

Data Protection Policy

September 2026

Battle Baptist Church
Being Transformed Together



Battle Baptist Church
Mount Street
Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EG

Battle Baptist Church is committed to protecting all information that we handle about people we support and work with, and to respecting people's rights around how their information is handled. This policy explains our responsibilities and how we will meet them.

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Section A – What this policy is for

1. Policy statement

- 1.1 Battle Baptist Church is committed to protecting personal data and respecting the rights of our **data subjects**; the people whose **personal data** we collect and use. We value the personal information entrusted to us and we respect that trust by complying with all relevant laws, and adopting good practice.

We process personal data to help us:

- a) maintain our list of church members and regular attendees;
- b) provide pastoral support for members and others connected with our church;
- c) provide services to the community including Caterpillar Toddlers, Dementia Support Group, Renew 1066, Coffee Club, Grove Kids and Grove Youth;
- d) safeguard children, young people and adults at risk;
- e) recruit, support and manage staff and volunteers;
- f) maintain our accounts and records;
- g) promote our services;
- h) maintain the security of property and premises; and
- i) respond effectively to enquirers and handle any complaints

- 1.2 The Trustees of Battle Baptist Church act as its data controller which means they decide how personal data is processed and for what purposes. They are responsible for ensuring that BBC complies with all its legal obligations. They have approved this policy which sets out the legal rules that apply whenever we obtain, store or use personal data.

2. Why this policy is important

- 2.1 We are committed to protecting personal data from being misused, getting into the wrong hands as a result of poor security or being shared carelessly, or being inaccurate, as we are aware that people can be upset or harmed if any of these things happen.
- 2.2 This policy sets out the measures we are committed to taking as an organisation and, what each of us will do to ensure we comply with the relevant legislation.
- 2.3 In particular, we will make sure that all personal data is:
- a) processed **lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner**;
 - b) processed for **specified, explicit and legitimate purposes** and not in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes;
 - c) **adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary** for the purposes for which it is being processed;
 - d) **accurate** and, where necessary, up to date;

- e) **not kept longer than necessary** for the purposes for which it is being processed;
- f) processed in a **secure** manner, by using appropriate technical and organisational means;
- g) processed in keeping with the **rights of data subjects** regarding their personal data.

3. How this policy applies to you & what you need to know

- 3.1 **As an employee, trustee or volunteer** processing personal information on behalf of the church, you are required to comply with this policy. If you think that you have accidentally breached the policy, it is important that you contact our Data Protection Officer immediately so that we can take swift action to try and limit the impact of the breach.

Anyone who breaches the Data Protection Policy may be subject to disciplinary action, and where that individual has breached the policy intentionally, recklessly, or for personal benefit they may also be liable to prosecution or to regulatory action.

- 3.2 **As a leader:** You are required to make sure that any procedures that involve personal data relating to an area for which you have responsibility follow the rules set out in this Data Protection Policy.
- 3.3 **As a data subject of Battle Baptist Church:** We will handle your personal information in line with this policy.
- 3.4 **As an appointed data processor/contractor:** Companies who are appointed by us as a data processor (such as ChurchSuite) are required to comply with this policy under the contract with us. Any breach of the policy will be taken seriously and could lead to us taking contract enforcement action against the company, or terminating the contract. Data processors have direct obligations under the UK GDPR, primarily to only process data on instructions from the controller (us) and to implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk involved.
- 3.5 The Church Administrator acts as BBC's **Data Protection Officer**, and, together with our Data Protection Trustee, is responsible for advising Battle Baptist Church and its staff and members about their legal obligations under data protection law, monitoring compliance with data protection law, dealing with data security breaches and with the development of this policy. Any questions about this policy or any concerns that the policy has not been followed should be referred to them at office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk.
- 3.6 Before you collect or handle any personal data as part of your work (paid or otherwise) for Battle Baptist Church, it is important that you take the time to read this policy carefully and understand what is required of you, as well as the organisation's responsibilities when we process data.

