

The Blue Tangerine Federation

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SCHOOLS

POLICIES, GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURES



Data Protection Retention Schedule

Date Updated: September 2023

Staff Responsibility: Stephen Hoult-Allen

Date for Next Review: 1 September 2026

To be read in conjunction with The Blue Tangerine Federation's [GDPR Data Retention Policy](#)

Changes Since the Last Version:	
Section	Details of change
1.4.6	Change of email retention from 6 months to 1 year

Data Retention Schedule

1.1 Governing Body					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
1.1	Instruments of Government including Articles of Association	No		PERMANENT	These should be retained in the school whilst the school is open and then offered to County Archives Service when the school closes.
1.2	Trusts and Endowments managed by the Governing Body	No		PERMANENT	These should be retained in the school whilst the school is open and then offered to County Archives Service when the school closes.
1.3	Action plans created and administered by the Governing Body	No			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4	Policy documents created and administered by the Governing Body	No		Life of the policy	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.5	Records relating to complaints dealt with by the Governing Body	Yes		Date of the resolution of the complaint + 3 years then review for further retention in case of contentious disputes	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.6	Annual Reports created under the requirements of the Education (Governor's Annual Reports)(England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002	No	Education (Governor's Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 SI 2002 No 1171	One copy should be retained with the master set of minutes. All other copies can be disposed of	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.7	Proposals concerning the change of status of a maintained school including Specialist Status Schools and Academies	No		Date proposal accepted or declined + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

Please note that all information about the retention of records concerning the recruitment of Head Teachers can be found in the Human Resources section below.

1.2 Head Teacher and Senior Management Team

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
1.2.1	Log books of activity in the school maintained by the Head Teacher	There may be data protection issues if the log book refers to individual pupils or members of staff			
1.2.2	Minutes of Senior Management Team meetings and the meetings of other internal administrative bodies	There may be data protection issues if the minutes refers to individual pupils or members of staff			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.3	Reports created by the Head Teacher or the Management Team	There may be data protection issues if the report refers to individual pupils or members of staff			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.4	Records created by head teachers, deputy head teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	There may be data protection issues if the records refer to individual pupils or members of staff			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.5	Correspondence created by head teachers, deputy head teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	There may be data protection issues if the correspondence refers to individual pupils or members of staff			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.6	Professional Development Plans	Yes			SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.7	School Development Plans	No			SECURE DISPOSAL

1.3 Admissions Process

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
1.3.1	All records relating to the creation and implementation of the School Admissions' Policy	No	School Admissions Code Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014		DISPOSAL
1.3.2	Admissions – if the admission is successful	Yes	School Admissions Code Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Date of admission + Duration of stay at the school	SECURE DISPOSAL/ pass to next destination
1.3.3	Admissions – if the appeal is unsuccessful	Yes	School Admissions Code Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Resolution of case	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.4	Register of Admissions	Yes	School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014	Every entry in the admission register must be preserved for a period of three years after the date on which the entry was made. ³	REVIEW Schools may wish to consider keeping the admission register permanently as often schools receive enquiries from past pupils to confirm the dates they attended the school.
1.3.5	Proofs of address supplied by parents as part of the admissions process	Yes	School Admissions Code Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Current year	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.3 Admissions Process

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
1.3.6	Supplementary Information including additional information such as religion, medical conditions etc	Yes		Duration of time in the school	Pass to next destination

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1.4 Operational Administration

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
1.4.1	Records relating to the creation and publication of the school brochure or prospectus	No		Current year	STANDARD DISPOSAL
1.4.2	Records relating to the creation and distribution of circulars to staff, parents or pupils	No		Current year	STANDARD DISPOSAL
1.4.3	Newsletters and other items with a short operational use	No		Current year	STANDARD DISPOSAL
1.4.4	Visitors' Books and Signing in Sheets: Inventory	Yes		Current year	SECURE DELETION
1.4.5	Records relating to the creation and management of Parent Teacher Associations and/or Old Pupils Associations	No		Current year + 1 year then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.6	Email correspondence by school staff both within the school, federation and to others (e.g. professionals, parents)	Yes		Do not keep emails longer than necessary. Aim to delete emails regularly and do not keep those older than 12 months.	STANDARD DISPOSAL – DELETE AND EMPTY THE 'BIN'.

