

Records Retention Schedule (Maintained Schools) Summer 2024

Introduction

Please note that this schedule is based on the retention schedule contained within the Information Record Management Society (IRMS) Toolkit for schools. The full document can be viewed at: <https://irms.org.uk/page/SchoolsToolkit>. However, in order to download a customisable version, you need to be a member of the IRMS. Howe Dell have been using the guidance provided by IRMS previously and are now using the version from the GDPR Toolkit.

Under the Accountability and Transparency principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018), schools are required to set and publish retention periods for the personal data they hold. In addition, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, schools should maintain a Retention Schedule listing the series of records which the school creates or maintains in the course of its business.

This Retention Schedule lays down the length of time for which the record may need to be retained and the action which should be taken when it is of no further administrative or legal use. Schools are expected to manage their current record keeping systems using a Retention Schedule and to take account of the different kinds of retention periods when creating new record keeping systems. This will ensure that information is not being stored and processed unnecessarily.

This Retention Schedule contains recommended retention periods for the different record series created and maintained by schools in the course of their business. It refers to series of records regardless of the media in/on which they are stored (e.g. paper/electronic/microfilm/photographic etc.). Where appropriate the Retention Schedule should be reviewed on a regular basis and amended to include any new record series created, and any obsolete record series removed.

Some of the retention periods are governed by statute, others are suggested guidelines based on best practice. Every effort has been made to ensure that these retention periods are compliant with the requirements of Data Protection and Freedom of Information legislation. However, please bear in mind that depending on which electronic systems are being used (e.g. for MIS), it may not always be technically possible to carry out some of the data deletion or minimisation in bulk, as required by the schedule. You may sometimes decide that some types of records need to be kept for longer or shorter periods than laid out in this document. If so, then the justification for this (e.g. for operational purposes or business needs) should be documented.

Staff should be aware that once a Freedom of Information request is received, or a legal hold imposed, then records disposal relating to the request or legal hold must be stopped. Records which may be required by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) should be treated as though they are subject to a legal hold.

Where there is a recommendation to archive the information this may be in an electronic format. There is no need to convert the information into a hard copy. Such records should be kept in separate electronic folder suitably marked as holding archival material.

Schools should also refer to the guidance given by their Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) regarding retention of safeguarding records. Hertfordshire schools can find this information here: https://www.thegrid.org.uk/info/welfare/child_protection/policy/local.shtml#pupilsafe

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1. Governing Body

1.1. Management of Governing Body					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
1.1.1	Instruments of government		For the life of the school	Consult local archives before disposal	
1.1.2	Trusts and endowments		For the life of the school	Consult local archives before disposal	
1.1.3	Records relating to the election of parent and staff governors not appointed by the governors		Date of election + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.4	Records relating to the appointment of co-opted governors		Provided that the decision has been recorded in the minutes, the records relating to the appointment can be destroyed once the co-opted governor has finished their term of office, except where there have been allegations concerning children. In this case retain for 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.5	Records relating to the election of chair and vice chair		Once the decision has been recorded in the minutes, the records relating to the election can be destroyed	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.6	Scheme of delegation and terms of reference for committees		Until superseded or whilst relevant <i>[Schools may wish to retain these records for reference purposes in case decisions need to be justified]</i>	These could be offered to the archives if appropriate	
1.1.7	Meetings schedule		Current year	STANDARD DISPOSAL	
1.1.8	Agendas – principal copy	The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013	Where possible the agenda should be stored with the principal set of the minutes	Consult local archives before disposal	Potential

1.1. Management of Governing Body					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
1.1.9	Minutes – principal set (signed)	As 1.1.8	Although generally kept for the life of the organisation, the Local Authority is only required to make these available for 10 years from the date of the meeting.	Consult local archives before disposal	Potential
1.1.10	Reports made to the governors' meeting which are referred to in the minutes	As 1.1.8	Although generally kept for the life of the organisation, the Local Authority is only required to make these available for 10 years from the date of the meeting	Consult local archives before disposal	Potential
1.1.11	Register of attendance at Full governing board meetings	As 1.1.8	Date of last meeting in the book + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.12	Agendas – additional copies		Date of meeting	STANDARD DISPOSAL	
1.1.13	Records relating to Governor Monitoring Visits		Date of the visit + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.14	Annual Reports required by the DoE	Education (Governors' Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002	Date of report + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
1.1.15	All records relating to the conversion of schools to Academy status		For the life of the organisation	Consult local archives before disposal	
1.1.16	Records relating to complaints made to and investigated by the governing body or head teacher		Major complaints: current year + 6 years. If negligence involved then: current year + 15 years. If child protection or safeguarding issues are involved then: current year + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.1.17	Correspondence sent and received by the governing body or head teacher		General correspondence should be retained for current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential

