**You must read this policy because it gives important information about:**

* the data protection principles with which Youth 1st must comply;
* what is meant by personal information (or data) and sensitive personal information (or data);
* how we gather, use, store and (ultimately) delete personal information and sensitive personal information in accordance with the data protection principles;
* where more detailed privacy information can be found, e.g. about the personal information we gather and use about individuals, how it is used, stored, who it is shared with, for what purposes and the steps taken to keep that information secure and for how long it is kept; additional information on this can be found in the various Privacy Notices at the end of this Policy;
* your rights and obligations in relation to data protection; and
* the consequences of failure to comply with this policy.

Once you have read and understood this policy, please confirm you that have done so by signing and returning the attached copy to [insert job title]

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Youth 1st takes the security and privacy of personal information seriously. Youth 1st gathers, uses and stores data about you and others in the normal course of its business and the delivery of its services and to manage its relationship with you and others with whom it has dealings and come into contact with. We have a duty to notify you of the information contained in this Policy.

1.2 Youth 1st obtains, uses and stores personal information (also referred to as data) about job applicants and about current and former employees, temporary and agency workers, contractors, interns, volunteers and apprentices, suppliers, customers and clients, partners and funders for a number specific lawful purposes, as set out in Youth 1st's Privacy Notices.

1.3 This policy sets out how we comply with our data protection obligations and seek to protect personal information relating to our workforce and others. Its purpose is also to ensure that staff, volunteers and others working with or for Youth 1st understand and comply with the rules governing the collection, use and deletion of personal information to which they may have access in the course of their work.

1.4 We are committed to complying with our data protection obligations, and to being concise, clear and transparent about how we obtain and use personal information relating to our workforce and others, and how (and when) we delete that information once it is no longer required.

1.5 The Operations Manager is responsible for data protection compliance within Youth 1st. If you have any questions or comments about the content of this policy or if you need further information, you should contact the Operations Manager on admin@youth1st.co.uk.

**2. Scope**

2.1 This policy applies to the personal information of job applicants and current and former staff, including employees, temporary and agency workers, interns, volunteers and apprentices, suppliers, customers, partners and funders and any other third parties we have dealings with.

2.2 Staff should refer to Youth 1st's various Privacy Notices and, where appropriate, to its other relevant policies including in relation to internet, e-mail and communications, monitoring, social media, information security, data retention, bring your own device (BYOD) and criminal record information which contain further information regarding the protection of personal information in those contexts.

2.3 We will review and update this policy in accordance with our data protection obligations. It does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and we may amend, update or supplement it from time to time. We will circulate any new or modified policy to staff [and volunteers] before it is adopted.

**3. Definitions**

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| --- | --- |
| **criminal records information** | means personal information relating to criminal convictions and offences, allegations, proceedings, and related security measures; |
| **data breach** | means a breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal information; |
| **data subject** | means the individual to whom the personal information relates; |
| **personal information** | (sometimes known as personal data) means information relating to an individual who can be identified (directly or indirectly) from that information; |
| **processing information** | means obtaining, recording, organising, storing, amending, retrieving, disclosing and/or destroying information, or using or doing anything with it; |
| **pseudonymised** | means the process by which personal information is processed in such a way that it cannot be used to identify an individual without the use of additional information, which is kept separately and subject to technical and organisational measures to ensure that the personal information cannot be attributed to an identifiable individual; |
| **sensitive personal information** | (sometimes known as 'special categories of personal data' or 'sensitive personal data') means personal information about an individual's race, ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership (or non-membership), genetics information, biometric information (where used to identify an individual) and information concerning an individual's health, sex life or sexual orientation. |

**4. Data Protection Principles**

4.1 Youth 1st will comply with the following data protection principles when processing personal information:

4.1.1 we will process personal information lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner;

4.1.2 we will collect personal information for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes only, and will not process it in a way that is incompatible with those legitimate purposes;

4.1.3 we will only process the personal information that is adequate, relevant and necessary for the relevant purposes;

4.1.4 we will keep accurate and up to date personal information, and take reasonable steps to ensure that inaccurate personal information is deleted or corrected without delay;

4.1.5 we will keep personal information in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the information is processed; and

4.1.6 we will take appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure that personal information is kept secure and protected against unauthorised or unlawful processing, and against accidental loss, destruction or damage.

