
PRIVACY POLICY

Woodlands Group of Churches



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Section A. Purpose

Your personal information will be held by Woodlands Group of Churches (We, us, our).

The law in the UK requires us to manage personal information in accordance with data protection principles. This notice tells you what personal information we collect, how we use it, who we may share it with, steps we take to protect and secure it, your rights under data protection law and finally, how you can contact us with questions or concerns.

We are committed to the privacy of the personal information that is entrusted to us and we want to ensure you can exercise your privacy rights.

Section B. Scope

1 Who we are

Name of Organisation: Woodlands Group of Churches

Address: Woodlands Christian Centre, Belgrave Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2AA

E-mail address: office@woodlandschurch.net

Statutory statement: Woodlands Group of Churches is registered in England and Wales at Woodlands Christian Centre, Belgrave Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2AA as a company limited by guarantee (number 06569993) and as a charity (number 1125029).

1.1 Congregations

Woodlands Church is a large city centre church, comprising of 1500 adults and 500 children. It has multiple Sunday services in Woodlands building. It also has two other congregations, Metro, a rapidly growing young adults congregation meeting at We the Curious, the other congregation meets at All Saints Church in Hartcliffe.

Community Church is based in Southmead, Brentry, Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym areas of Bristol. It has 250 adults and 85 children. Branch congregation meet in the afternoon at the Bristol Community Links North building.

Highgrove is based in Sea Mills and comprises of 190 adults and 80 children.

Section C. Policy

1 Personal information we may hold about you

We use a wide range of personal information about you that we have put into the following categories.

Personal Information Category	Description
Contact	Information we can use to make contact with you and where you live.
Transactional	Information relating to payments, credit and debit payments.
Consents	Information relating to permissions, consents and contact preferences.
Disclosure & Baring Service (DBS) Checks	Information relating to checks completed on individuals within the church who work with children and vulnerable adults.

Course and Event Management	Information relating to your attendance at conferences, courses or special events you have attended.
Giving / Gift Aid	Information relating to the money you give to church and where relevant our engagement with the HMRC to claim back tax via the gift aid process.

2 Where we collect personal information from

We may collect personal information about you from the following sources:

- In application forms you complete, from emails and letters you send us, when registering for events, courses and special events and when using our websites.
- The Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) when you ask to work with children or vulnerable adults.

3 What we use your personal information for

We will use your personal information for the following purposes:

- Managing our relationship with you, including administering membership records;
- For prayer and pastoral care purposes;
- Responding to your enquiries and complaints;
- Running the church in an effective way, including managing finance, maintaining accounts and records, business capability, planning, charity governance and audits;
- Providing you with services and notifying you about either important changes or developments to the features and operation of those services;
- Updating, consolidating, and improving the accuracy of our records;
- Informing you of news, events, activities and associated ministries;
- Ensuring we comply with the law for example when responding to court orders, or legal processes; to establish or exercise our legal rights or, defend against legal claims;
- To investigate, prevent or detect crime or illegal activities and situations involving potential threats to the safety of any person;
- HM Revenue & Customs or other authorities require it; and
- Testing new systems and checking upgrades to existing systems.

4 Recipients of personal information

When we use your personal information in the ways described above, we may need to share it with other organisations outside our group of churches, as detailed below:

- HM Revenue & Customs or other lawful authorities;
- Our agents, service providers, contractors and others involved in running church events and activities;
- Banks and other debit/credit card providers when managing payments or refunds.

We will never sell your personal information to third parties.

5 Using your personal information to keep in contact

Woodlands Group of Churches will use your personal information to keep in touch with you, for example providing updates on church life including news about special events, services, courses, highlighting ways you can engage in church life and general information which we believe will be of interest to you.

We will not contact you if you have asked us not to.

You can ask us to stop sending you communications or change your contact preferences at any time by contacting us, using any convenient means.

We will not provide information about you to organisations outside of Woodlands Group of Churches unless you have given us your explicit consent to do so.

6 How long will we retain your personal information?

We will continue to hold your personal information for as long as you wish to maintain a relationship with us. You also have the right to ask us to delete your personal information if you believe we no longer have a valid reason to continue holding it.

7 Confidentiality and security of personal information

The security of your personal information is of paramount importance to us and we use a wide range of technical and organisational security measures to safeguard it, including physical, electronic, and procedural controls.

From time to time we may publish photographs or video, captured at church events and meetings, on our websites or social media to help publicise events or demonstrate church life. We do not normally process personal information when using such content, but nonetheless want to provide you with the opportunity to object if you would rather not have images of yourself used in this way. Please use the contact page link on this site, email or write to us at our registered address to object. We will ask for your explicit consent when displaying your name alongside any such content.

8 Obtaining a copy of your personal information

You have the right of access copies of the personal information we hold about you by writing to us at:

DSAR Request
Woodlands Group of Churches
Woodlands Christian Centre
Belgrave Road
Clifton
Bristol BS8 2AA

If any personal information is inaccurate or incorrect, please let us know and we will correct it.

9 Other important rights

You have the following additional rights:

- The right to request that we correct any personal information if it is found to be inaccurate.
- The right to request that your personal information is erased where we no longer have a valid basis to continue processing it.
- The right to withdraw your consent to us processing your personal information.
- The right to object to the processing of personal information in certain limited circumstances.
- The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office.

If you are a member of the church we are able to provide you with access to the My ChurchSuite platform, available in "app" form or within a browser. This will allow you to access your personal information and that of your children, keep it up to date and manage your privacy settings. To receive access to My ChurchSuite simply email your request to buildings@woodlandschurch.net and we will contact you with an invitation to set up your own secure account.

To exercise any of your Rights please contact us by using the contact page link on this website, email or by writing to us at our registered address.

10 Contacting us about privacy concerns

If you have a privacy concern regarding Woodlands Group of Churches, or this Privacy Policy, and if you cannot satisfactorily resolve it through the use of this website, you should contact us using the contact page link, email or by writing to us at our registered address.

In some instances, honoring your requests (for example requesting that we erase your personal information) may preclude your ability to use our website or access other services.

You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Office on 0303 123 1113, via email (see <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/email/>) or in writing at The Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

11 Changes to privacy policy

If there is ever a change to how we use or intend to use your personal information, we will post that change to this policy and, where necessary, we will seek your consent to such new uses.

Policy review

We keep our policy framework under regular review.

This Policy was last reviewed	Date	Trustee minute sign off date	Next review date
Privacy Policy v1.1	May 2018		
Privacy Policy v.1.2	June 2021	24 th June 2021	June 2022

Appendix 1 – Table of ownership

Policy	Owner
Staff Handbook	HR Lead
Safeguarding	Safeguarding Lead
Health & Safety	Premises and Operations Lead
GDPR Privacy Policy	Premises and Operations Lead
Complaints Policy	Trustees
Finance Policies	Finance Manager