Personal data is also held in electronic files on the Councils network drives. These are only accessible through personal logon credentials and access privileges to specific drives.

Unfortunately, the transmission of information via the internet is not completely secure. Although we will do our best to protect your personal data, we cannot guarantee the security of your data transmitted to our sites, any transmission is at your own risk. Once we have received your information, we will use strict procedures and security features to try to prevent unauthorised access, and any exchanges of information carried out once we are in receipt of your data will be done securely.

Any personal data held in paper format is held in lockable filing storage, and accessed only by authorised officers, as is data held on audio or CD/DVD media. Data may be stored in paper form and is always secured in lockable cabinets when not in use. Access to Council sites is also secure requiring a personal electronic pass (lanyard) to access staff only areas.

Who we may share your information with?

When contacting the Here4U Children and Young People's team to gain access to services, your information will be shared with other Council staff to the extent required to provide you with the service you have requested. The Council may share your information with Department for Education, National Health Service (NHS), GP, Talking Therapies, Therapeutic Services, CAMHS, Schools, Courts, Police, Adopt Thames Valley, Welfare Call, E-pep, National Consortium of Examination Results (NCER), IFA Consortia Board, Residential units, Secure units, Local Safeguarding Children Board, Children Services Improvement Board, Independent Reviewing Officers, Community Mental Health Team, Corporate Parenting Board, Other Local Authorities, Youth Offending Serivce, Drug and Alcohol Service, Emergency Duty team, Home Office, Embassies, Fire and Rescue Services, Childrens Centres, Passport Office, Registry Office, Berkshire Women's Aid and Smart.

Your information may also be shared with statutory bodies for the purposes of inspection, including Ofsted, The Care Quality Commission, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation.

There may be other organisations not named on the above list, to which we may refer you to, we will always inform you about the referral and the information shared with that organisation.

Where the Council engages third parties to process personal data on its behalf, they do so on the basis of written instructions, are under a duty of confidentiality, and are obliged to implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of data.

To ensure that information is continued to be held securely and that accuracy is maintained, there will also be instances where our system suppliers will need to access individuals personal information. This will be on a strict need to know basis and all contracts have confidentiality clauses built in.

The Council will not transfer your information to countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA) unless this is necessary, and only to countries which have sufficient safeguards in place to protect information.

Information will be shared internally if required for better performance and efficiency of Council services and the welfare of individuals.

Wokingham Borough Council may also share personal information with the police and other local authorities under Article 23 of the General Data Protection Regulations in order to prevent or detect crime.

How long do we store your information?

The duration that the Council will hold information, and what happens at the end of that period, are as described within the Councils corporate retention schedule available on our website: www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/information-and-data-protection/privacy-statement

Does the service utilise automated decision-making?

The Here4U Children and Young People's services does not utilise automated decision-making in the services that it provides.