**5. Basis for processing personal information**

5.1 In relation to any processing activity we will, before the processing starts for the first time, and then regularly while it continues:

5.1.1 review the purposes of the particular processing activity, and select the most appropriate lawful basis (or bases) for that processing, i.e.:

(a) that the data subject has consented to the processing;

(b) that the processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party, or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract;

(c) that the processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which Youth 1st is subject;

(d) that the processing is necessary for the protection of the vital interests of the data subject or another natural person;

(e) that the processing is necessary for the purposes of legitimate interests of Youth 1st or a third party, except where those interests are overridden by the interests of fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject-see clause 5.2 below.

5.1.2 except where the processing is based on consent, satisfy ourselves that the processing is necessary for the purpose of the relevant lawful basis (i.e. that there is no other reasonable way to achieve that purpose);

5.1.3 document our decision as to which lawful basis applies, to help demonstrate our compliance with the data protection principles;

5.1.4 include information about both the purposes of the processing and the lawful basis for it in our relevant Privacy Notice(s);

5.1.5 where sensitive personal information is processed, also identify a lawful special condition for processing that information (see paragraph 6.2.2 below), and document it; and

5.1.6 where criminal offence information is processed, also identify a lawful condition for processing that information, and document it.

5.2 When determining whether Youth 1st's legitimate interests are the most appropriate basis for lawful processing, we will:

5.2.1 conduct a legitimate interests' assessment (LIA) and keep a record of it, to ensure that we can justify our decision; (a LIA is a process whereby you establish why you have selected Legitimate Interest as the basis for processing your information; the Information Commissioner's Office sets out three elements to this process:

1) identify a legitimate interest;

2) show that the processing is necessary to achieve it; and

3) balance it against the individual's interests, rights and freedoms)

5.2.2 if the LIA identifies a significant privacy impact, consider whether we also need to conduct a data protection impact assessment (DPIA) (see paragraph 8);

5.2.3 keep the LIA under review, and repeat it if circumstances change; and

5.2.4 include information about our legitimate interests in our relevant privacy notice(s).

**6. Sensitive personal information**

6.1 Sensitive personal information is sometimes referred to as 'special categories of personal data' or 'sensitive personal data'.

6.2 We may from time to time need to process sensitive personal information. We will only process sensitive personal information if:

6.2.1 we have a lawful basis for doing so as set out in paragraph 5.1.1 above, e.g. it is necessary for the performance of the employment contract, to comply with Youth 1st's legal obligations or for the purposes of Youth 1st's legitimate interests; and

6.2.2 one of the special conditions for processing sensitive personal information applies, i.e.:

(a) the data subject has given explicit consent;

(b) the processing is necessary for the purposes of exercising the employment law rights or obligations of Youth 1st or the data subject;

(c) the processing is necessary to protect the data subject's vital interests, and the data subject is physically incapable of giving consent;

(d) processing relates to personal data which are manifestly made public by the data subject;

(e) the processing is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims; or

(f) the processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

6.3 Before processing any sensitive personal information, staff must notify the Operations Manager of the proposed processing, in order that they may assess whether the processing complies with the criteria noted above.

6.4 Sensitive personal information will not be processed until:

6.4.1 the assessment referred to in paragraph 6.3 has taken place; and

6.4.2 the individual has been properly informed (by way of a Privacy Notice or otherwise) of the nature of the processing, the purposes for which it is being carried out and the legal basis for it.

6.5 Youth 1st will not carry out automated decision-making (including profiling) based on any individual's sensitive personal information.

6.6 Where appropriate, Youth 1st's Privacy Notices set out the types of sensitive personal information that Youth 1st processes, what it is used for and the lawful basis for the processing.

6.7 In relation to sensitive personal information, Youth 1st will comply with the procedures set out in paragraphs 6.8 and 6.9 below to make sure that it complies with the data protection principles set out in paragraph 4 above.

