



Privacy

Privacy Policy

Blackall Range Independent School

Privacy Policy

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The *Blackall Range Independent School* (B.R.I.S.) is bound by the National Privacy Principles contained in the Commonwealth Privacy Act. This statement outlines the privacy policy of the school and describes how the school uses and manages personal information provided to or collected by it. This includes satisfying both the needs of parents and/or guardians (**Parents**) and the needs of the student throughout the whole period the student is enrolled in the school.

Scope

The policy applies to board members, employers, employees, volunteers, parents/guardians and students, and people visiting the school site; and describes the type of information the school collects, how the information is handled, how and to whom the information is disclosed, and how the information may be accessed.

Exclusion

Under the Privacy Act the National Privacy Principles do not apply to an employee record. As a result, this Privacy Policy does not apply to the school's treatment of an employee record, where the treatment is directly related to a current or former employment relationship between school and employee.

Responsibility *Principal*

Point of Contact *Principal*

LEGISLATION

Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)

Privacy Amendment Act 2004

POLICY

It is the policy of the school to collect personal information from time to time for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and reasonably expected, or to which you have consented.

The type of information the school collects and holds includes (but is not limited to) personal information, including sensitive information, about:

- students and parents and/or guardians, before, during and after the course of a student's enrolment at the school;
- job applicants, staff members, volunteers and contractors; and
- other people who come into contact with the school.

Types of Personal Information Collected

The school will generally collect personal information held about an individual by way of forms filled out by school personnel, Parents and students, face-to-face meetings and interviews, and telephone calls. On occasions people other than those associated with the school provide personal information.

In some circumstances the school may be provided with personal information about an individual from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional or a reference from another school.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this policy is to the best of our knowledge and belief correct at the date of publication. However, no warranty or guarantee is or can be given by Blackall Range Independent School or any member of their staff, and no liability is or can be accepted for any loss or damage resulting from any person relying on or using the information contained in this policy.



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Students and Parents

In relation to personal information about students and Parents, the school's primary purpose of collection is to enable the school to provide schooling for the student. This includes satisfying both the needs of Parents and the needs of the student throughout the whole period the student is enrolled in the school.

The purposes for which the school uses personal information of students and Parents include:

- to keep Parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling, through correspondence, newsletters and magazines;
- day-to-day administration;
- looking after student's educational, social and medical wellbeing;
- seeking donations and marketing for the school; and
- to satisfy the school's legal obligations and allow the school to discharge its duty of care.

In some cases where the school requests personal information about a student or Parent, if the information requested is not obtained, the school may not be able to enroll or continue the enrolment of the student.

Job applicants, staff members and contractors

In relation to personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors, the school's primary purpose of collection is to assess and (if successful) to engage the applicant, staff member or contractor, as the case may be.

The purposes for which the school uses personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors include:

- in administering the individual's employment or contract, as the case may be;
- for insurance purposes;
- in seeking funds and marketing for the school; and
- to satisfy the school's legal obligations, for example, in relation to child protection legislation.

Volunteers

The school also obtains personal information about volunteers who assist the school in its functions or conduct associated activities, such as alumni associations, that enable the school and volunteers to work together.

Marketing and fundraising

The school treats marketing and seeking donations for the future growth and development of the school as an important part of ensuring the school continues to be a quality learning environment in which both students and staff thrive. Personal information held by the school may be disclosed to an organisation that assists in the school's fundraising, for example, the School's Foundation or Alumni organisation.

Parents, staff, contractors and other members of the wider school community may from time to time receive fundraising information. School publications, like newsletters and magazines which include personal information, may be used for marketing purposes.

Disclosure of Personal Information

The school may disclose personal information, including sensitive information, held about an individual to:

- another school
- government departments;
- medical practitioners;
- people providing services to the school, including specialist visiting teachers and sports coaches;
- recipients of school publications, like newsletters and magazines
- Parents; and
- anyone you authorize the school to disclose information to.

Sending information overseas



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The school will not send personal information about an individual outside Australia without:

- obtaining the consent of the of the individual (or some cases this consent will be implied); or
- otherwise complying with the National Privacy Principles.

Sensitive Information

In referring to 'sensitive information', the school means: information relating to a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion, trade union or other professional or trade association membership, sexual preferences or criminal record; and health information about an individual.

Sensitive information will be used and disclosed only for the purpose for which it was provided or a directly related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise, or the use or disclosure of the sensitive information is allowed by law.

The school's staff are required to respect the confidentiality of students' and Parents' personal information and the privacy of individuals. The school has in place steps to protect the personal information the school holds from misuse, loss, unauthorised access, modification or disclosure by use of various methods including locked storage of paper records and pass worded access rights to computerised records.

Access to Personal Information

The school endeavours to ensure that the personal information it holds is accurate, complete and up-to-date. A person may seek to update their personal information held by the school by contacting the Principal of the school at any time.

The National Privacy Principles require the school not to store personal information longer than necessary.

Under the Commonwealth Privacy Act, an individual has the right to obtain access to any personal information which the school holds about them and to advise the school of any perceived inaccuracy. There are some exceptions to this right set out in the Act. Students will generally have access to their personal information through their Parents, but older students may seek access themselves.

To make a request to access any information the school holds about you or your child, please contact the Principal in writing.

The school may require you to verify your identity and specify what information you require. The school may charge a fee to cover the cost of verifying your application and locating, retrieving, reviewing and copying any material requested. If the information sought is extensive, the school will advise the likely cost in advance.

Parental rights

The school respects every Parent's right to make decisions concerning their child's education.

Generally, the school will refer any request for consent and notices in relation to the personal information of a student to the student's Parents. The school will treat consent given by Parents as consent given on behalf of the student, and notice to Parents will act as notice given to the student.

Parents may seek access to personal information held by the school about them or their child by contacting the Principal. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where release of the information would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, or where the release may result in a breach of the school's duty of care to the student.

The school may, at its discretion, on the request of a student grant that student access to information held by the school about them, or allow a student to give or withhold consent to the use of their personal information, independently of their Parents. This would normally be done only when the maturity of the student and/or the student's personal circumstances so warranted (for example, if the student was over 16 years of age and living independently).



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POLICY RELEASE DETAILS

Date of Policy July 2008

Approved by Executive

Review Date As appropriate, to take account of new laws and technology, changes to school's operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing environment.

RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

Child Protection Policy
Disabilities Policy