



Eastern Region of Parent Carer Forums DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY POLICY

We, the Eastern Region of Parent Carer Forums (ERPCF), want everyone who attends events or becomes a Regional representative to understand and feel comfortable about how any information that you share with us will be looked after and used. This Privacy Policy explains the various ways we collect information and how we use and store it.

Who we are.

The ERPCF is a mutually supportive group comprising the eleven Parent Carer Forums across the East of England. Each individual Forum represents the views and experiences of families in order to influence the improvement of services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (and their families) in their area.

We are a “data controller” for the purposes of the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 and The Data Protection Act 1998. This means that we are responsible for deciding what personal information we need to collect from you, how we store it and how we will use it.

We hope that the information set out in this document will give you a better understanding of what we do with your data but if you have any questions please contact: Sylvia Jenkins, Secretary ERPCF, by email at secretary.erpcf@gmail.com.

Our Privacy Promise

We promise to:

- Keep your data safe, private and confidential.
- Not to sell your data
- Not to share with third parties without your specific permission

How we collect information about you

We collect information about you so that we can make sure we can contact and inform you in the most appropriate way and tailor the information and events we offer so that they continue to meet the needs of our member forums.

We collect information in various ways

- When you register by email to attend an event or meeting.
- When you email ERPCF to ask us a question, request information, provide us with information or make a complaint.



- If you volunteer to be a Regional representative.

Information we collect and why we use it.

The personal information we collect about you includes details such as your name, email address and, in the case of staff and Regional representatives, your bank account name, account number and sort code.

We mainly use this information to do the following:

- Provide you with regular information and updates about Regional and National developments in SEND services and events.
- Contact you about an ERPCF or Peer Network meeting, training day or event that you may be attending or have attended
- To invite you to take part in surveys run by ERPCF, NNPCF, DfE or other outside agencies which we think would be of interest to you
- Pay your salary or any expenses due to you as a volunteer Regional representative

Legal basis for using your data

As well as our Privacy Promise your privacy is protected by law.

Data protection law says that we are allowed to use personal information only if we have a proper reason to do so. The law says we must have one or more of these reasons:

- To fulfil a contract we have with you, or
- When it is our legal duty, or
- When you consent to it, or
- When it is in our legitimate interest

A legitimate interest is when we have a business or commercial reason to use your information

Sharing your information

We will not share your information with a third party without your specific permission.

The exceptional circumstances that would lead to us sharing information without your consent would only be cases where we had to report our concerns about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult or we were legally required to provide information.



We also share limited and consolidated information with our Peer Network funders, such as how many Reps have attended Peer Network events, but this never includes your individual personal information.

Keeping your information safe

Your personal information will be retained by ERPCF for as long as we have to by law. If there is no legal requirement we will only store it for as long as we need it.

You should be aware that communications over the internet (such as emails) aren't secure unless they have been encrypted. We can't accept responsibility for any unauthorised access or loss of personal information that is beyond our control.

We will keep all the personal information we gather about you until you decide you no longer want to be included on our contact list or for twelve months after the date of an event you registered for/attended.

We also hold some of the information in paper records which are kept secure in a locked filing cabinet. Other forms of data that we hold are kept secure using password protection on files and laptops. The Steering Group, staff and service providers are all trained so that they understand the importance of keeping your personal information secure and confidential and we have procedures in place to ensure the safe processing of your data.

The rights you have in respect of the information we hold and process

Under GDPR you have various rights in respect of the information we hold. These are listed below.

- **Access to your personal information:** You can access a copy of the information we hold about you, along with what information we use, why we use it, who we share it with and how long we keep it for. You can make this request free of charge.
- **Right to Object:** If we are processing your personal information on the basis of a legitimate interest then you can object if there is a particular reason why you don't want us to do this.
- **Consent:** If we are relying on your consent to use personal information (for example to send you emails about our services) then you can withdraw consent at any time.
- **Rectification:** You can ask us to change or complete any information about you if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
- **Erasure:** You can ask us to delete your personal information where it is no longer appropriate for us to hold it.
- **Portability:** You can ask us to provide you with some of the personal information we hold about you in an electronic form so it can be easily transferred.
- **Restriction:** You can ask us to stop processing your data while we are acting on a request from you to delete your data or if you have objected to us processing it.



- **No automated-decision making:** We don't carry out any automated decision making so we won't list the details of this right.

If you want to make any of the above requests then please contact Sylvia Jenkins on secretary.erpcf@gmail.com. If you are asking for us to provide you with copies of the data we hold about you, either in paper form or electronically, then we will need the request in writing and you will need to verify your identity.

Keeping your information confidential

The ERPCF insists that members of the ERPCF Steering Group, staff and Regional Reps will be aware, at all times, about the confidentiality of information gained by them during the course of their duties and will treat your information in a discreet and confidential manner.

You can be confident that:

- Written records including computerized information and correspondence will be kept securely at all times when not being used by an authorized person.
- Conversations relating to confidential matters will not take place in situations where they may be overheard.
- Information of a personal nature gained as part of a trusting relationship with other parent carers will not be shared without the express permission of that person.

Any breach of confidentiality within the ERPCF may be regarded as misconduct and be the subject of serious action.

If you want to make a complaint about our use of your data, then please contact Sylvia Jenkins using the contact details above.

This policy was approved by the ERPCF

Frequency of Policy review:

Bi-annually

Review of this Policy due:

May 2022