



Collecting Attendance and Personal Characteristics Data from Schools - Effective from September 2020

The Welsh Government collect a wide range of data about you on an annual basis, and this is explained in more detail in [main privacy notice](#)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and schools having to adapt to new ways of working, the Welsh Government need to be able to collect attendance data more frequently than once a year. Collecting up to date information will support the Welsh Government and provide the evidence required to understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on attendance and how the Welsh Government can support schools.

How frequently is the Welsh Government collecting this data?

The Welsh Government will keep the frequency of collection under regular review. Initially the data will be collected every week, but the Welsh Government may need to collect the data more regularly.

For which pupils is the Welsh Government collecting data?

The Welsh Government is collecting data for every pupil in a maintained school as of September 2020.

What information is the Welsh Government collecting?

The Welsh Government is collecting the following information about you every week:

- UPN
- Forename
- Middle name(s)
- Surname
- Gender
- DOB
- Home postcode
- Ethnic background
- Eligibility for free school meals
- Additional learning needs
- English as an additional language
- Attendance code for each half day session in that week

Why is the Welsh Government collecting this information?

This information is needed as a key part of our response and planning during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The data will be collected every week to ensure the latest data is available to inform the Welsh Government's response. The data will be used for statistical and research purposes only.

How will the Welsh Government use this information?

The Welsh Government will use the data in the same ways that we have listed in our [main privacy notice](#).

Will the Welsh Government be sharing the data?

The Welsh Government may share this information with those organisations listed in the [main privacy notice](#).

How long will the Welsh Government keep the information about you?

The Welsh Government will keep the data that identifies you until you are 25 years old.

What is the legal basis for collecting this data?

Section 538 of the Education Act 1996 provides the legal basis for collecting this data. This requires schools to make such reports and returns, and give such information, to Welsh Ministers as they may require for their functions in relation to education.

Your rights under the GDPR

Your rights are explained in full in the [main privacy notice](#).