- 3.7 Our procedures will be in line with the requirements of this policy, but if you are unsure about whether anything you plan to do, or are currently doing, might breach this policy you must first speak to the Data Protection Officer

4. Training and guidance

- 4.1 We will provide general training at least annually for all staff to raise awareness of their obligations and our responsibilities, as well as to outline the law.
- 4.2 We may also issue procedures, guidance or instructions from time to time.

Section B – Our data protection responsibilities

5. What personal information do we process?

- 5.1 In the course of our work, we may collect and process information (personal data) about many different people (data subjects). This includes data we receive straight from the person it is about, for example, where they complete forms or contact us. We may also receive information about data subjects from other sources including, for example, previous employers.
- 5.2 We process personal data in both electronic and paper form and all this data is protected under data protection law. The personal data we process can include information such as names and contact details, education or employment details, references and appraisals, and visual images of people.
- 5.3 In some cases, we hold types of information that are called “**special categories**” of data in the UK GDPR.

‘Special categories’ of data (as referred to in the UK GDPR) includes information about a person’s racial or ethnic origin; political opinions; religious or similar (e.g. philosophical) beliefs; trade union membership; health (including physical and mental health, and the provision of health care services); genetic data; biometric data; sexual life and sexual orientation. *Details of church membership are considered to be Special Category Data because it gives information about a person’s religious views.*

Special Category Data does not include personal data about criminal allegations, proceedings or convictions (‘Criminal Offence Data’), as separate rules apply. Other than in the circumstances described in paragraphs 5.4 to 5.8 below, information relating to criminal convictions and offences should not be processed unless the processing is authorised by law or is carried out under the control of official authority. Special Category Data can only be processed under strict conditions, including the data subject’s explicit consent (although other alternative conditions can apply in limited, very specific circumstances as described below).

We will not hold information relating to criminal proceedings or offences or allegations of offences unless there is a clear lawful basis to process this data.

- 5.4 We may process information relating to Criminal Offence Data to safeguard against any risks posed to others under Article 6(1)(f) UK GDPR where the processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests of Battle Baptist Church but not where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child.
- 5.5 We may also process Special Category or Criminal Offence Data where it fulfils one of the substantial public interest conditions under Schedule 1, Part 2 of the Data Protection Act 2018, in particular, Conditions 10, 11, 12, 18 and 19.
- 5.6 We may also seek to obtain, use and retain Criminal Offence Data in reliance upon Condition 31 relating to criminal convictions under Schedule 1, Part 3 of the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 5.7 Full details of the Conditions referred to in 5.5 and 5.6 above can be found in BBC's "Appropriate Policy Document" in Annex 3 of this policy.
- 5.8 The processing of Special Category and Criminal Offence Data described in paragraphs 5.4 to 5.8 will only ever be carried out on the advice of statutory authorities, the Ministries Team of the Baptist Union of Great Britain or our Regional Association Safeguarding contact person.
- 5.9 Other data may also be considered 'sensitive' such as bank details but will not be subject to the same legal protection as the types of data listed above.

6. Making sure processing is fair and lawful

- 6.1 Processing of personal data will only be fair and lawful when the purpose for the processing meets a legal basis, as listed below, and when the processing is transparent. This means we will provide people with an explanation of how and why we process their personal data at the point we collect data from them, as well as when we collect data about them from other sources.

How can we legally use personal data?

- 6.2 Processing of personal data is only lawful if at least one of these legal conditions, as listed in Article 6 of the UK GDPR, is met:
- a) the processing is **necessary for a contract** with the data subject;
 - b) the processing is **necessary for us to comply with a legal obligation**;
 - c) the processing is necessary to protect someone's life (this is called "**vital interests**");
 - d) the processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the **public interest**, and the task has a clear basis in law;

- e) the processing is **necessary for legitimate interests** pursued by Battle Baptist Church or another organisation, unless these are overridden by the interests, rights and freedoms of the data subject.
- f) If none of the other legal conditions apply, the processing will only be lawful if the data subject has given their clear **consent**.

How can we legally use Special Category Data?