1.1. Management of Governing Body					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
1.1.18	Action plans created and administered by the governing body		Until superseded or whilst relevant	SECURE DISPOSAL	
1.1.19	Policy documents created and administered by the governing body		Until superseded <i>[The school should consider keeping all policies relating to safeguarding, child protection or other pupil related issues such as exclusion until the IICSA has issued its recommendations.]</i>		

1.2. Governor Management					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
1.2.1	Records relating to the appointment of a clerk to the governing body		Date on which clerk appointment ceases + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.2.2	Records relating to the terms of office of serving governors, including evidence of appointment		Date appointment ceases + 6 years		Yes
1.2.3	Records relating to governor declaration against disqualification criteria		Date appointment ceases + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.2.4	Register of business interests		Date appointment ceases + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.2.5	Governors Code of Conduct		This is expected to be a dynamic document; one copy of each version should be kept for the life of the organisation		
1.2.6	Records relating to the training required and received by governors		Date governor steps down + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.2.7	Records relating to the induction programme for new governors		Date appointment ceases + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

1.2. Governor Management					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
1.2.8	Records relating to DBS checks carried out on clerk and members of the governing body		Date of DBS check + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
1.2.9	Governor personnel files		Date appointment ceases + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2. Management of the School

2.1. Head Teacher and Senior Management Team					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.1.1	Log books of activity in the school maintained by the Head Teacher		Date of last entry in the book + minimum of 6 years, then review	Could be of permanent historical value and should be offered to the County Archives Service if appropriate	Potential
2.1.2	Minutes of Senior Management Team meetings and the meetings of other internal administrative bodies		Date of the meeting + 3 years then review annually, or as required if not destroyed	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential
2.1.3	Reports created by the Head Teacher or the Management Team		Date of the report + a minimum of 3 years then review annually or as required if not destroyed	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential
2.1.4	Records created by head teachers, deputy head teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities which do not fall under any other category		Current academic year + 6 years then review annually, or as required if not destroyed	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential
2.1.5	Correspondence created by head teachers, deputy head teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential

2.1. Head Teacher and Senior Management Team					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.1.6	Professional development plans		These should be held on the individual's personnel record. If not then termination of employment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential
2.1.7	School development plans		Life of the plan+ 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	

