Date: February 2023

Next review due: February 2024

Responsibility: Bursar



DAME ALLAN'S SCHOOLS RETENTION OF RECORDS POLICY

1. This policy

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to inform the Dame Allan's Schools' community which includes pupils, parents, staff, governors and suppliers of the Schools' approach to the retention of records.
- 1.2 A record is defined as any document or item of data which contains evidence of information relating to the Schools and any individual or company within their community for example, pupils, parents, staff, governors, contractors, suppliers, volunteers. Some, but not all, of these records will contain personal data of individuals as defined by the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). Records can consist of original paper documents and those which are created, received and stored electronically.
- 1.3 This policy should be read in conjunction with the Schools' Privacy Notices and Data Protection Policy, which detail how the Schools handle, process and store personal data, including special category data. The Whole School Policy on the Acceptable Use of Electronic Devices and Information Technology Systems provides further details of how the Schools ensure electronic data is retained safely. These documents are available on the Schools' website.

2. Periods for the retention of records

- 2.1 The following table sets out the usual period for retaining any record. If any record is required in connection with an ongoing legal case, an insurance claim or an investigation by a third party (for example, police, social services, HSE) it may be retained beyond the period indicated in the table. Appropriate documents may also be retained in the Schools' archives for historical and research purposes.
- 2.2 All members of staff are responsible for complying with this policy and ensuring that all records are stored securely and only retained for the appropriate period before being disposed of in an appropriate manner. Any breach of this policy may result in action being taken under the Schools' disciplinary policies.

RECORD/DOCUMENT	RETENTION PERIOD
SCHOOL-SPECIFIC RECORDS	
Registration documents of the Schools	Permanent (or until closure of the school)
Minutes of Governors' meetings	10 years from date of meeting (then archive)
Annual curriculum	From end of academic year: 3 years (or 1 year for other class records: eg marks/timetables/assignments)
Attendance register	6 years from last date of entry, then archive
INDIVIDUAL PUPIL RECORDS	NB – these records will contain personal data
Admissions: application forms, assessments, records of decisions	25 years from date of birth (or, if pupil not admitted or their application is withdrawn, retained until they pass the last entry level into the Schools, unless parents notify us otherwise)
Student immigration records	Duration of student sponsorship plus minimum 1 year (depending on Home Office inspection)
Examination results, coursework and certificates (external or internal)	Examination results - 7 years from pupil leaving school
	Course work for external examinations - 7 years after the examination to which it relates, unless notified otherwise by examination board
	Certificates for external examinations - 1 year after receipt if not collected
Pupil file including:	ALL: 25 years from date of birth (subject to where relevant to
Attendance records	safeguarding considerations: any material which may be relevant to
Pupil reports	potential claims should be kept for the lifetime of the pupil)

 Pupil performance records Pupil medical records (not accidents - see below) 	
Special educational needs records (to be risk assessed individually)	Date of birth plus up to 35 years (allowing for special extensions to statutory limitation period)
SAFEGUARDING (consists of paper and electronic records, including those kept on the CPOMS system)	
Policies and procedures	Keep a permanent record of historic policies
DBS disclosure certificates	No longer than 6 months from decision on recruitment, unless policy specifically consulted. A record of the checks being made must be kept on the SCR/HR file, if 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
Child Protection files	Indefinitely, if a referral has been made, where social care has been involved, the child has been subject of a multi-agency plan or if there is any risk of a future claim(s)
	If low level concerns, with no multi-agency action, 25 years from date of birth
Video recordings of meetings	Where, for example, one-on-one meetings with pupils, counselling or application interviews are recorded for safeguarding purposes, a shorter retention period will be instigated based on the DSL's view of

	how quickly a concern is likely to be raised (this could be 3-6 months or immediately upon DSL review) See digital data section for other recordings of online lessons and other meetings
CORPORATE RECORDS (relating to our charitable status)	
Certificates of Incorporation	Permanent (or until dissolution)
Minutes, notes and resolutions of boards or management meetings	10 years minimum
Register of members	Permanent (minimum 10 years for ex-members)
Annual reports	6 years minimum
ACCOUNTING RECORDS	
Accounting records (prime documents, including invoices, bank statements)	6 years minimum from the end of the academic year in which the transaction took place
Tax returns	6 years minimum
Budgets and internal financial reports	3 years minimum
CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS	
Signed or final/concluded agreements (plus any signed or final/concluded variations or amendments)	Minimum – 7 years from completion of contractual obligations or term of agreement, whichever is the later
Deeds (or contracts under seal)	Minimum 13 years from completion of contractual obligation or term of agreement