6.3 Processing of Special Category Data is only lawful when, in addition to the conditions above, one of the extra conditions, as listed in Article 9 of the UK GDPR, is met. These conditions include where:

- a) the processing is necessary for **carrying out our obligations under employment and social security and social protection law**;
- b) the processing is necessary for **safeguarding the vital interests** (in emergency, life or death situations) **of an individual** and the data subject is incapable of giving consent;
- c) the processing is carried out in the **course of our legitimate activities** and only relates to our members or persons we are in regular contact with in connection with our purposes;
- d) the processing is necessary for **pursuing legal claims**.
- e) If none of the other legal conditions apply, the processing will only be lawful if the data subject has given their **explicit consent**.

6.4 Before deciding which condition should be relied upon, we may refer to the original text of the UK GDPR as well as any relevant guidance, and seek legal advice as required.

What must we tell individuals before we use their data?

6.5 If personal data is collected directly from the individual, we will inform them about our identity/contact details and those of the Data Protection Officer; the reasons for processing; and the legal bases, explaining our legitimate interests, and explaining, where relevant, the consequences of not providing data needed for a contract or statutory requirement; who we will share the data with; if we plan to send the data outside of the United Kingdom; how long the data will be stored and the data subjects' rights.

This information is commonly referred to as a 'Privacy Notice'. A copy of our standard Privacy Notice can be found at Annex 1.

This information will be given at the time when the personal data is collected.

6.6 If data is collected from another source, rather than directly from the data subject, we will provide the data subject with the information described in section 6.5 as well as the categories of the data concerned; and the source of the data.

This information will be provided to the individual in writing and no later than within **1 month** after we receive the data, unless a legal exemption under the UK GDPR applies. If we use the data to communicate with the data subject, we will at the latest give them this information at the time of the first communication.

If we plan to pass the data onto someone else outside of Battle Baptist Church, we will give the data subject this information before we pass on the data.

7. When we need consent to process data

- 7.1 Where none of the other legal conditions apply to the processing, and we are required to get consent from the data subject, we will clearly set out what we are asking consent for, including why we are collecting the data and how we plan to use it. Consent will be specific to each process we are requesting consent for and we will only ask for consent when the data subject has a real choice whether or not to provide us with their data.
- 7.2 Consent can however be withdrawn at any time and if withdrawn, the processing will stop. Data subjects will be informed of their right to withdraw consent and it will be as easy to withdraw consent as it is to give consent.

8. Processing for specified purposes

- 8.1 We will only process personal data for the specific purposes explained in our privacy notices (as described above in section 6.5.) or for other purposes specifically permitted by law. We will explain those other purposes to data subjects in the way described in section 6, unless there are lawful reasons for not doing so.

9. Data will be adequate, relevant and not excessive

- 9.1 We will only collect and use personal data that is needed for the specific purposes described above (which will normally be explained to the data subjects in privacy notices). We will not collect more than is needed to achieve those purposes. We will not collect any personal data “just in case” we want to process it later.

10. Accurate data

- 10.1 We will make sure that personal data held is accurate and, where appropriate, kept up to date. The accuracy of personal data will be checked at the point of collection and at appropriate points later on.

11. Keeping data and destroying it

- 11.1 We will not keep personal data longer than is necessary for the purposes that it was collected for. We will comply with official guidance issued to our sector about retention periods for specific records.

- 11.2 Information about how long we will keep records for can be found in our Data Retention Schedule.

12. Security of personal data

- 12.1 We will use appropriate measures to keep personal data secure at all points of the processing. Keeping data secure includes protecting it from unauthorised or unlawful processing, or from accidental loss, destruction or damage.
- 12.2 We will implement security measures which provide a level of security which is appropriate to the risks involved in the processing.

Measures will include technical and organisational security measures. In assessing what measures are the most appropriate we will take into account the following, and anything else that is relevant:

- a) the quality of the security measure;
 - b) the costs of implementation;
 - c) the nature, scope, context and purpose of processing;
 - d) the risk (of varying likelihood and severity) to the rights and freedoms of data subjects;
 - e) the risk which could result from a data breach.
- 12.3 Measures may include:
- a) technical systems security;
 - b) measures to restrict or minimise access to data;
 - c) measures to ensure our systems and data remain available, or can be easily restored in the case of an incident;
 - d) physical security of information and of our premises;
 - e) organisational measures, including policies, procedures, training and audits;
 - f) regular testing and evaluating of the effectiveness of security measures.