6.8 During the recruitment process Youth 1st will ensure that (except where the law permits otherwise):

6.8.1 during the short-listing, interview and decision-making stages, no questions are asked relating to sensitive personal information, e.g. race or ethnic origin, trade union membership or health;

6.8.2 if sensitive personal information is received, e.g. the applicant provides it without being asked for it within his or her CV or during the interview, no record is kept of it and any reference to it is immediately deleted or redacted;

6.8.3 any completed equal opportunities monitoring form is kept separate from the individual's application form, and not be seen by the person shortlisting, interviewing or making the recruitment decision;

6.8.4 'right to work' checks are carried out before an offer of employment is made unconditional, and not during the earlier short-listing, interview or decision-making stages;

6.8.5 we will only ask health questions once an offer of employment has been made.

6.9 During employment Youth 1st will process:

6.9.1 health information for the purposes of administering sick pay, keeping sickness absence records, monitoring staff attendance and facilitating employment-related health and sickness benefits;

6.9.2 sensitive personal information for the purposes of equal opportunities monitoring and pay equality reporting. Where possible, this information will be anonymised; and

6.9.3 trade union membership information for the purposes of staff administration and administering 'check off'.

**7. Personal Information and third parties**

7.1 Where we process personal data from third parties - including but not limited to from our clients or service users or customers, our partners or funders or our suppliers - it will be processed for specific lawful purposes in accordance with the data protection principles and as set out in the relevant Privacy Notices as appended to this Policy.

**8. Criminal records information**

8.1 Where we require to process criminal records information, it will be processed in accordance with the data protection principles.

**9. Data protection impact assessments (DPIAs)**

9.1 Where processing is likely to result in a high risk to an individual's data protection rights (e.g. where Youth 1st is planning to use a new form of technology), we will, before commencing the processing, carry out a DPIA to assess:

9.1.1 whether the processing is necessary and proportionate in relation to its purpose;

9.1.2 the risks to individuals; and

9.1.3 what measures can be put in place to address those risks and protect personal information.

9.2 Before any new form of technology is introduced, the member of staff responsible should therefore contact the Operations Manager in order that a DPIA can be carried out.

9.3 During the course of any DPIA, Youth 1st will seek the advice of the Operations Manager [and the views of a representative group of employees and any other relevant stakeholders].

**10. Documentation and records**

10.1 We will keep written records of processing activities which are high risk i.e. which may result in a risk to individuals' rights and freedoms or involve sensitive personal information or criminal records information, including:

10.1.1 the name and details of the employer's organisation (and where applicable, of other controllers, the employer's representative and person responsible for data protection);

10.1.2 the purposes of the processing;

10.1.3 a description of the categories of individuals and categories of personal data;

10.1.4 categories of recipients of personal data;

10.1.5 where relevant, details of transfers to countries outwith the EEA, including documentation of the transfer mechanism safeguards in place;

10.1.6 where possible, retention schedules; and

10.1.7 where possible, a description of technical and organisational security measures.

10.2 As part of our record of processing activities we document, or link to documentation, on:

10.2.1 information required for privacy notices;

10.2.2 records of consent;

10.2.3 controller-processor contracts;

10.2.4 the location of personal information;

10.2.5 DPIAs; and

10.2.6 records of data breaches.

10.3 If we process sensitive personal information or criminal records information, we will keep written records of:

10.3.1 the relevant purpose(s) for which the processing takes place, including (where required) why it is necessary for that purpose;

10.3.2 the lawful basis for our processing; and

10.3.3 whether we retain and erase the personal information in accordance with our policy document and, if not, the reasons for not following our policy.

10.3.4 We will conduct regular reviews of the personal information we process and update our documentation and policies accordingly.

10.4 We document our processing activities in electronic form so we can add, remove and amend information easily.

**11. Privacy notices**

11.1 Youth 1st will issue Privacy Notices from time to time, informing people about the personal information that we collect and hold relating to them and others (third parties) (e.g. volunteers, service users or clients, customers), how they can expect their personal information to be used (and for what purposes), and where appropriate, how you are expected to process third parties' personal information.

