

Central Film School

2025-26

Central Film School

CFS Data Protection Policy

1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose and scope

- 1.2. The purpose of this policy is to ensure fair and lawful processing of student and staff personal data, including sensitive personal data, in compliance with the institution's data protection obligations under current law.
- 1.3. This policy applies to all applicants, students and staff and allows the institution to function effectively, monitor performance and achievements, organise programmes and comply with legal obligations to funding bodies, government regulations and company legislation such as health and safety and equal opportunities.

2. Nature of Information Collected

- 2.1. Central Film School London (CFS, we, us) complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In summary, this states that personal data, including sensitive personal data, shall be:
 - processed fairly and lawfully, and shall not be processed unless certain conditions are met
 - obtained for specified and lawful purposes and not further processed in a manner incompatible with that purpose
 - adequate, relevant and not excessive
 - accurate and, where necessary, up to date
 - kept for no longer than necessary
 - processed in accordance with the data subject's rights
 - protected by appropriate security
 - not transferred without adequate protection

3. Notification of Data Held and Processed

3.1. We obtain personal data about you from the following sources:

- When you provide your contact details for open day activities, fill in one of our forms on our webpage or register as a student with us.
- The school will use this data to provide information on the programme or any similar programme you are interested in. We will also use this data to contact you regarding possible open days where you can learn more about the school and the programme we offer.
- From third-party sources (e.g. UCAS). When we obtain personal data about you from third-party sources, we will look to ensure that the third party has the lawful authority to provide us with your personal data.
- The data you submitted to the school will form the basis of your student record. The school, therefore, needs to use your data as the first steps towards potentially entering into a student contract with you, and, if you are admitted as a student, to perform its obligations under the student contract.

3.2. All staff, students, and other users are entitled to know:

- What personal information CFS holds and processes about them, and why
- How to gain access to it
- How to keep it up to date
- What CFS is doing to comply with its obligations

3.3. The data types of student information held about past, present and future students may include:

- personal information (the personal data the school collects from you at registration includes your name, contact details, emergency contact details, date of birth, nationality, academic qualifications, details of disability, details of criminal convictions, fee information and sponsorship details)
- sensitive personal data (racial or ethnic origin, health, sexual orientation)
- assessment information
- financial information (for visa application purposes)

3.4. This data is processed to comply with the requirements of official bodies, e.g. Validating partner, OfS, SLC and UKVI, as part of the educational process.

3.5. We take appropriate precautions to protect personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access or disclosure, alteration or destruction. All personal data is stored in secure databases.

3.6. The types of staff information held include:

- personal information
- sensitive personal data
- work performance information
- financial information

- 3.7. This data is processed for the proper administration of the employment relationship, both during and after employment.
- 3.8. Central Film School and all its members shall process personal data in accordance with the lawful grounds specified in articles 6 and 9 of the GDPR as relevant, and the six data protection principles as set out in article 5.
- 3.9. In brief, the data protection principles state that personal data shall be:
- fairly and lawfully processed;
 - processed for specified purposes;
 - adequate, relevant and not excessive;
 - accurate and up to date;
 - not kept longer than necessary;
 - appropriately secured and protected from unauthorised access, loss or disclosure;
- 3.10. In addition, personal data will be processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects, and Central Film School will not transfer personal data outside the European Economic Area, to third countries or international organisations unless adequately protected and in line with the general principle for transfers as per Article 44 of the GDPR.

4. Note on Procedure

- 4.1. Institution staff and students, or others who process or use any personal information, must ensure that they follow these principles at all times. Any breach of the data protection policy or the Data Protection Act 2018, whether by a member of staff or student, whether deliberate or through negligence, may result in disciplinary procedures being instigated against them and possibly a criminal prosecution.
- 4.2. Members of Central Film School may only process personal data that is under the control of, or on behalf of, CFS. When there are lawful grounds to do so and where that member is so authorised by CFS to process that personal data.
- 4.3. Unauthorised processing of personal data by members of Central Film School includes accessing personal data records for private interest and/or gain, even where access to the record system itself has been granted to the same member for business purposes.
- 4.4. Unauthorised processing of personal data also includes disclosure of personal data (including verbal disclosures) to a third party either by action or inaction, where it is known that the third party is not entitled to receive that data.
- 4.5. Where members are unsure as to any of the provisions of data protection legislation or this policy, they shall seek appropriate advice from their line manager and/or Central Film School data protection officer, who is also The CEO.

5. Responsibilities

- 5.1. Central Film School as a corporate body is the data controller. The senior officer responsible for Central Film School's compliance with data protection legislation is the senior information risk owner.
- 5.2. The senior information risk owner shall nominate a data protection officer, to be responsible for advising on and monitoring compliance with data protection legislation including awareness raising, training and audits; being the primary contact point for the Information Commissioner's Office; advising on privacy impact assessments, overseeing the facilitation of data subjects rights; and for developing specific guidance notes on data protection issues for members of CFS.
- 5.3. CFS shall take such steps as appropriate (including training programmes) to ensure that data subjects are aware of both their rights and obligations and CFS's rights and obligations under the legislation, and to make all staff and students aware of the data protection requirements and the implications of processing personal data.

6. Compliance

- 6.1. All alleged breaches of the data protection policy shall be notified to Central Film School its service desk as per the information security incident management procedure. Any infringement of data protection legislation by staff or students may expose Central Film School and/or the individual to legal action, claims for substantial damages and fines from the Information Commissioner's office. Any infringement will be treated seriously by CFS and may be considered under disciplinary procedures.
- 6.2. In accordance with that procedure, the data protection officer shall advise on the implications, potential remedies and mitigation actions in response to an alleged breach.
- 6.3. For serious alleged breaches, the senior information risk owner will consider whether the matter should be reported to the Information Commissioner's Office, giving due regard to the advice of the data protection officer.

