

Freedom of Information Policy

Category:	Trust-wide Policy
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Version:	4
Status:	Ratified
Issue Date:	May 2025
Next Review Date:	May 2027

Version Control

<u>Ver.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1	February 2019	Initial policy
2	July 2019	Cyclical revision
3	January 2023	Cyclical revision
4	March 2025	Cyclical review

This policy will be subject to ongoing review and may be amended prior to the scheduled date of the next review in order to reflect changes in legislation, statutory guidance, or best practice (where appropriate).

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1. Statutory duties

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to the Trustees and Local Advisory Boards across Eden Academy Trust schools.

The Eden Academy Trust and (the Trust) its schools are required to:

- Make information available proactively through a Publication Scheme; and
- Deal with specific requests for information.

2. Publication scheme

The Trust has adopted the Model Publication Scheme for schools as provided by the Information Commissioner which outlines the information that the Trust's schools should proactively publish.

The Scheme sets out seven categories of information that the Trust publishes, the form in which the information is published, and whether charges apply.

3. The right to request information

The public have a right to request information held by a public authority.

Requests should be made in writing.

The Trust will respond within the, the standard time limit for schools which is 20 school days, or 60 working days if this is shorter.

In calculating the working days, the Trust will make use of the Freedom of Information (Time for Compliance with Request) Regulations 2010.

The Trust may charge a fee for providing information (as detailed in the Schedule of Charges within the Publication Scheme).

The Trust will not be required to release information to which an exemption in the Act legitimately applies.

The Trust will explain to the applicant why the information may not be released.

Further information relating to requests for information and exemptions can be found on the Information Commissioners website:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/what-is-the-foi-act/>

The Trust will review and amend this policy in light of any future guidance from the Information Commissioner or case law.

4. Eden Academy Trust publication scheme

One of the aims of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('FOIA') is that public authorities including schools should be clear and proactive about the information that they will make public.

To do this, we have adopted the publication scheme setting out:

- The classes of information which we publish or intend to publish;

- The manner in which the information will be published; and
- Whether the information is available free of charge or on payment.

The Scheme covers information already published and information which is to be published in the future.

All the information is either available on our website (<https://theedenacademy.co.uk>) for you to view, download or print, or is available on request in either electronic or paper form.

It is our aim to place as much of the information under the Publication Scheme on our website and the Trust will routinely update this Publication Scheme to include the relevant website links.

5. How to request information

If you require a paper version of any of the documents within the Scheme, please contact the Trust by email, phone, fax or letter. Contact details are set out below:

- Email – dataprotection@theedenacademy.co.uk
- Telephone – 01895 609120
- Address – Eden Academy Trust, c/o Moorcroft School, Bramble Close, Uxbridge UB8 3BF

To help us process your request quickly please clearly mark any correspondence “Publication Scheme Request”. If the information you are looking for is not available via the Scheme and is not on our website, you can still contact the Trust and its schools and ask for it.

As specified above, we ask that requests are made in writing. However, we may also respond to a verbal request if it is sufficiently clear and straight forward. It is at the staff member’s sole discretion to ask that a verbal request be put in writing if it is considered appropriate.

The information in the Publication Scheme is as follows:

5.1. Who we are and what we do

Organisational information, structures, locations, contacts – current information only

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Who’s who in the Trust	Eden Academy Trust website	Free
Academy Funding Agreements	Link to the document on the DfE website	Free
School staff and structure – names of key personnel	Individual school websites, as well as the Eden Academy Trust website (for Eden Academy Trust staff)	Free

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Local Advisory Boards – names and contact details of the members and the basis of their appointment	Individual school websites	Free
Schools' location and contact information – address, telephone number & website	Eden Academy Trust and individual school websites	Free
Contact details for the Directors (Trustees)	Eden Academy Trust website	Free
School Prospectus	Individual school offices	Free
School session times & term dates	School websites & hard copy on request	Free

5.2. What we spend and how we spend it

Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, procurement, contracts and financial audit – current & 2 years' financial years' history

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Annual budget plan and financial statements	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Capital funding – details of capital funding allocated to each school along with information on related building projects and other capital projects	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Additional funding – Income generation schemes and other sources of funding	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Procurement and contracts – details of procedures used for the acquisition of goods and services. Details of contracts that have gone through a formal tendering process	On request	Free
Staffing and grading structure	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Pay policy – a statement of the Trust's policy on procedures regarding teachers' and non-teaching staff pay	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Trustees and Local Advisory Board members' allowances – details of allowances and expenses that can be claimed or incurred	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free

5.3. What our priorities are and how we are doing

Strategies and plans, performance indicators, audits, inspections and reviews

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
School profile	Individual school websites	Free
Ofsted report – summary and full report	Individual school websites & hard copy on request	Free
Trust's Development Plan	Eden Academy Trust website	Free
Trust's future plans – any major proposals on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children	Eden Academy Trust website	Free
Child protection – policies and procedures on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children	Eden Academy Trust and individual school websites	Free

5.4. How we make decisions

Decision-making processes and records of decisions – current & previous 3 years min.

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Admissions policy – arrangements and procedures and right of appeal	Individual school, websites (through the Local Offer documents and school admission policies)	Free

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Board of Trustees meeting agendas and minutes	Minutes are available on the Eden Academy Trust website; agendas are available on request via board.clerk@theedenacademy.co.uk	Free
Local Advisory Board meeting agendas	Minutes are available on the individual school websites with agendas available from the LAB clerk	Free
Instrument of governance (Governance Charter)	Eden Academy Trust website	Free
Scheme of delegation	Eden Academy Trust website	Free

5.5. Our policies and procedures

Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivering our services and responsibilities

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Trust and school policies including Safeguarding	Trust-wide policies on the Eden Academy Trust website. School-based policies on the individual school websites. Hard copies available on request	Free
Financial policies including Anti-Fraud policy	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Information policies including Freedom of Information and School Information	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Pupil & curriculum policies including Home-School Agreement	School websites & hard copy on request	Free
Records management and personal data policies including Data Protection policies	Eden Academy Trust website & hard copy on request	Free
Equality & diversity	Eden Academy Trust/School website & hard copy on request	Free

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Charging regimes & policies	Eden Academy Trust website/School & hard copy on request	Free

5.6. Lists & registers

Currently maintained lists and registers only

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Curriculum circulars and statutory instruments		Free
Disclosure logs		Free
Asset register		Free
Any information the Trust is legally required to hold in publicly available registers		Free

5.7. The services we offer

Current information about the services we offer, including leaflets, guidance and newsletters produced for the public and businesses

Information to be published	How the information can be obtained	Cost
Extra-curricular activities	Individual school websites, newsletters	Free
Out of school clubs	Family Services section on the Eden Academy Trust website & individual school offices	Free
School publications		Free
Services for which the Trust is entitled to recover a fee, together with those fees		Free
Leaflets	Eden Academy Trust office	Free
Newsletters	Individual school offices and via school websites	Free

6. Schedule of charges

This Schedule of charges applies only to information requested under this policy. Information published on our website is free. If your request means we have to do

photocopying or printing, or pay a large postage charge, we will let you know the cost before fulfilling the request.

Type of charge	Description	Basis of charge
Disbursement cost	Photocopying/printing @ 10p per sheet (black & white)	Actual cost *
	Postage	Actual cost (Royal Mail 2nd class)

** The actual cost incurred by the public authority*