2.2. Operational Administration					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.2.1	General file series which do not fit under any other category		Current year + 5 years, then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential
2.2.2	Records relating to the creation and publication of the school brochure or prospectus		Current academic year + 3 years	The school could preserve a copy for their archive otherwise STANDARD DISPOSAL	
2.2.3	Records relating to the creation and distribution of circulars to staff, parents or pupils		Current academic year + 1 year	STANDARD DISPOSAL	
2.2.4	School Privacy Notice which is sent to parents as part of GDPR compliance		Until superseded + 6 years		
2.2.5	Consents relating to school activities as part of GDPR compliance (for example, consent to be sent circulars or mailings)		Consent will last whilst the pupil attends the school, it can therefore be destroyed when the pupil leaves	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.2.6	Newsletters and other items with a short operational use		Current academic year + 1 year <i>[Schools may decide to archive one copy]</i>	STANDARD DISPOSAL	
2.2.7	Visitor management systems (including electronic systems, visitors books and signing-in sheets)		Last entry in the visitors' book + 6 years (in case of claims by parents or pupils about various actions).	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.2.8	Walking bus registers		Date of register + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.3. Human Resources					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Recruitment					
2.3.1	All records leading up to the appointment of a head teacher		Unsuccessful: date of appointment plus 6 months. Successful: add to personnel file and retain until end of appointment + 6 years, except in cases of negligence or claims of child abuse then at least 15 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.2	All records leading up to the appointment of a member of staff/governor – unsuccessful candidates		Store unsuccessful candidate details separately to those successful. Date of interview/rejection + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.3	Pre-employment vetting information – excluding DBS Checks – successful candidates	DBS Update Service Employer Guide June 2014; Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 (Statutory Guidance from DoE) Sections 73, 74 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/handling-of-dbs-certificate-information/handling-of-dbs-certificate-information	Application forms, references and other documents – for the duration of the employee’s employment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.4	Pre-employment DBS Checks – successful candidates		Do not store DBS Certificate. Note of check date and outcome of check retained separately. Record of trace recorded on risk assessment and saved in personnel file – for the duration of employment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.5	Pre-employment vetting information – Evidence proving the right to work in the United Kingdom – successful candidates	An Employer’s Guide to Right to Work Checks [Home Office, January 2019] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checks-employers-guide	Where possible these documents should be added to the staff personnel file [see 2.3.6]	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.3. Human Resources					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Operational Staff Management					
2.3.6	Staff personnel file	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Termination of Employment + 6 years, unless the member of staff is part of any case which falls under the terms of reference of IICSA. If this is the case then the file will need to be retained until IICSA enquiries are complete	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.7	Annual appraisal/assessment records		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.8	Sickness absence monitoring		Sickness records are categorised as sensitive data. There is a legal obligation under statutory sickness pay to keep records for sickness monitoring. Retain on the personnel file [see 2.3.6]	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.9	Staff training – where the training leads to continuing professional development		Length of time required by the professional body	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.10	Staff training – except where dealing with children, e.g. first aid or health and safety		This should be retained on the personnel file [see 2.3.6]	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.11	Staff training – where the training relates to children (e.g. safeguarding or other child related training)		Date of the training + 40 years <i>[This retention period reflects that the IICSA may wish to see training records as part of an investigation]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.3. Human Resources					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Disciplinary and Grievance Processes					
2.3.12	Records relating to any allegation of a child protection nature against a member of staff	Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges September 2018 Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children 2018	Until the person's normal retirement age or 10 years from the date of the allegation (whichever is the longer) then REVIEW. Note: allegations that are found to be malicious should be removed from personnel files. If found they are to be kept on the file and a copy provided to the person concerned UNLESS the member of staff is part of any case which falls under the terms of reference of IICSA. If this is the case then the file will need to be retained until IICSA enquiries are complete	SECURE DISPOSAL These records must be shredded	Yes
2.3.13	Disciplinary proceedings				Yes
2.3.14	Oral warning		Date of warning + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL [When a warning expires, give consideration whether to retain this on the personnel file, but they are not live for the purposes of further sanction]	
2.3.15	Written warning – level 1		Date of warning + 6 months		
2.3.16	Written warning – level 2		Date of warning + 12 months		
2.3.17	Final warning		Date of warning + 18 months		
Payroll and Pensions					
2.3.18	Absence record		Retain on the personnel file [see 2.3.6]	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.19	Batches	Taxes Management Act 1970 Income and Corporation Taxes 1988	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.20	Bonus sheets	As 2.3.19	Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.21	Car allowance claims	As 2.3.19	Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.3. Human Resources					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.3.22	Car loans	As 2.3.19	Completion of loan + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.23	Car mileage output	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.24	Elements		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.25	Income tax form P60		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.26	Insurance	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.27	Maternity payment		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.28	Members allowance register	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.29	National Insurance – schedule of payments	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.30	Overtime	As 2.3.19	Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.31	Part time fee claims	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.32	Pay packet receipt by employee		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.33	Payroll awards		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.34	Payroll – gross/net weekly or monthly	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.35	Payroll reports	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.36	Payslips – copies	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.37	Pension payroll	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.38	Personal bank details	If employment ceases then end of employment + 6 years	Until superseded + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.39	Sickness records		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.40	Staff returns		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.3. Human Resources					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.3.41	Superannuation adjustments	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.42	Superannuation reports	As 2.3.19	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.43	Tax forms P6/P11/ P11D/P35/P45/P46/ P48	The minimum requirement – as stated in Inland Revenue Booklet 490 – is for at least 3 years after the end of the tax year to which they apply. Originals must be retained in paper/ electronic format. It is a corporate decision to retain for current year + 6 years. Employees should retain records for 22 months after current tax year	Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.3.44	Time sheets/clock cards/flexitime		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.4. Health and Safety					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.4.1	Health and safety policy statements		Life of policy + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.4.2	Health and safety risk assessments		Life of risk assessment + 3 years provided that a copy of the risk assessment is stored with the accident report if an incident has occurred	SECURE DISPOSAL	