2. Human Resources

This section deals with all matters of Human Resources management within the school.

2.1 Recruitment					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
2.1.1	All records leading up to the appointment of a new headteacher	Yes		Date of appointment + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.2	All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – unsuccessful candidates	Yes		Date of interview + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.3	All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – successful candidate	Yes		All the relevant information should be added to the staff personal file (see below) and all other information retained for 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.4	Pre-employment vetting information – DBS Checks	No	DBS Update Service Employer Guide June 2014: Keeping children safe in education. July 2015 (Statutory Guidance from Dept. of Education) Sections 73, 74	The school should not keep copies of DBS certificates. This is no longer the case – copies of DBS certificates should be kept in the staff members file (Jan 2021).	SECURE DISPOSAL when required.
2.1.5	Proofs of identity collected as part of the process of checking “portable” enhanced DBS disclosure	Yes		These should be checked and a note kept of what was seen and what has been checked.	
2.1.6	Pre-employment vetting information – Evidence proving the right to work in the United Kingdom ⁴	Yes	An employer’s guide to right to work checks [Home Office May 2015]	Where possible these documents should be added to the Staff Personal File [see below], but if they are kept separately then the Home Office requires that the documents are kept for termination of Employment plus not less than two years	

2.2 Operational Staff Management

Basic file description Issues	Data Prot	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational] life of the record	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
2.2.1 Staff Personal File	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Termination of Employment + 7 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.2 Timesheets	Yes		Duration of employment	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.3 Annual appraisal/ assessment records	Yes		Duration of employment	SECURE DISPOSAL

2.3 Management of Disciplinary and Grievance Processes

Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
2.3.1 Allegation of a child protection nature against a member of staff including where the allegation is unfounded ⁵	Yes	“Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges March 2015”; “Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children March 2015”	Until the person’s normal retirement age or 10 years from the date of the allegation whichever is the longer then REVIEW. Note allegations that are found to be malicious should be removed from personnel files. If found they are to be kept on the file and a copy provided to the person concerned	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.3.2 Disciplinary Proceedings	Yes			
oral warning			Date of warning ⁶ + 6 months	
written warning – level 1			Date of warning + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL
written warning – level 2			Date of warning + 12 months	[If warnings are placed on personal files then they must be weeded from the file]
final warning			Date of warning + 18 months	
case not found			If the incident is child protection related then see above otherwise dispose of at the conclusion of the case	SECURE DISPOSAL

2.4 Health and Safety

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
2.4.1	Health and Safety Policy Statements	No		Life of policy	DISPOSAL
2.4.2	Health and Safety Risk Assessments	No		Life of risk assessment	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.3	Records relating to accident/injury at work	Yes		Date of incident + 12 years In the case of serious accidents a further retention period will need to be applied	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.4	Accident Reporting	Yes	Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979 Regulation 25. Social Security Administration Act 1992 Section 8. Limitation Act 1980		
		Adults		Date of the incident + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
		Children		DOB of the child + 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.5	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)	No	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002. SI 2002 No 2677 Regulation 11; Records kept under the 1994 and 1999 Regulations to be kept as if the 2002 Regulations had not been made. Regulation 18(2)	Current year + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.6	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have become in contact with asbestos	No	Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012 SI 1012 No 632 Regulation 19	Last action + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.7	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have become in contact with radiation	No		Last action + 50 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.8	Fire Precautions log books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

2.5 Payroll and Pensions					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
2.5.1	Maternity pay records	Yes	Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations 1986 (SI1986/1960), revised 1999 (SI1999/567)	Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.5.2	Records held under Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3. Financial Management of the School

This section deals with all aspects of the financial management of the school including the administration of school meals.

