

Privacy Policy

Brighton Primary School

1542

Brighton Primary School is bound by the Victorian privacy legislation as well as other laws that impose specific obligations in regard to handling personal and health information that directly or indirectly identifies a person. The privacy policy and principles in this document are in accordance with these laws.

Brighton Primary School is committed to protecting the privacy of personal and health information. This Privacy Policy embodies this commitment.

The policy supports the school's need to collect information and the right of the individual to privacy. It ensures that Brighton Primary School can collect personal and health information necessary for its services and functions, while recognising the right of individuals to have their information handled in ways that they would reasonably expect and in ways that protect the privacy of their personal and health information.

Policy

Personal and health information is collected and used by Brighton Primary School for the following purposes:

- to assist Brighton Primary School and its employees to fulfil its duty of care to children
- to plan, fund, monitor and evaluate services and functions
- to comply with DEECD reporting requirements
- to investigate incidents in schools and/or defend any legal claims against the service, or its employees

Brighton Primary School has adopted the ten information privacy principles (IPP) developed by the Office of the Victorian Privacy Commissioner (www.privacy.vic.gov.au and search IPP') as minimum standards in relation to handling personal and health information.

In broad terms, this means that Brighton Primary School:

- collect only information which is required for a specified primary purpose
- ensure that the person supplying the information knows why the information is collected and how it will be handled
- use and disclose it only for the primary or a directly related purpose, or for another purpose with the person's consent (unless otherwise required, permitted or authorised by law)
- store it securely, protecting it from unauthorised access retain it for the period authorised by the Public Records Act 1973, and take reasonable steps to permanently
- de-identify personal or health information when it is no longer needed
- provide people with access to their own personal information and permit people to seek corrections if necessary. This will usually be handled under the Freedom of Information Act 1982. For DEECD services not covered by this Act, access will be available as prescribed by the Victorian privacy laws.

Brighton Primary School in collecting personal and health information will:

- address the privacy issues relevant to their functions and only collect and use this
- information in accordance with the privacy principles
- manage this information according to privacy policies created for the area of service DEECD provides in accordance with the privacy principles.

Brighton Primary School in using personal and health information but do not directly collect personal and health information will apply the privacy principles when handling personal and health information.

Research: Brighton Primary School will usually only use or disclose an individual's personal or health information for research or the compilation of statistics with the individual's consent. When research or the compilation of statistics which is in the public interest cannot be undertaken with de-identified information, and where it is impractical to seek the individual's consent, the research or compilation of statistics will be carried out in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans issued by the National Health and Medical Research Council (1999) and in accordance with the Health Services Commissioner guidelines.

Complaints

A complaint about information privacy is an expression of dissatisfaction with Brighton Primary School procedures, staff, agents or quality of service associated with the collection or handling of personal or health information. Brighton Primary School will be efficient and fair when investigating and responding to information privacy complaints. The process for investigation and response to these complaints is set out in Brighton Primary School Complaints Policy.

Principles

The key Information Privacy Principles (IPPs) and Health Privacy Principles (HPPs) Principles are listed here. Only the key principles have been selected and are provided in summary. The full exceptions qualifying many of the principles are not included.

Collection: Brighton Primary School must collect only personal and health information that is necessary for performance or functions. Individuals should be told why this information is required, what it will be used for and that they can gain access to their personal and health information.

Use and disclosure: Brighton Primary School must only use or disclose personal and health information:

- for the primary purpose for which it was collected
- for a related secondary purpose (which must be a directly related purpose in the case of health or sensitive information) that the person would reasonably expect
- with the consent of the person
- unless otherwise required, permitted or authorised by law principles

Data quality: Brighton Primary School must make sure personal and health information is accurate, complete and up-to-date.

Data security: Brighton Primary School must take reasonable steps to protect personal and health information from misuse, loss, unauthorised access, modification and disclosure.

Openness: Brighton Primary School must document clearly expressed policies on management of personal and health information and make these policies available to anyone who asks for them.

Access and correction: Individuals have a right to seek access to their personal and health information and make corrections.

Unique identifiers: A unique identifier is usually a number assigned to an individual in order to identify the person for the purposes of an organisation's operations. Tax File Numbers and Medicare numbers are examples. Unique identifiers can facilitate data matching. Data matching can diminish privacy. Privacy laws limit the adoption and sharing of unique numbers. Brighton Primary School will limit the use of unique identifiers as required by the Victorian privacy laws.

Anonymity: When lawful and practicable, individuals should be able to remain anonymous in transactions with services.

Transborder data flows: Transfer of personal and health information outside Victoria is restricted by privacy laws. Personal and health information may be transferred only if the recipient protects privacy under standards similar to Victoria's IPPs/HPPs.

Sensitive information: The Information Privacy Act 2000 restricts collection of sensitive information about an individual's racial or ethnic origin, political views, religious beliefs, sexual preferences, membership of groups or criminal record. Brighton Primary School will apply IPP10 when collecting and handling sensitive information.

The full exceptions qualifying many of the principles are not included here, but can be found at the Privacy Victoria website.

Further information is available here:

- **DEECD's Privacy Unit** Email: privacy.enquiries@edumail.vic.gov.au
Telephone: (03) 9637 3601
- **DEECD's Freedom of** Email: FOI@edumail.vic.gov.au
- **Information Unit** Telephone (03) 9637 2670
- **DEECD website** <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/privacy.htm>
- **Victorian privacy laws** Privacy Victoria website: <http://www.privacy.vic.gov.au>
Telephone: 1300 666 444
- **Office of the Victorian Health** Website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hsc>
- **Services Commissioner** Telephone: (03) 8601 5200

This policy was ratified at School Council June, 2014

This policy will be reviewed 2017