

Data protection policy

Reviewed: June 2024

Introduction

The Cambridge Theological Federation (“CTF”) is committed to protecting the rights and privacy of individuals in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (the “Regulation”).

In this policy “staff” should be taken to include anyone providing services to CTF students on behalf of CTF including teaching and assessment.

Purpose and Scope

In carrying out its responsibilities, the CTF is required to process certain information about individuals such as staff, students, former students and other users, defined as “data subjects” in the Regulation. This information, or “personal data” as it is often referred to, must be processed according to the principles contained within the Regulation.

CTF staff, or others who process or use any personal information on behalf of the CTF (i.e. “data users”), have a personal responsibility to ensure that they adhere to the CTF’s Data Protection Policy and the Regulation.

Any breach of this Policy, or the Regulation, can be considered as a disciplinary matter. It may also be a criminal matter for which the CTF, and the individual concerned, could be held criminally liable.

Data Protection Principles

CTF data users must comply with the seven Data Protection Principles. These define how data can be legally processed. “Processing” includes obtaining, recording, holding or storing information and using it in any way.

Personal data must be:

- a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner;
- b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes;
- c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date;
- e) kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed;
- f) processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data.

The Regulation defines both personal data and special personal data (please refer to the Definitions section below). Data users must ensure that the necessary conditions are satisfied for the processing of personal data. In addition, they must adhere to the extra, more stringent conditions in place for the processing of special personal data. Special personal data should normally only be processed if the data subjects have given their explicit (written) consent to this processing, and must be

protected with a higher level of security. It is recommended that special records are kept separately in a locked drawer or filing cabinet, or in a password-protected computer file. (We note that information about religious beliefs is special data.)

Security

The security of personal data in the possession of the CTF is of paramount importance and is, therefore, addressed in various policies and procedures.

The CTF security procedures include:

- Entry controls to prevent unauthorised people gaining access to confidential information and personal data.
- Lockable desks and cupboards for secure storage of confidential information and personal data.
- Shredding for paper records with confidential information and personal data that is no longer being stored.
- Ensuring unauthorised people are not able to see confidential information on paperwork or computer screens being used by staff.

Use of personal data

Use of personal data must be only in accordance with the CTF data protection policy and privacy notices. If other uses are required the relevant privacy notice must first be updated and the data subjects covered by the notice informed.

Responsibilities - General Principles

All personal data held on behalf of the CTF, whether electronically or on paper, must be kept securely, no matter whether it is kept by an individual or on the commonly-accessible server. Personal data must not be disclosed to any unauthorised third party by any means, accidentally or otherwise.

Where staff are unsure as to whether they can legitimately share/disclose personal data with other individuals, either within or outside the CTF, they must seek advice from their manager.

All staff should note that unauthorised disclosure may be a disciplinary matter. It may also be a criminal matter for which the CTF and the individual concerned could be held criminally liable.

Board Responsibilities

The Board has responsibility for ensuring that:

- All staff are aware of their responsibilities under the Data Protection Policy and the Regulations and of the risks/consequences of failure to comply with the related requirements.
- That mechanisms are put in place to protect data (and particularly special data) during day-to-day operations.
- All personal data being processed within the CTF complies with the Data Protection Policy (including any subsequent amendments or additions) and with the Regulations.
- That all forms and correspondence used by the CTF to request personal data clearly state the purposes for which the information is to be used, the period of time it is to be retained, and to whom it is likely to be disclosed.
- All personal data held within the CTF is kept securely and is disposed of in a safe and secure manner when no longer needed.
- All Data Protection breaches are notified to the Chair of the Board, with remedial action taken to mitigate the risk of reoccurrence.
- An annual audit of the personal data within the CTF is carried out and recorded.
- Where a new or different purpose for processing data is introduced, the policy and/or privacy notices are updated.
- The CTF's Data Protection Policy is regularly reviewed and updated in line with best practice.
- Staff have access to training on their responsibilities under the Data Protection Policy and the Regulation, both on-line and through more traditional training methods.
- Responses to requests for information under the Regulation, and related compliance matters, are dealt with in a timely manner and in line with the requirements of the Regulation.
- Advice and guidance on any area of the Policy or the Regulation is provided to staff and students, on request.

Staff Responsibilities

All staff must take personal responsibility for ensuring that:

- They are aware of their responsibilities under the Data Protection Policy and the Regulation and the risks/consequences of failure to comply with the related requirements. Where they are uncertain of their responsibilities, they must raise this with their manager.
- They complete training if they require further information about data security.
- Personal data relating to any living individual (staff, trustees, students, contractors, members of the public etc.) which they hold or process is kept securely.
- Personal data relating to any living individual is not disclosed, either orally or in writing, accidentally or otherwise, to any unauthorised third party.
- All Data Protection breaches are notified to their manager, with remedial actions implemented to mitigate the risk of reoccurrence.