2.4. Health and Safety

	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.4.3	Accident reporting records relating to individuals who are over 18 years of age at the time of the incident	<p>Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979 Regulation 25. Social Security Administration Act 1992 Section 8. Limitation Act 1980</p> <p>Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979. SI 1979 No 628</p> <p>Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations SI 1987 No 1968 Revokes all but Part 1 of SI 1979 No 628</p> <p>Social Security Administration Act 1992 Section 8.</p> <p>Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment (No 30 Regulations 1993 SI 1993 No 2113</p> <p>Allows the information to be kept electronically</p>	The Accident Book BI 510 – 3 years after last entry in the book This includes the new format to be used from 1/1/04 This means that, if it takes 5 years to complete, the book must be retained for a further 3 years from the last entry Completed pages must be kept secure with restricted access. Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.4.4	Accident reporting records relating to individuals who are under 18 years of age at the time of the incident	As 2.4.3	The Accident Book BI 510 – 3 years after last entry in the book This includes the new format to be used from 1/1/04 This means that, if it takes 5 years to complete, the book must be retained for a further 3 years from the last entry Completed pages must be kept secure with restricted access. Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.4.5	Records relating to any reportable death, injury, disease or dangerous occurrence (RIDDOR). For more information see http://www.hse.gov.uk/RIDDOR/	Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 SI 2013 No 1471 Regulation 12(2)	Date of incident + 3 years provided that all records relating to the incident are held on personnel file [see 2.3.6]	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.4. Health and Safety					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
2.4.6	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002. SI 2002 No 2677 Regulation 11; Records kept under the 1994 and 1999 Regulations to be kept as if the 2002 Regulations had not been made. Regulation 18 (2)	Date of incident + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.4.7	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with asbestos	Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012 SI 1012 No 632 Regulation 19	Last action + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.4.8	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with radiation. Maintenance records or controls, safety features and PPE	The Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017. SI 2017 No 1075 Regulation 11 As amended by SI 2018 No 390 Personal Protective Equipment (Enforcement) Regulations 2018	2 years from the date on which the examination was made and that the record includes the condition of the equipment at the time of the examination	SECURE DISPOSAL	
	Dose assessment and recording		To keep the records made and maintained (or a copy of these records) until the person to whom the record relates has or would have attained the age of 75 years, but in any event for at least 30 years from when the record was made		
2.4.9	Fire Precautions log books		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.4.10	Health and safety file to show current state of building, including all alterations (wiring, plumbing, building works, etc.), to be passed on in the case of change of ownership		Pass to new owner on sale or transfer of building		

2.5. Financial Management					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Risk Management and Insurance					
2.5.1	Employer's Liability Insurance Certificate		Closure of the school + 40 years [May be kept electronically]	SECURE DISPOSAL	
Asset Management					
2.5.2	Inventories of furniture and equipment		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.3	Burglary, theft and vandalism report forms		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
Accounts and Statements (including budget management)					
2.5.4	Annual accounts		Current year + 6 years	STANDARD DISPOSAL	
2.5.5	Loans and grants managed by the school		Date of last payment on the loan + 12 years then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.6	All records relating to the creation and management of budgets, including the annual budget statement and background papers		Life of the budget + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.7	Invoices, receipts, order books and requisitions, delivery notices		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.8	Records relating to the collection and banking of monies		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.9	Records relating to the identification and collection of debt		Final payment of debt + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
Pupil Finance					
2.5.10	Student Grant applications		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.5.11	Pupil Premium Fund records		Date pupil leaves the provision + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.5. Financial Management					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Contract Management					
2.5.12	All records relating to the management of contracts under seal	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 12 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.13	All records relating to the management of contracts under signature	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.14	Records relating to the monitoring of contracts		Life of contract + 6 or 12 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
School Fund					
2.5.15	School Fund – Cheque books		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.16	School Fund – Paying in books		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.17	School Fund – Ledger		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.18	School Fund – Invoices		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.19	School Fund – Receipts		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.20	School Fund – Bank statements		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.5.21	School Fund – Journey Books		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
School Meals Management					
2.5.22	Free school meals registers (where the register is used as a basis for funding)		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.5.23	School meals registers		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
2.5.24	School meals summary sheets		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