13. Keeping records of our data processing

- 13.1 To show how we comply with the law we will keep clear records of our processing activities and of the decisions we make concerning personal data (setting out our reasons for those decisions).

Section C – Working with people we process data about (data subjects)

14. Data subjects' rights

- 14.1 We will process personal data in line with data subjects' rights, including their right to:
- a) request access to any of their personal data held by us (known as a Subject Access Request – see more detail at 14.3 below);
 - b) ask to have inaccurate personal data changed;
 - c) restrict processing, in certain circumstances;
 - d) object to processing, in certain circumstances, including preventing the use of their data for direct marketing;
 - e) data portability, which means to receive their data, or some of their data, in a format that can be easily used by another person (including the data subject themselves) or organisation;
 - f) not be subject to automated decisions, in certain circumstances; and
 - g) withdraw consent when we are relying on consent to process their data.
- 14.2 If a colleague receives any request from a data subject that relates or could relate to their data protection rights, this will be forwarded to our Data Protection Officer **immediately**.
- 14.3 In the event of a Subject Access Request (SAR), we will follow the procedures set out in the Baptists Together document [‘Data Protection Guidance: Data Subject Access Requests \(DSARs\), May 2026](#). We will also refer to the ICO document [‘How to deal with a request for information: a step-by-step guide.’](#) We will act on all valid requests as soon as possible, and at the latest within **one calendar month** from the date of receipt of the request, unless we have reason to, and can lawfully extend the timescale. This can be extended by up to two months in some circumstances.
- 14.4 All data subjects' rights are provided free of charge.
- 14.5 Any information provided to data subjects will be concise and transparent, using clear and plain language.

15. Direct marketing

- 15.1 We will comply with the rules set out in the UK GDPR, the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR) and any laws which may amend or replace the regulations around **direct marketing**. This includes, but is not limited to, when we make contact with data subjects by post, email, text message, social media messaging, telephone (both live and recorded calls) and fax.

Direct marketing means the communication (by any means) of any advertising or marketing material which is directed, or addressed, to individuals. “Marketing” does not

need to be selling anything, or be advertising a commercial product. It includes contact made by organisations to individuals for the purposes of promoting the organisation's aims.

- 15.2 Any direct marketing material that we send will identify Battle Baptist Church as the sender and will describe how people can object to receiving similar communications in the future. If a data subject exercises their right to object to direct marketing we will stop the direct marketing as soon as possible.

Section D – working with other organisations & transferring data

16. Sharing information with other organisations

- 16.1 We will only share personal data with other organisations or people when we have a legal basis to do so and if we have informed the data subject about the possibility of the data being shared (in a privacy notice), unless legal exemptions apply to informing data subjects about the sharing. Only authorised and properly instructed staff and Trustees are allowed to share personal data.
- 16.2 We will keep records of information shared with a third party, which will include recording any exemptions which have been applied, and why they have been applied. We will follow the ICO's statutory [Data Sharing Code of Practice](#) (or any replacement code of practice) when sharing personal data with other data controllers. Legal advice will be sought as required.

17. Data processors

- 17.1 Before appointing a contractor who will process personal data on our behalf (a data processor) we will carry out due diligence checks. The checks are to make sure the processor will use appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the processing will comply with data protection law, including keeping the data secure, and upholding the rights of data subjects. We will only appoint data processors who can provide us with sufficient guarantees that they will do this.
- 17.2 We will only appoint data processors on the basis of a written contract that will require the processor to comply with all relevant legal requirements. We will continue to monitor the data processing, and compliance with the contract, throughout the duration of the contract.

18. Transferring personal data outside the United Kingdom (UK)

- 18.1 Personal data cannot be transferred (or stored) outside of the United Kingdom unless this is permitted by the UK GDPR. This includes storage on a "cloud" based service where the servers are located outside the UK.
- 18.2 We will only transfer data outside the UK where it is permitted by one of the conditions for non-UK transfers in the UK GDPR.