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RECORDS	
Formal documents of title (trade mark or registered design certificates; patent or utility model certificates)	Permanent (in the case of any right which can be permanently extended, for example: trade marks); otherwise expiry of right plus minimum of 7 years.
Assignments of intellectual property to or from the Schools	As above in relation to contracts (7 years) or, where applicable, deeds (13 years).
IP/IT agreements (including software licences and ancillary agreements; for example, maintenance, storage, development, coexistence agreements, consents)	Minimum – 7 years from completion of contractual obligation concerned or term of agreement
EMPLOYEE/PERSONNEL/HR RECORDS	NB these records will contain personal data
Single Central Record of employees	Keep a permanent record of all mandatory checks that have been undertaken (but not DBS certificate itself: 6 months as above)
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 HR/personnel file, including any documents relating to capability, grievance or disciplinary	Duration of employment plus minimum of 7 years, but do not delete any information which may be relevant to safeguarding
Payroll, salary, maternity pay records	Minimum 6 years from the end of the financial year to which they relate
Pension or other benefit schedule records	Possibly 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
Immigration records/Right to Work in UK	Minimum 2 years from end of contract 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 contract of employment
Low level concerns about adults (as provided in the Safeguarding Policy)	Records regularly reviewed in order to justify longer-term retention as part of safeguarding files
INSURANCE RECORDS	
Insurance policies (will vary – private, public, professional indemnity)	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, for example, historic claims may still be made)
ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & DATA	
Maintenance logs	10 years from date of last entry
Accidents to children	25 years from birth (longer for safeguarding or if possibility of latent injury claims)
Accident at work records (staff)	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 (retain for longer if there is a possibility of latent injury claims)
Mandatory Training Records	Minimum 7 years from completion of training
Risk assessments (carried out in respect of above)	7 years from completion of relevant project, incident, event or activity (retain for longer if there is a possibility of latent injury claims)
Article 30 GDPR and other data protection records documenting processing activities, data breach records, impact assessments	Permanently (as long as no personal data held), but must be kept up-to-date, accurate and relevant
PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES AND VIDEOS	
Photographic images and video recordings of pupils, classes, teams and key events taking part at the Schools and/or during the course of extra-curricular activities, trips and tours	7 years from end of academic year in which the image was taken, unless the image is placed in the Schools' archives for historic and research purposes in which circumstances it may be retained indefinitely, in accordance with the Archives Policy
DIGITAL DATA	
Email accounts, including contents of all emails sent and received, digital documents stored on the Schools' network/cloud	Unless emails are required to be kept for other purposes (for example, safeguarding), emails are deleted or archived as follows: Pupils who leave the Schools before the end of Year 13 – email account deleted within 6 months of leaving; Pupils who leave the Schools at the end in Year 13 – email account deleted 3 months after leaving (unless they request that it remains open); Members of staff, except members of Senior Management Team – email account deleted within 1 year of leaving the Schools' employment;

	Members of Senior Management Team – email account deleted within 2 years of leaving the Schools; then contents archived. All members of staff are instructed to review their email accounts and other digital documents on a regular basis and certainly at the end of each academic year and delete or archive emails and documents, as appropriate.
Recordings of online lessons and meetings (staff, departmental, governors etc) (using google classroom, google meet and other platforms)	Unless required to be retained for safeguarding purposes (and not retained within the CPOMS system), delete by the end of the term following the term in which the recording was made (i.e. recordings made in Autumn term should be deleted by the end of Spring term)
COMPLAINTS	
Records of complaints made by parents in accordance with the Complaints Policy	Complaints, which do not involve safeguarding - minimum 7 years Complaints, which do involve safeguarding - for the term of the independent inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and at least until the accused has reached normal pension age or for 10 years from the date of the allegation if this is longer
APPLICATIONS FOR BURSARIES	
Financial information and documentation relating to applications for bursaries	Successful applications - retain until that student leaves the Schools Unsuccessful applications - retain for 1 year from the date of the application; then destroy