

Data Retention Protocol

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This protocol should be read in conjunction with the School's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice.



Data Retention Protocol

This table has been adapted from general advice from the ISBA.

Except where there is a specific statutory obligation to destroy records, it is misleading to treat these suggestions as prescriptive time 'limits'. Figures given are not intended as a substitute to exercise of thought and judgment; specific advice, depending on the circumstances, may be appropriate. Where any doubt exists, advice should be sought from the Chief Operating Officer or relevant SLT member. Advice in this area is regularly updated and in individual cases it may be appropriate to take specific legal advice.

Type of Record/Document	Retention Period
EMAILS ON SERVER Pupil email account	Delete upon leaving school, or within one year.
Pupil email accountStaff emails	Routine deletion of historic emails after 2-3 years and delete account within 1 year of leaving school.
2. SCHOOL-SPECIFIC RECORDS	
Registration documents of School	Permanent (or until closure of the school)
Attendance Register	6 years from last date of entry, then archive.
Minutes of Governors' meetings	6 years from date of meeting
Annual curriculum	From end of year: 3 years (or 1 year for other class records: e.g., marks / timetables / assignments)



3. INDIVIDUAL PUPIL RECORDS	N.B. these records will contain personal data.
Admissions: application forms, assessments, records of decisions	25 years from date of birth (or up to 7 years from the pupil leaving). If unsuccessful: up to 1 year ¹ .
Student immigration records	Duration of student sponsorship plus min. 1 year
Examination results (external or internal)	7 years from pupil leaving school.
 Pupil file including: Pupil reports and performance records 	ALL: 25 years from date of birth (subject where relevant to any material that may be relevant to potential historic claims: see below).
- Pupil medical records (<i>not</i> accidents)	potential motorio dialino. dee polowy.
Special educational needs records	Date of birth plus up to 35 years (risk assessed)
4. SAFEGUARDING	
Policies, procedures and insurance	Keep a permanent record of historic policies.
DBS disclosure certificates (if held)	No longer than 6 months from decision on recruitment, unless police specifically consulted. A record of the checks being made must be kept on SCR / personnel file, but not the certificate itself.
Accident / Incident reporting	Keep on record for as long as any living victim may bring a claim (NB civil claim limitation periods can be set aside in cases of abuse). Ideally, files to be reviewed from time to time if resources allow and a suitably qualified person is available. ²
Child Protection files	If a referral has been made / social care have been involved / child has been subject of a multi-agency plan; or if any risk of future claim(s): indefinitely. ²



Video recordings of meetings	Where any one-on-one meetings of classes, counselling, or application interviews are recorded (e.g., for safeguarding purposes), a shorter-term retention policy is acceptable based on the DSL's view of how quickly a concern will likely be raised: e.g., 3-6 months or immediately upon DSL review.
5. CORPORATE RECORDS	e.g., OSEL
Certificates of Incorporation	Permanent (or until dissolution of the company)
Minutes, Notes and Resolutions of Boards or Management Meetings	Minimum – 10 years
Shareholder resolutions	Minimum – 10 years
Register of Members/Shareholders	Permanent (minimum 10 years for ex members/shareholders)
Annual reports	Minimum – 6 years
6. ACCOUNTING RECORDS	
Accounting records (normally taken to mean records which enable a company's accurate financial position to be ascertained & which give a true and fair view of the company's financial state)	Minimum – 3 years for private UK companies (except where still necessary for tax returns) Minimum – 6 years for UK charities (and public companies) from the end of the financial year in which the transaction took place.
Tax returns	Minimum – 6 years
VAT returns	Minimum – 6 years

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Budget and Internal financial reports	Minimum – 3 years
 7. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS Signed or final/concluded agreements (plus any signed or final/concluded variations or amendments) Deeds (or contracts under seal) 	Minimum – 7 years from completion of contractual obligations or term of agreement, whichever is the later Minimum – 13 years from completion of contractual obligation or term of agreement
8. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RECORDS	
Formal documents of title (trademark or registered design certificates; patent or utility model certificates)	Permanent (in the case of any right which can be permanently extended, e.g., trademarks); otherwise, expiry of right plus minimum of 7 years.
Assignments of intellectual property to or from the school	As above in relation to contracts (7 years) or, where applicable, deeds (13 years).
IP / IT agreements (including software licenses and ancillary agreements e.g., maintenance; storage; development; coexistence agreements; consents)	Minimum – 7 years from completion of contractual obligation concerned or term of agreement
9. EMPLOYEE / PERSONNEL RECORDS	NB these records will contain personal data.
Single Central Record of employees	Keep a permanent record that mandatory checks have been undertaken.
Contracts of employment	7 years from effective date of end of contract



•	Employee appraisals or reviews	Duration of employment plus minimum of 7 years
•	Staff personnel file	As above, but <u>do not delete any information</u> which may be relevant to historic safeguarding <u>claims.</u>
•	Payroll, salary, maternity pay records.	Minimum – 6 years
•	Pension or other benefit schedule records	Potentially permanent (i.e., lifetimes of those involved), depending on nature of scheme.
•	Job application and interview/rejection records (unsuccessful applicants)	Minimum 3 months but no more than 1 year (as CVs will rapidly be out of date)
•	Staff immigration records (Right to work, etc.)	Minimum – 2 years from end of employment
•	Tier 2 migrant worker sponsor records	Minimum – 1 year from end of employment
•	Health records relating to employees.	7 years from end of employment
•	Records of low-level concerns about adults	At least until end of employment (as recommended by KCSIE), then subject to review for relevance: e.g., 7 years from end of employment if they have ongoing relevance for employment claims, longer if necessary for safeguarding purposes / claims.
10	. INSURANCE RECORDS Insurance policies	Duration of policy (or as required by policy) plus a period for any run-off arrangement and coverage of insured risks: ideally, until it is possible to calculate that no living person could make a claim.



•	Correspondence related to claims/ renewals/ notification re: insurance	Minimum – 7 years (but this will depend on what the policy covers and whether e.g., historic claims may still be made – refer to COO)
	. ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH &	
•	Maintenance logs	10 years from date of last entry
•	Accidents to children ⁴	25 years from birth (longer for safeguarding)
•	Accident at work records (staff) 4	Minimum – 4 years from date of accident, but review case-by-case where possible
•	Staff use of hazardous substances	Minimum – 7 years from end of date of use
•	Covid-19 risk assessments, consents etc.	Retain for now legal paperwork (consents, notices, risk assessments) but not individual test results.
•	Risk assessments (carried out in respect of above) ^{4.}	7 years from completion of relevant project, incident, event or activity.
•	Art.30 GDPR records of processing activity, data breach records, impact assessments	No limit (as long as no personal data held), but must be kept up-to-date, accurate and relevant.

Be aware that latent injuries can take years to manifest, and the limitation period for claims reflects this. Therefore, keep a note of all procedures as they were at the time, plus a record that they were followed, and relevant insurance documents.