

**ST MARY'S BENTWORTH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
STATEMENT OF INTENT (Data Protection - GDPR)**

Agreed/implemented by Full Governing Body

20th May 2026



General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – Statement of Intent in respect of GDPR and the Data Protection Officer (DPO) role

1. The Governing Body of St Mary's Bentworth CE Primary School understands that it is a Data Controller for the purposes of GDPR. It is also a Public Authority for GDPR purposes.
2. As the Governing Body of St Mary's Bentworth CE Primary School is a public authority it has appointed **Summer Sutherland** as Data Protection Officer (DPO) in order to comply with the requirements of the GDPR.
3. The high-level roles and responsibilities within St Mary's Bentworth CofE Primary School in respect of GDPR compliance are as follows:
 - a. The Governing Body – is the Data Controller and has overall responsibility for the School's data eco-system, policies and compliance with GDPR;
 - b. The Headteacher – is the School's Senior Leader and is responsible on a day-to-day basis, with the Senior Leadership Team, for overall GDPR compliance on behalf of the Governing Body;
 - c. The DPO is responsible for supporting the Headteacher and Governing Body to ensure compliance by undertaking the tasks set out in this document.
4. Our DPO is tasked with:
 - Monitoring the School's compliance with the GDPR, other data protection laws and the School's data protection policies;
 - Awareness-raising amongst staff and Governors within the School about data protection obligations;
 - Training of Staff and Governors on data protection;

- Audits in the School in respect of compliance with data protection obligations.
5. Our DPO shall report to the Headteacher and will also have direct access to report to the Governing Body for the purposes of their DPO role.
 6. The Governing Body and Headteacher recognise, agree and will seek to ensure that our DPO is given the required independence to perform their tasks. The Governing Body and Headteacher shall ensure that staff and Governors involve our DPO, in a timely manner, in all issues relating to the protection of personal data.
 7. In particular, the Governing Body and Headteacher shall ensure that:
 - The School's DPO is sufficiently well resourced and supported to be able to perform their tasks; including the time and resources required to acquire expertise and experience in the field of data protection as necessary
 - The school does not penalise the DPO for performing their duties;
 - Any other tasks or duties assigned to the DPO do not result in a conflict of Interests with their role as a DPO;
 - Staff and governors take account of the DPO's advice and the information they provide on data protection obligations;
 - When carrying out a DPIA, staff seek the advice of the DPO, who also monitors the process;
 - The School's DPO acts as a contact point for the ICO and will co-operate with the ICO;
 - When performing their tasks, the School's DPO shall have due regard to the risk associated with processing operations, and takes into account the nature, scope, context and purposes of processing data within the School.

This Statement was agreed and adopted by the Governing Body and Headteacher on 20th May 2026

Signed*J Ayres*.....

Jo Ayres, Headteacher

Signed:*M Fordyce*.....

Maria Fordyce, Chair of Governors