7. Staff guidelines

- 7.1. Compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is the responsibility of all members of Central Film School.
- 7.2. All staff are responsible for:
 - Checking that any information that they provide in connection with their employment is accurate and up-to-date.
 - Informing their line manager of any changes to the information which they have provided. e.g. changes of address.
 - Informing their line manager of any errors or changes.

- Staff whose work involves the management of student data must ensure they observe the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation Act and comply with supplementary guidance issued from time to time.
- Staff whose work includes responsibility for the supervision of students' academic work have a duty to ensure that students observe the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation or supplementary guidance issued from time to time.

7.3. All staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- Any personal data which they hold, whether in electronic or paper format, is kept securely.
- Personal information is not disclosed deliberately or accidentally, either orally or in writing, to any unauthorised third party, except where it is required for the normal delivery of programmes.
- CFS will not disclose any student's personal information, including fees, academic achievement or any other related information, to any third party, including parents or guardians, unless specific permission in writing has been granted by the student.

7.4. Staff should note that unauthorised disclosure will usually be a disciplinary matter, and may be considered gross misconduct in some cases. It may also be a criminal matter in which the individual concerned could be held individually criminally liable as well as the school.

8. Student guidelines

8.1. Compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation is the responsibility of all members of CFS.

8.2. All students are responsible for:

- Checking that any information that they provide in connection with their studies is accurate and up-to-date.
- Informing programme administration of any changes to information which they have provided, e.g. Changes of address.
- Informing the administration of any errors or changes.

8.3. Student undertaking research projects using personal data must ensure that:

- The research subject is informed of the nature of the research and consents to their personal information being used.
- Their tutor is informed of the proposed research before it begins and ensures that Central Film School is authorised to undertake this kind of research.
- All information is kept securely.
- They observe the principles General Data Protection Regulation and comply with supplementary guidance issued from time to time.

9. Processing of personal information

- 9.1. The institution processes data related to its students for a variety of purposes. These include, but are not limited to:
- Maintenance of the student record (including personal and academic details) and management of academic processes (for example, academic audits, examination boards and awarding of degrees)
 - Alumni operations, including marketing
 - The provision of advice and support to students via the administration department, academic staff and disability support
 - Internal research, including monitoring quality and performance
- 9.2. The institution allows access to employees and agents of CFS on a need-to-know basis only. Student's information is disclosed to a variety of third parties, including their agents, notably:
- Students' sponsors (The Awarding Body, UK Visa & Immigration Department, The Student Loans Company and Funding Councils).
 - Relevant government departments to whom we have a statutory obligation to release information (including OfS, The National Student Survey, UKVI and Council Tax Officers).
 - UCAS
 - Current or potential employers of our students
 - The agency is compiling the national student survey
 - Transport for London as part of the 18+ student Oyster card scheme, where applicable
 - Disclosures to organisations not listed above will be made in specific legitimate circumstances. Consent from the student will be sought where necessary, and students will be informed of such disclosures unless exceptional circumstances apply.

10. Publication of Information Relating to Staff and Students of Central Film School

- 10.1. It is the policy of Central Film School to make public as much information about the institution as possible. This includes, but is not limited to:
- the organisational structure showing roles and names
 - members of the board of governors
 - members of the committees of the board of directors and the academic board
 - list of key staff
 - list of students to whom awards have been made or are likely to be made by the institution
- 10.2. Any individual having good reason for wishing details in these lists or categories to remain confidential should contact the registry department in writing.
- 10.3. Information that is already in the public domain is exempt from the General Data Protection Regulation.

- 10.4. Care must be taken when capturing close-up images (including photos, videos, film) of staff or students, whether or not these individuals are named. Of key importance is the expectation of privacy on the part of those whose image it is proposed to capture. Consent to image capture is not required in the public spaces of the institution (including lounges, corridors or library) but is required where the expectation of privacy is greater (including classrooms, studios, and meeting rooms).

11. Right to Access Information

- 11.1. You have the right to:

- Withdraw consent where that is the legal basis of our processing;
- Access your personal data that we process.
- Rectify inaccuracies in personal data that we hold about you;
- Be forgotten, that is, your details are to be removed from systems that we use to process your personal data;
- Restrict the processing in certain ways;
- Obtain a copy of your data in a commonly used electronic form; and
- Object to the certain processing of your personal data by us.

- 11.2. Staff, students and other users of CFS are entitled to ask the school to provide you with details of whether any personal data about you is being processed and if so, to be given a description of the personal data why and how it is being used and whether it will be given to any other organisations or people. You can ask for a copy of the information comprising the data and details of the source of the data (where it is available). This is known as the right of subject access. You can request your information by writing to our administration department.

- 11.3. If you need more information about your data or the privacy policy, or you wish to exercise these rights, contact us at hello@centralfilmschool.com.

12. How Long Will the School Keep Your Personal Data?

- 12.1. The school will keep your full student record for six years after the end of the academic year in which you graduate from, or otherwise leave, the School. After six years, the school will retain only the data necessary to identify you and to confirm the dates you studied at the school, the degree and classification you were awarded and a transcript of your marks. All other personal data on your student record will be disposed of in a secure manner.
- 12.2. The school and several individual departments/schools within the school operate alumni societies, but personal data collected for this purpose is held separately from your student record.

13. Cookies

- 13.1. The use of cookies on our website is solely for marketing purposes. Users of the site will be notified that cookies are in use. We use cookies to make our websites better and improve user experience, and help us deliver better content to you.

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