11.2 We will take appropriate measures to provide information in privacy notices in a concise, transparent, intelligible and easily accessible form, using clear and plain language.

**12. Individual rights**

12.1 You (in common with other data subjects) have the following rights in relation to your personal information:

12.1.1 to be informed about how, why and on what basis that information is processed;

12.1.2 to obtain confirmation that your information is being processed and to obtain access to it and certain other information, by making a subject access request-see Youth 1st's information on subject access request;

12.1.3 to have data corrected if it is inaccurate or incomplete;

12.1.4 to have data erased if it is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally collected/processed, or if there are no overriding legitimate grounds for the processing (this is sometimes known as 'the right to be forgotten');

12.1.5 to restrict the processing of personal information where the accuracy of the information is contested, or the processing is unlawful (but you do not want the data to be erased), or where the employer no longer needs the personal information but you require the data to establish, exercise or defend a legal claim; and

12.1.6 to restrict the processing of personal information temporarily where you do not think it is accurate (and the employer is verifying whether it is accurate), or where you have objected to the processing (and the employer is considering whether Youth 1st's legitimate grounds override your interests).

12.2 If you wish to exercise any of the rights in paragraphs 12.1.3 to 12.1.6, please contact the Operations Manager.

**13. Individual obligations**

13.1 Individuals are responsible for helping Youth 1st keep their personal information up to date. You should let the Operations Manager know if the information you have provided to Youth 1st changes, for example if you move house or change details of the bank or building society account to which you are paid. Alternatively, you can update your own personal information on a secure basis via Youth 1st's Breathe HR portal.

13.2 You may have access to the personal information of other members of staff, volunteers, clients, service users, customers or suppliers, partners or funders to Youth 1st in the course of your employment or arrangements with Youth 1st. If so, Youth 1st expects you to help meet its data protection obligations to those individuals. For example, you should be aware that they may also enjoy the rights set out in paragraph 12.1 above.

13.3 If you have access to personal information, you must:

13.3.1 only access the personal information that you have authority to access, and only for authorised purposes;

13.3.2 only allow other staff or volunteers from Youth 1st to access personal information if they have appropriate authorisation;

13.3.3 only allow individuals who are not staff or volunteers from Youth 1st to access personal information if you have specific authority to do so from the Operations Manager;

13.3.4 keep personal information secure (e.g. by complying with rules on access to premises, computer access, password protection and secure file storage and destruction and other precautions set out in Youth 1st's Staff Handbook.

13.3.5 not remove personal information, or devices containing personal information (or which can be used to access it), from Youth 1st's premises unless appropriate security measures are in place (such as pseudonymisation, encryption and/or password protection) to secure the information and/or the device; and

13.3.6 not store personal information on local drives or on personal devices that are used for work purposes and you must comply with Youth 1st's ICT Policy.

13.4 You should contact the Operations Manager if you are concerned or suspect that one of the following has taken place (or is taking place or is likely to take place):

13.4.1 processing of personal data without a lawful basis for its processing or, in the case of sensitive personal information, without one of the conditions in paragraph 6.2.2 being met;

13.4.2 any data breach as set out in paragraph 16.1 below;

13.4.3 access to personal information without the proper authorisation;

13.4.4 personal information not kept or deleted securely;

13.4.5 removal of personal information, or devices containing personal information (or which can be used to access it), from Youth 1st's premises without appropriate security measures being in place;

13.4.6 any other breach of this policy or of any of the data protection principles set out in paragraph 4.1 above.

**14. Information security**

14.1 Youth 1st will use appropriate technical and organisational measures in accordance with its policies on information security to keep personal information secure, and in particular to protect against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage. These may include:

14.1.1 making sure that, where possible, personal information is pseudonymised or encrypted;

14.1.2 ensuring the ongoing confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of processing systems and services;

14.1.3 ensuring that, in the event of a physical or technical incident, availability and access to personal information can be restored in a timely manner; and

14.1.4 a process for regularly testing, assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of technical and organisational measures for ensuring the security of the processing.