3.1 Risk Management and Insurance					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
3.1.1	Employer's Liability Insurance Certificate	No		Closure of the school + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.2 Asset Management					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
3.2.1	Inventories of furniture and equipment	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.2.2	Burglary, theft and vandalism report forms	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.3 Accounts and Statements including Budget Management

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
3.3.1	Annual Accounts	No		Current year + 6 years	STANDARD DISPOSAL
3.3.2	Loans and grants managed by the school	No	5.	Date of last payment on the loan + 6 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.4	All records relating to the creation and management of budgets including the Annual Budget statement and background papers	No		Life of the budget + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.5	Invoices, receipts, order books and requisitions, delivery notices	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.6	Records relating to the collection and banking of monies	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.7	Records relating to the identification and collection of debt	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.4 Contract Management

	Basic file description	Data Prot of the record	Statutory Issues	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the Provisions administrative life
3.4.1	All records relating to the management of contracts under seal	No	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.4.2	All records relating to the management of contracts under signature	No	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.4.3	Records relating to the monitoring of contracts	No		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.5 School Fund					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
3.5.1	School Fund - Cheque books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.2	School Fund - Paying in books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.3	School Fund – Ledger	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.4	School Fund – Invoices	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.5	School Fund – Receipts	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.6	School Fund - Bank statements	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.5.7	School Fund – Journey Books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.6 School Meals Management					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
3.6.1	Free School Meals Registers	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.6.2	School Meals Registers	Yes		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.6.3	School Meals Summary Sheets	No		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

4. Property Management

This section covers the management of buildings and property.

4.1 Property Management					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
4.1.1	Title deeds of properties belonging to the school	No		PERMANENT These should follow the property unless the property has been registered with the Land Registry	
4.1.2	Plans of property belong to the school	No		These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed onto any new owners if the building is leased or sold.	
4.1.3	Leases of property leased by or to the school	No		Expiry of lease + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.1.4	Records relating to the letting of school premises	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

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4.2 Maintenance					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
4.2.1	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by contractors	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.2.2	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by school employees including maintenance log books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

5. Pupil Management

This section includes all records which are created during the time a pupil spends at the school. For information about accident reporting see under Health and Safety above.

5.1 Pupil's Educational Record and information about the child					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
5.1.1	Pupil's Educational Record required by The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005	Yes	The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 SI 2005 No. 1437	Retain whilst the child remains at the school	The file should follow the pupil when he/she leaves the school. This will include: to another school to college to a place of employment (weeding out sensitive material) If the pupil dies whilst at school the file should be returned to the Local Authority to be retained for the statutory retention period.
5.1.2	Examination Results – Pupil Copies	Yes			
		Public		This information should be added to the pupil file	All uncollected certificates should be returned to the examination board.
		Internal		This information should be added to the pupil file	

5.1 Pupil's Educational Record

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
5.1.3	Child Protection information held on pupil file	Yes	<p>Keeping children safe in education</p> <p>Statutory guidance for schools and colleges</p> <p>Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children</p>	<p>If any records relating to child protection issues are placed on the pupil file, it should be in a sealed envelope and then retained for the same period of time as the pupil file</p>	<p>All CP records are transferred to the child's next academic institution; delivered and signed for.</p> <p>Otherwise, SECURE DISPOSAL – these records MUST be shredded and electronic copies removed from the school information management system.</p>
5.1.4	Child protection information held in separate files	Yes	<p>Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges</p> <p>Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children</p>	<p>If any records relating to child protection issues are placed on the pupil file, it should be in a sealed envelope and then retained for the same period of time as the pupil file</p>	<p>All CP records are transferred to the child's next academic institution; delivered and signed for.</p> <p>Otherwise, SECURE DISPOSAL – these records MUST be shredded</p>

5.2 Attendance					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
5.2.1	Attendance Registers	Yes	School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014	Every entry in the attendance register must be preserved for a period of three years after the date on which the entry was made.	SECURE DISPOSAL
5.2.2	Correspondence relating to authorized absence		Education Act 1996 Section 7	Current academic year	SECURE DISPOSAL