Section E – Managing change & risks

19. Data protection impact assessments

- 19.1 When we are planning to carry out any data processing which is likely to result in a high risk, we will carry out a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA). These include situations when we process data relating to vulnerable people, trawling of data from public profiles, using new technology, and transferring data outside the UK. Any decision not to conduct a DPIA will be recorded.
- 19.2 We may also conduct a DPIA in other cases when we consider it appropriate to do so. If we are unable to mitigate the identified risks such that a high risk remains, we will consult with the ICO.
- 19.3 DPIAs will be conducted in accordance with the ICO's [guidance on Data Protection Impact Assessments](#).

20. Dealing with data protection breaches

- 20.1 Where staff or volunteers, or contractors working for us, think that this policy has not been followed, or data might have been breached or lost, this will be reported **immediately** to the Data Protection Officer.
- 20.2 We will report any data breaches to Trustees and will keep records of them, even if we do not report them to the ICO.
- 20.3 We will report all data breaches which are likely to result in a risk to any person, to the ICO. Reports will be made to the ICO within **72 hours** from when someone in the church becomes aware of the breach.
- 20.4 In situations where a personal data breach causes a high risk to any person, we will inform data subjects whose information is affected without undue delay as well as reporting the breach to the ICO.

This can include situations where, for example, bank account details are lost or an email containing sensitive information is sent to the wrong recipient. Informing data subjects can enable them to take steps to protect themselves and/or to exercise their rights.

Annex 1 – Example of BBC's Privacy Notice

BBC Privacy Notice to be published on website and displayed on premises

Privacy Notice

For the members and wider fellowship of Battle Baptist Church

1. Your personal data – what is it?

Personal data relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data. Identification can be by the information alone or in conjunction with any other information in the data controller's possession or likely to come into such possession. The processing of personal data is governed by the 2018 Data Protection Act, the Retained General Data Protection Regulation (the 'UK GDPR'), and the Data Use and Access Act (2025).

2. Who are we?

The Trustees of Battle Baptist Church act as the data controller (contact details below). This means they decide how your personal data is processed and for what purposes. For the day to day running of the church, this responsibility is delegated to the Church Administrator.

3. How do we process your personal data?

Battle Baptist Church complies with its obligations under UK GDPR by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

We use your personal data for the following purposes: -

To enable us to provide a voluntary service for the benefit of the public as specified in our constitution;

To administer membership records;

To promote the interests of the charity;

To manage our employees and volunteers;

To maintain our own accounts and records (including the processing of gift aid applications);

To inform you of news, events, activities and services;

4. What are the legal bases for processing your personal data?

It is legitimate for BBC to process your personal data if at least one of the following legal conditions (as listed in Article 6 of UK GDPR) is met:

- the processing is necessary for **legitimate interests** pursued by BBC
This is the most common basis on which we will process your personal data.
- the processing is necessary for **a contract** with the data subject (ie you);

- the processing is necessary for us **to comply with a legal obligation**;
- the processing is necessary to protect someone's life (this is called '**vital interests**');;
- the processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the **public interest**;
- if none of the above conditions apply, then processing will only be lawful if you (the 'data subject') have given us your **explicit consent**.

5. Sharing your personal data

Your personal data will be treated as strictly confidential and will only be shared with other members of the church in order to carry out a service to other church members or for purposes connected with the church. We will only share your data with third parties with your consent.

6. How long do we keep your personal data?

We keep data for as long as you are a member of our church and/or have consented to us keeping you informed of events and activities in our church and in accordance with our data retention schedule.

Specifically, we retain membership data while it is still current; gift aid declarations and associated paperwork for up to 6 years after the calendar year to which they relate; and we may keep a roll of members past and present, dedications, baptisms, funerals, etc. permanently.

7. Your rights and your personal data

Unless subject to an exemption under the UK GDPR, you have the following rights with respect to your personal data: -

The right to request a copy of your personal data which BBC holds about you;

The right to request that BBC corrects any personal data if it is found to be inaccurate or out of date;

The right to request your personal data is erased where it is no longer necessary for BBC to retain such data;

The right to withdraw your consent to the processing at any time;

Where applicable, the right to request that the data controller provide the data subject with his/her personal data (or some of it), in a format that can easily be used by, or transferred directly to, another data controller (this is known as the right to '**data portability**').

