

PRIVACY NOTICE



Privacy Notice – Safeguarding Services

Last Reviewed: 12 June 2025

Next Review: June 2026

The Data Controller of the information being collected is:

Forth Valley College, Grangemouth Road, Falkirk. FK2 9AD ICO Registration Number: Z9720531

For any queries or concerns about how your personal data is being processed you can contact the Data Protection Officer at: dataprotection@forthvalley.ac.uk

This privacy statement relates to the following process:

Provision of an effective, person-centred ethical safeguarding service.

Your information will be used for the following purposes:

We use the information you provide to deliver an effective, person-centred ethical safeguarding service. This information is collected when you enquire about our safeguarding service on the phone, via text/SMS, email or when you fill in our registration form. It is also collected when a student is referred via a Safeguarding disclosure from a third party. This information includes your name, contact details, your availability, your health and situation, and other relevant personal sensitive data to help us understand your needs and to provide the best support to you.

To help develop and enhance future support we use your information for data analysis and statistical reporting. All identifying information is removed and all data is anonymised in this process.

We use the information you provide from your experience through formal and informal feedback to improve the service. All feedback provided remains anonymous.

Our lawful basis for using the data are:

There is more than one legal basis for the use of your data and the service will only use your data when the law allows us to do so. We will only process your personal information:

- To perform the contract we have entered into with you i.e. we will process your data to enable us to meet our commitments to you in providing a confidential safeguarding service
- Where we need to protect your vital interests (or someone else's vital interests)

- Where you have given specific, explicit consent for the safeguarding service to process your personal information for a specific purpose.

If you were to withhold the personal information we require for this process, we would be unable to offer you our full safeguarding service.

Your data will, or may, be shared with the following recipients or categories of recipient:

- **Internal college staff (e.g. Safeguarding Team, relevant teaching/support staff, leadership management)**
- **Local authority safeguarding services (Children’s or Adult Social Services)**
- **Police or emergency services**
- **NHS or other health professionals**
- **External support agencies or charities involved in student welfare**
- **Parents or carers (where appropriate and lawful)**

The service is committed to paying careful consideration to client confidentiality and consent. Safeguarding staff respect the individual’s right to privacy and only in certain situations will any personal data be passed to anyone outside of the organisation.

These situations are:

- Where you have given your consent to disclose information to a specific person, or agency.
- There is a legal obligation to do so where the safeguarding staff member would be liable to civil or criminal proceedings if the information were not disclosed.
- You, the safeguarding staff member, or someone else is in serious danger. If the risk is believed to be sufficiently severe, the staff member will pass on the information, irrespective of individual consent.

In most cases, the staff member will normally encourage the individual to personally pass on information to the relevant person, or agency. **This process does not involve your data being sent outside of the European Union.**

The processing of your data does not involve automated decision-making.

Retention and Security

We will take all reasonable precautions to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of information you give us.

The information you provide will be entered into a filing system and will only be accessed by authorised staff of the service. This information will be retained by the College for six years after your last attendance, and then destroyed confidentially. In certain cases, relating to more serious issues, the College may be obliged to retain your data for up to 25 years.

Any paper written case-notes, forms and letters, will be scanned and stored electronically, with the paper information disposed of in confidential waste.. Electronic records, which may include case-notes, forms and letters are stored securely within the College network and are password protected. All records (paper and electronic) are only accessible to the staff of the service.

The College has robust Information Security and Data Handling policies in place to protect all the data it holds, including your personal data. You can read more about these policies and technical standards on the College website.

The following rights are rights of data subjects:

- The right to access your personal data
- The right to rectification if the personal data we hold about you is incorrect
- The right to restrict processing of your personal data

The following rights apply only in certain circumstances:

- The right to withdraw consent at any time if consent is our lawful basis for processing your data
- The right to object to our processing of your personal data
- The right to request erasure (deletion) of your personal data
- The right to data portability

**To exercise any of the above rights, you can contact the Data Protection Officer at:
dataprotection@forthvalley.ac.uk**

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office about our handling of your data. Contact: casework@ico.org.uk