2.6. Property Management					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Property Management					
2.6.1	Title deeds of properties belonging to the school		These should follow the property unless the property has been registered with the Land Registry		
2.6.2	Plans of property belonging to the school		These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed on to any new owners if the building is leased or sold. See 2.4.10		
2.6.3	Leases of property leased by or to the school		Expiry of lease + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.6.4	Records relating to the letting of school premises		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
Maintenance					
2.6.5	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by contractors		These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed on to any new owners if the building is leased or sold. See 2.4.10	SECURE DISPOSAL	
2.6.6	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by school employees, including maintenance log books		These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed on to any new owners if the building is leased or sold. See 2.4.10	SECURE DISPOSAL	

3. Pupil Management

3.1. Admissions Process					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
3.1.1	All records relating to the creation and implementation of the School Admissions Policy	School Admissions Code Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Life of the policy + 3 years then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	
3.1.2	Admissions – if the admission is successful	As 3.1.1	Date of admission + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
3.1.3	Admissions – if the appeal is unsuccessful	As 3.1.1	Resolution of case + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
3.1.4	Register of Admissions	As 3.1.1	Every entry in the admission register must be preserved for a period of three years after the date on which the entry was made	School may wish to consider keeping the admission register permanently as an archive record (as often schools receive enquiries from past pupils to confirm the dates they attended the school) or to transfer these records to the appropriate County Archives Service	
3.1.5	Proofs of address supplied by parents as part of the admissions process	As 3.1.1	Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
3.1.6	Supplementary information form including additional information such as religion, medical conditions etc.				Yes
	For successful admissions		This information should be added to the pupil file	SECURE DISPOSAL	
	For unsuccessful admissions		Until appeals process completed	SECURE DISPOSAL	

3.2. Pupil's Educational Record					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
3.2.1	Pupil's Educational Record required by The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005	The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 SI 2005 No. 1437 As amended by SI 2018 No. 688	The educational record (including safeguarding files) should follow the pupil when he/she leaves the primary school. This will include: To another primary school To a secondary school To a pupil referral unit	Where information is stored in MIS or other software, use tools and guidance as provided by software provider to selectively delete information <i>[Consider how you can justify retaining a record with minimal personal information, as proof of their attendance at your school]</i>	Yes
	Primary		Retain until the child transfers. <i>[Consider retaining data relating to internal assessments, behaviour and detailed attendance data for 1 year to allow for a period of 'handover' to next institution (and then 3 to 5 years for trend analysis, if anonymised)]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	
	Secondary	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years	REVIEW	
3.2.2	Examination Results – pupil copies				Yes
	Public		This information should be added to the pupil file	All uncollected certificates should be returned to the examination board after reasonable attempts to contact the pupil have failed	
	Internal		This information should be added to the pupil file		

3.2. Pupil's Educational Record					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
3.2.3	Child protection information held on pupil file	Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges 2018; Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children 2018	If any records relating to child protection issues are placed on the pupil file, it should be in a sealed envelope and then retained for the same period of time as the pupil file. <i>[Note: These records will be subject to any instruction given by IICSA]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL These records must be shredded	Yes
3.2.4	Child protection information held in separate files	As 3.2.3	DOB of the child + 25 years then review. This retention period was agreed in consultation with the Safeguarding Children Group on the understanding that the principal copy of this information will be found on the Local Authority Social Services record. <i>[Note: These records will be subject to any instruction given by IICSA]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL These records must be shredded	Yes