5.3 Special Educational Needs					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
5.3.1	Special Educational Needs files, reviews and Individual Education Plans	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of Birth of the pupil + 25 years	The EHCP is an SN Team LA document of which we hold copies. NOTE: This retention period is the minimum retention period that any pupil file should be kept. Some authorities choose to keep SEN files for a longer period of time to defend themselves in a “failure to provide a sufficient education” case. There is an element of business risk analysis involved in any decision to keep the records longer than the minimum retention period and this should be documented.
5.3.2	EHCP and any amendments made	Yes	Education Act 1996 Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 1	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years	The EHCP is an SN Team LA document. Our copy follows the child to their next destination.
5.3.3	Advice and information provided to parents regarding educational needs	Yes	Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 2	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years [This would normally be retained on the pupil file]	The EHCP is an SN Team LA document. Our copy follows the child to their next destination.
5.3.4	Accessibility Strategy	Yes	Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 14	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years [This would normally be retained on the pupil file]	The EHCP is an SN Team LA document. Our copy follows the child to their next destination.

6. Curriculum Management

6.1 Statistics and Management Information

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
6.1.1	Examination Results (Schools Copy)	Yes		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
	Examination Papers			The examination papers should be kept until any appeals/validation process is complete	SECURE DISPOSAL
6.1.2	Published Admission Number (PAN) Reports	Yes		Current year	SECURE DISPOSAL

6.2 Implementation of Curriculum

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
6.2.1	Schemes of Work	No		Current year	It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period or SECURE DISPOSAL
6.2.2	Timetable	No		Current year + 1 year	
6.2.3	Pupils' Work	No		Where possible pupils' work should be returned to the pupil at the end of the academic year if this is not the school's policy then current year	SECURE DISPOSAL

7. Extra Curricular Activities

7.1 Educational Visits outside the Classroom					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
7.1.1	Records created by schools to obtain approval to run an Educational Visit outside the Classroom	No	Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance website http://oeapng.info specifically Section 3 - "Legal Framework and Employer Systems" and Section 4 - "Good Practice".	Duration of time in school	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.1.2	Parental consent forms for school trips where there has been no major incident	Yes		Conclusion of the trip	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.1.3	Parental permission slips for school trips – where there has been a major incident	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	DOB of the pupil involved in the incident + 25 years The permission slips for all the pupils on the trip need to be retained to show that the rules had been followed for all pupils	Secure disposal

7.2 Walking in the locality of the schools

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
7.2.1	Evolve Procedure	Yes		Date of register + 3 years This takes into account the fact that if there is an incident requiring an accident report the register will be submitted with the accident report and kept for the period of time required for accident reporting	SECURE DISPOSAL [If these records are retained electronically any back up copies should be destroyed at the same time]

7.3 Family Liaison Officers and Home School Liaison Assistants					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
7.3.1	Day Books	Yes		Current year	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.3.2	Reports for outside agencies - where the report has been included on the case file created by the outside agency	Yes		Whilst child is attending school and then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.3.3	Referral forms	Yes		While the referral is current	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.3.4	Contact data sheets	Yes		Current year then review, if contact is no longer active then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.3.5	Contact database entries	Yes		Current year then review, if contact is no longer active then destroy	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.3.6	Group Registers	Yes		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

8. Central Government and Local Authority

This section covers records created in the course of interaction between the school and the local authority.

8.1 Local Authority					
	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
8.1.1	Attendance Returns	Yes		Current year	SECURE DISPOSAL
8.1.2	School Census Returns	No		Current year + 5 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
8.1.3	Circulars and other information sent from the Local Authority	No		Operational use	SECURE DISPOSAL

8.2 Central Government

	Basic file description	Data Prot Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period [Operational]	Action at the end of the administrative life of the record
8.2.1	OFSTED reports and papers	No		Life of the report then REVIEW	STANDARD DISPOSAL
8.2.2	Returns made to central government	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
8.2.3	Circulars and other information sent from central government	No		Operational use	STANDARD DISPOSAL