The right, where there is a dispute in relation to the accuracy or processing of your personal data, to request a restriction is placed on further processing;

The right to object to the processing of personal data. This only applies where processing is based on legitimate interests (or the performance of a task in the public interest/exercise of official authority); direct marketing and processing for the purposes of scientific/historical research and statistics.

The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office.

8. Further processing

If we wish to use your personal data for a new purpose, not covered by this Privacy Notice, then we will provide you with a new notice explaining this new use prior to commencing the processing and setting out the relevant purposes and processing conditions. Where and whenever necessary, we will seek your prior consent to the new processing.

9. Contact Details

To exercise all relevant rights, or to make queries or complaints, please in the first instance contact the Church Administrator at:

Battle Baptist Church
Mount Street
Battle TN33 0EG
office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
01424 774825

You can contact the Information Commissioners Office on 0303 123 1113 or via their website ico.org.uk

Annex 2 – Definitions and useful terms

The following terms are used throughout this policy and have their legal meaning as set out within the UK General Data Protection Regulation (“UK GDPR”). The UK GDPR definitions are further explained below:

Data controller means any person, company, authority or other body who (or which) determines the means for processing personal data and the purposes for which it is processed. It does not matter if the decisions are made alone or jointly with others.

The data controller is responsible for the personal data which is processed and the way in which it is processed. We are the data controller of data which we process.

Data processors include any individuals or organisations, which process personal data on our behalf and on our instructions e.g. an external organisation which provides secure waste disposal for us. This definition will include the data processors’ own staff (note that staff of data processors may also be data subjects).

Data subjects include all living individuals who we hold or otherwise process personal data about. A data subject does not need to be a UK national or resident. All data subjects have legal rights in relation to their personal information. Data subjects that we are likely to hold personal data about include:

- a) the people we care for and support;
- b) our employees (and former employees);
- c) consultants/individuals who are our contractors or employees working for them;
- d) volunteers;
- e) tenants;
- f) trustees;
- g) complainants;
- h) supporters;
- i) enquirers;
- j) friends and family;
- k) advisers and representatives of other organisations.

ICO means the Information Commissioners Office which is the UK’s regulatory body responsible for ensuring that we comply with our legal data protection duties. The ICO produces guidance on how to implement data protection law and can take regulatory action where a breach occurs.

Personal data means any information relating to a natural person (living person) who is either identified or is identifiable. A natural person must be an individual and cannot be a company or a public body. Representatives of companies or public bodies would, however, be natural persons.

Personal data is limited to information about living individuals and does not cover deceased people.

Personal data can be factual (for example, a name, address or date of birth) or it can be an opinion about that person, their actions and behaviour. It can be a statement of intention about the data subject, and includes 'online identifiers' such as computer IP addresses. Personal data also includes images and video footage.

Privacy notice means the information given to data subjects which explains how we process their data and for what purposes.

Processing is very widely defined and includes any activity that involves the data. It includes obtaining, recording or holding the data, or carrying out any operation or set of operations on the data including organising, amending, retrieving, using, disclosing, erasing or destroying it. Processing can also include transferring personal data to third parties, listening to a recorded message (e.g. on voicemail) or viewing personal data on a screen or in a paper document which forms part of a structured filing system. Viewing of clear, moving or stills images of living individuals is also a processing activity.

Special categories of data (as identified in the UK GDPR) includes information about a person's:

- a) Racial or ethnic origin;
- b) Political opinions;
- c) Religious or similar (e.g. philosophical) beliefs;
- d) Trade union membership;
- e) Health (including physical and mental health, and the provision of health care services);
- f) Genetic data;
- g) Biometric data;
- h) Sexual life and sexual orientation.

Annex 3 – ICO Registration

Data Controller: Battle Baptist Church

Registration Number: ZA908002

Date Registered: 3rd March 2021 **Registration Expires:** 2nd March 2027

Address:

Mount Street
Battle TN33 0EG

Annex 4 – Appropriate Policy Document

APPROPRIATE POLICY DOCUMENT – Battle Baptist Church

The purpose of this document is to meet the legal requirements set out in:

Schedule 1, Part 4, Data Protection Act 2018 regarding the processing of Special Category and Criminal Offence Data for the purposes of Parts 1, 2 or 3 of Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Who we are

At Battle Baptist Church, our vision is one of **being transformed together** through Jesus, as part of the community here in Battle and beyond.