3.3. Attendance					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
3.3.1	Attendance Registers	School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014	Every entry in the attendance register must be preserved for a period of 3 years after the date on which the entry was made.	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
3.3.2	Correspondence relating to any absence (authorised or unauthorised)	Education Act 1996 Section 7	Current academic year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Potential

3.4. Special Educational Needs					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
3.4.1	Special Educational Needs files, reviews and Education, Health and Care Plan, including advice and information provided to parents regarding educational needs and accessibility strategy	Children and Family's Act 2014; Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 14	Date of birth of the pupil + 31 years <i>[Education, Health and Care Plan is valid until the individual reaches the age of 25 years – the retention period adds an additional 6 years from the end of the plan in line with the Limitation Act]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

4. Curriculum and Extra Curricular Activities

4.1. Statistics and Management Information					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
4.1.1	Curriculum returns		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	No
4.1.2	Examination Results (school's copy)		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.1.3	SATS records				Yes
	Results		The SATS results should be recorded on the pupil's educational file and will therefore be retained until the pupil reaches the age of 25 years. <i>[The school may wish to keep a composite record of all of the whole year's SATs results. These could be kept for current year + 6 years to allow suitable comparison]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	
	Examination Papers		The examination papers should be kept until any appeals/validation process is complete	SECURE DISPOSAL	
4.1.4	Published Admission Number (PAN) Reports		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.1.5	Value Added and Contextual Data		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

4.1. Statistics and Management Information					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
4.1.6	Self-Evaluation Forms			SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
	Internal moderation		Academic year + 1 academic year	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
	External moderation		Until superseded	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

4.2. Implementation of Curriculum					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
4.2.1	Schemes of work		Current year + 1 year	It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period or SECURE DISPOSAL	
4.2.2	Timetable		Current year + 1 year		
4.2.3	Class record books		Current year + 1 year		
4.2.4	Mark books		Current year + 1 year		
4.2.5	Record of homework set		Current year + 1 year		
4.2.6	Pupil's work		Where possible, the pupil's work should be returned to the pupil at the end of the academic year. <i>[If this is not the school's policy then current year + 1 year]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	

4.3. School Trips					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
4.3.1	Parental consent forms for school trips where there has been no major incident		<i>[Although the consent forms could be retained for Date of birth + 22 years, the school may wish to complete a risk assessment to assess whether the forms are likely to be required and make a decision to dispose of the consent forms at the end of the trip (or at the end of the academic year). If in doubt the school should seek legal advice]</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.3.2	Parental permission slips for school trips – where there has been a major incident	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of birth of the pupil involved in the incident + 25 years The permission slips for all the pupils on the trip need to be retained to show that the rules had been followed for all pupils	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

4.4. School Support Organisations

	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Family Liaison Officers and Home School Liaison Assistants					
4.4.1	Day books		Current year + 2 years then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.4.2	Reports for outside agencies – where the report has been included on the case file created by the outside agency		Whilst child is attending school and then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.4.3	Referral forms		While the referral is current	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.4.4	Contact data sheets		Current year then review, if contact is no longer active then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.4.5	Contact database entries		Current year then review, if contact is no longer active then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
4.4.6	Group registers		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes

4.4. School Support Organisations					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
Parent Teacher Associations and Old Pupils Associations					
4.4.7	Records relating to the creation and management of Parent Teacher Associations and/or Old Pupils Associations		Current year + 6 years then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	

5. Central Government and Local Authority

5.1. Local Authority					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
5.1.1	Secondary Transfer Sheets (primary)		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
5.1.2	Attendance returns		Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
5.1.3	School census returns		Current year + 5 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
5.1.4	Circulars and other information sent from the local authority		Operational use	SECURE DISPOSAL	

5.2. Central Government					
	Basic file description	Statutory Provisions	Recommended Retention Period	Action for disposal	Personal Info
5.2.1	Secondary Transfer Sheets (primary)		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	Yes
5.2.2	OFSTED reports and papers where a physical copy is held		Life of the report then review	SECURE DISPOSAL	
5.2.3	Returns made to central government		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL	
5.2.4	Circulars and other information sent from central government		Operational use	SECURE DISPOSAL	