- When supervising students who are processing personal data, that they are aware of this policy.
- Personal data which they provide in connection with their employment is accurate and up-to-date, and that they inform the CTF of any errors, corrections or changes, for example, change of address.
- Passers-by can not read confidential information from papers or computer monitors; this includes locking computers when left unattended.
- Never giving out personal information by telephone without being confident that the caller is entitled to it; requests by email should be encouraged.

Student Responsibilities

All students must take personal responsibility for ensuring that:

- When using CTF's facilities to process personal data (for example, in course work or research), they seek advice from their Tutor on their responsibilities under the Regulation.
- Personal data which they provide in connection with their studies is accurate and up-to-date, and that they inform the CTF of any errors, corrections or changes, for example, change of address.

Disposal Policy for Personal Data

The Regulation places an obligation on the CTF to exercise care in the disposal of personal data, including protecting its security and confidentiality during storage, transportation, handling, and destruction.

All staff have a responsibility to consider safety and security when disposing of personal data in the course of their work. Consideration should also be given to the nature of the personal data involved, how sensitive it is, and the format in which it is held.

Retention Policy for Personal Data Records

The Regulation places an obligation on the CTF not to hold personal data for longer than is necessary. The CTF's policy is to use the retention periods suggested in the University of Cambridge's Master Records Retention Schedule, as updated from time to time.

www.information-compliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/records-management

Contractors, Short-Term and Voluntary Staff

The CTF is responsible for the use made of personal data by anyone working on its behalf, whether as an agent, in a voluntary capacity, or as a consultant or contractor undertaking work for the CTF.

Transfer of Data Outside the CTF

When the CTF shares personal data with another organisation, liability for adherence to the Regulation, in relation to this data, rests with the CTF. Should the receiving organisation breach the Regulation, CTF would be held responsible for that breach.

A data sharing agreement may be required before sharing personal data with other organisations in order to conduct business.

Transfer of Data Overseas

The UK GDPR restricts transfers of personal data to a separate organisation located outside of the UK unless the rights of the individuals in respect of their personal data is protected in another way, or one of a limited number of exceptions applies. We will only transfer data where consent is given or adequate safeguards are in place to protect data on the same basis as it is being held in the UK.

Privacy notices

Privacy notices are provided on the website that should be read in conjunction with this policy.

Use of images

CTF will gain the consent of individuals whose images are used for marketing and PR activities, including in-print, online and on social media. We acknowledge that restrictions can be put on staff using such images in their personal publishing but that other people are outside the Federation's control.

Data Protection Officer

The CTF does not have (and is not required to have) an appointed Data Protection Officer.

Making a Request

Staff, students, users of the CTF's facilities, and members of the public have the right to access personal data that is being kept about them insofar as it falls within the scope of the Regulation. Requests should be made in writing via email to general-enquiries@theofed.cam.ac.uk or by post to Cambridge Theological Federation, The Bounds, Westminster College, Lady Margaret Road, Cambridge, CB3 0BJ.

The CTF does not charge an administrative fee to access information and will seek to ensure that the information is provided within 30 calendar days.

There is no right to an internal review of a decision taken regarding release of personal information. If the requestor is not satisfied with the response received from the CTF they do, however, have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner's Office at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF (ico.org.uk).

Definitions

Data	Information which is being used or held in a computerised system, or a 'relevant filing system' i.e. a manual filing system that is structured in such a way that data contained within it is readily accessible. Data can be written information, photographs, fingerprints or voice recordings.
Personal Data	Information that identifies and relates to a living individual, and includes any expression of opinion or intention about the individual.
Special Personal Data	Personal data consisting of information as to race/ethnic origin; political opinion; religious or similar beliefs; trade union membership; physical or mental health or condition; sexual life; and criminal record.
Processing	Anything which can be done with personal data i.e. obtaining, recording, holding, organising, adapting, altering, retrieving, consulting, disclosing, aligning, combining, blocking, erasing, destroying etc.
Data Subject	An individual who is the subject of personal data. This will include: staff, current and prospective students, graduates, suppliers of goods and services, business associates, conference delegates, survey respondents etc.
Data Controller	Refers to The Cambridge Theological Federation. This includes CTF staff who collect and process data on behalf of the CTF, and students who are collecting and processing personal data or as part of their studies.
Data Processor	Any person (other than an employee of the CTF) who processes personal data on behalf of the CTF e.g. printing agency.
Data Users	Refers to both Data Controller and Data Processors.