For further information on what we do, please visit our website:

<http://www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk>.

What this policy does

This policy explains how and why Battle Baptist Church collects, processes and shares Special Category Data and any Criminal Offence Data about you in order to carry out our functions, in accordance with the data protection principles set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR.) In line with Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018), Special Category Data (Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 1), and Criminal Offence Data (Part 3 of Schedule 1), can only be processed lawfully if the processing is carried out in accordance with this policy. Battle Baptist Church staff, trustees and volunteers must therefore have regard to this policy when carrying out sensitive processing on our behalf.

Our approach to data protection

- Battle Baptist Church is committed to ensuring that the collection and processing of personal data is carried out in accordance with the UK GDPR and the DPA 2018.
- This is implemented through the provision of training for all staff, trustees and volunteers on data protection to ensure compliance with our policies and procedures.
- Battle Baptist Church values openness and transparency, and we have committed to and published a number of policies and processes to assist data subjects and to explain how we handle personal data. These include the Battle Baptist Church data protection policy, our data retention schedule and the privacy notice on our [website](#) which describe what information we hold, why we hold it, the legal basis for holding it, who we share it with, and the period we will hold it for.
- Battle Baptist Church has appointed the Church Administrator to be its Data Protection Officer (DPO). The DPO has the day-to-day responsibility for ensuring that the information Battle Baptist Church collects is necessary for the purposes required and is not kept in a manner that can identify the individual any longer than necessary. Data protection training is provided for all new staff and volunteers and an annual update on data protection is provided to staff, trustees and volunteers, to ensure that everyone is familiar with Battle Baptist Church's data protection policies and procedures and in

particular the processing of any Special Category and Criminal Offence Data. The DPO will review any Data Protection Impact Assessments for Battle Baptist Church.

- Due to the nature of the activities performed by Battle Baptist Church, the church may need to share information with other organisations e.g. the Baptist Union of Great Britain; South Eastern Baptist Association; and third parties, including statutory bodies and professional advisers, details of which can be found in our privacy notice.

The data protection principles

In summary, Article 5 of the UK GDPR states that personal data shall be:

- processed lawfully, fairly and transparently
- collected for specific and legitimate purposes and processed in accordance with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the stated purposes
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- retained for no longer than necessary, and
- kept secure

Special Category Data and Criminal Offence Data

Special Category Data

Personal data refers to any information by which a living individual can be identified. Individual identification can be by information alone or in conjunction with other information. Certain categories of personal data have additional legal protections when being processed. These categories are referred to in the legislation as 'Special Category Data' and are data concerning:

- health
- racial or ethnic origin
- political opinions
- religious or philosophical beliefs
- trade union membership
- genetic data
- biometric data
- sex life or sexual orientation

Criminal Offence Data

The processing of Criminal Offence Data also has additional legal safeguards. Criminal Offence Data includes information about criminal allegations, criminal offences, criminal proceedings and criminal convictions.

Special Category Data and Criminal Offence Data we process about you

Battle Baptist Church collects, processes and shares Special Category and Criminal Offence Data where it is necessary in order to carry out our functions. This processing is usually carried by the Designated Person for Safeguarding, the minister or certain charity trustees for the purpose of

safeguarding against any risks posed to others in our church or attending our church activities by those who are involved in our church, to mitigate the risk of individuals committing criminal offences (including of a sexual nature) and to assess individuals' suitability for ministry or other work at Battle Baptist Church, including by reference to risks they may pose to others. These functions and the requisite processing of personal data are matters of substantial public interest.

Data Subjects

If we process personal information about you, you are a "data subject." Below is a non-exhaustive list of categories of data subjects about whom we might process information:

- Employees, volunteers, workers or charity trustees of Battle Baptist Church;
- Adults or children in membership with or associated with Battle Baptist Church;

Battle Baptist Church will share this data with third parties only where strictly necessary (please see the section "Who we share your personal data with" below).