14.2 Where Youth 1st uses external organisations to process personal information on its behalf, additional security arrangements need to be implemented in contracts with those organisations to safeguard the security of personal information. In particular, contracts with external organisations must provide that:

14.2.1 the external organisation may act only on the written instructions of Youth 1st;

14.2.2 those processing the data are subject to a duty of confidence;

14.2.3 appropriate measures are taken to ensure the security of processing;

14.2.4 sub-contractors are only engaged with the prior consent of Youth 1st and under a written contract;

14.2.5 the external organisation will assist Youth 1st in providing subject access and allowing individuals to exercise their rights in relation to data protection;

14.2.6 the external organisation will assist Youth 1st in meeting its obligations in relation to the security of processing, the notification of data breaches and data protection impact assessments;

14.2.7 the external organisation will delete or return all personal information to Youth 1st as requested at the end of the contract; and

14.2.8 the external organisation will submit to audits and inspections, provide Youth 1st with whatever information it needs to ensure that they are both meeting their data protection obligations, and tell Youth 1st immediately if it is asked to do something infringing data protection law.

14.3 Before any new agreement involving the processing of personal information by an external organisation is entered into, or an existing agreement is altered, the relevant staff must seek approval of its terms by the [insert job title].

**15. S Storage and retention of personal information**

15.1 Personal information (and sensitive personal information) will be kept securely and for no longer than necessary in accordance with Youth 1st's Retention Policy.

15.2 The length of time over which data should be retained will depend upon the circumstances, including the reasons why the personal information was obtained. Staff should follow Youth 1st's Retention Policy which sets out the relevant retention periods for a variety of data. Where there is any uncertainty, staff should consult the Operations Manager.

15.3 Personal information (and sensitive personal information) that is no longer required will be deleted permanently from our information systems and any hard copies will be destroyed securely.

**16. Data breaches**

16.1 A data breach may take many different forms, for example:

16.1.1 loss or theft of data or equipment on which personal information is stored;

16.1.2 unauthorised access to or use of personal information either by a member of staff or third party;

16.1.3 loss of data resulting from an equipment or systems (including hardware and software) failure;

16.1.4 human error, such as accidental deletion or alteration of data;

16.1.5 unforeseen circumstances, such as a fire or flood;

16.1.6 deliberate attacks on IT systems, such as hacking, viruses or phishing scams; and

16.1.7 'blagging' or social engineering offences, where information is obtained by deceiving the organisation which holds it.

16.2 Youth 1st will:

16.2.1 make the required report of a data breach to the Information Commissioner's Office without undue delay and, where possible, within 72 hours of becoming aware of it, if it is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals; and

16.2.2 notify the affected individuals if a data breach is likely to result in a high risk to their rights and freedoms and notification is required by law.

16.3 Information may be held at our offices and third-party agencies, service providers, representatives and agents.

**17. Training**

17.1 Youth 1st will ensure that staff are adequately trained regarding their data protection responsibilities. Individuals whose roles require regular access to personal information, or who are responsible for implementing this policy or responding to subject access requests under this policy, will receive additional training to help them understand their duties and how to comply with them.

**18. Consequences of failing to comply**

18.1 Youth 1st takes compliance with this policy very seriously. Failure to comply with the policy:

18.1.1 puts at risk the individuals whose personal information is being processed; and

18.1.2 carries the risk of significant civil and criminal sanctions for the individual and Youth 1st; and

18.1.3 may, in some circumstances, amount to a criminal offence by the individual.

18.2 Because of the importance of this policy, an employee's failure to comply with any requirement of it may lead to disciplinary action under our procedures, and this action may result in dismissal for gross misconduct. If a non-employee breaches this policy, they may have their contract or, in the case of volunteers their volunteer agreement, terminated with immediate effect.

18.3 If you have any questions or concerns about anything in this policy, do not hesitate to contact the Operations Manager.

**ACTION:**

**Please email** [**gayle@youth1st.co.uk**](mailto:gayle@youth1st.co.uk) **with the following statement once you have read the Data Protection Policy:**

**I ……………………………………………………. (name) have read and understood the Data Protection Policy**