Special Category Data and Criminal Offence Data may be collected from the following non-exhaustive list of sources:

- Data subjects
- Church members or individuals in regular contact with the church – including the minister, church officers, workers or volunteers, and the church's Designated Person for Safeguarding
- The Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) Specialist Teams, in particular the BUGB Ministries Team and National Safeguarding Team.
- Our Regional Association (South Eastern Baptist Association) and, in particular, the SEBA Safeguarding contact person.
- Police, Social Services or the Local Authority Designated Officer for safeguarding.

Battle Baptist Church may also obtain and process this data for other statutory and legal obligations for example, including, but not limited to:

- responding to data subject access requests under data protection legislation
- in connection with our duties under the Equality Act 2010.

The legal basis for processing your Special Category or Criminal Offence Data

Our Privacy Notice is available on the Battle Baptist Church website. It sets out the legal bases for our processing of your personal data: these are in keeping with the legal requirements for processing set out in [Article 6](#) (1) of UK GDPR.

Where we process Special Category and Criminal Offence Data it will be by reference to Article 6(1)(f) UK GDPR and also:

- the relevant substantial **public interest conditions** 10, 11, 12, 18, and 19 of Schedule 1, Part 2 of DPA 2018;
- condition 31, which is part of the **additional conditions relating to criminal activities** set out in Schedule 1, Part 3 of DPA 2018.

Each condition is described below (the wording has been taken directly from the [DPA 2018](#)):

Condition 10: Preventing unlawful acts

10.1 This condition is met if the processing—

- (a) is necessary for the purposes of the prevention or detection of an unlawful act,*
- (b) must be carried out without the consent of the data subject so as not to prejudice those purposes, and*
- (c) is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.*

In order to mitigate the risk of individuals committing criminal offences, including of a sexual nature, Battle Baptist Church may undertake a risk assessment, receive, make a record of and share information about an individual who has been reported to us by another individual or a statutory authority, where there is a significant concern about their conduct and the risk they may pose to others.

Condition 11: Protecting the public against dishonesty etc

11.1 This condition is met if the processing—

- (a) is necessary for the exercise of a protective function,*
- (b) must be carried out without the consent of the data subject so as not to prejudice the exercise of that function, and*
- (c) is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.*

11.2 In this paragraph, “protective function” means a function which is intended to protect members of the public against—

- (a) dishonesty, malpractice or other seriously improper conduct,*
- (b) unfitness or incompetence,*
- (c) mismanagement in the administration of a body or association, or*
- (d) failures in services provided by a body or association.*

Battle Baptist Church may exercise protective functions in partnership with BUGB’s Safeguarding and Ministries Teams or the Regional Association, which include assessing

individuals' suitability for ministry or other work within Battle Baptist Church, including by reference to risks they may pose to others.

Condition 12: Regulatory requirements relating to unlawful acts and dishonesty etc

12.1 This condition is met if—

(a) the processing is necessary for the purposes of complying with, or assisting other persons to comply with, a regulatory requirement which involves a person taking steps to establish whether another person has—

(i) committed an unlawful act, or

(ii) been involved in dishonesty, malpractice or other seriously improper conduct,

(b) in the circumstances, the controller cannot reasonably be expected to obtain the consent of the data subject to the processing, and

(c) the processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

Battle Baptist Church may, in partnership with the Regional Association or BUGB, investigate and risk assess an individual's suitability for ministry or other work within or connected with Battle Baptist Church or the Baptist family, which is in the substantial public interest and forms an integral part of "generally accepted principles of good practice" as per the definition of "regulatory requirement" in Condition 12.

Condition 18: Safeguarding of children and of individuals at risk

18.1 This condition is met if—

(a) the processing is necessary for the purposes of—

(i) protecting an individual from neglect or physical, mental or emotional harm, or

(ii) protecting the physical, mental or emotional wellbeing of an individual,

(b) the individual is—

(i) aged under 18, or

(ii) aged 18 or over and at risk,

(c) the processing is carried out without the consent of the data subject for one of the reasons listed in paragraph 18.2 below, and

(d) the processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

18.2 The reasons mentioned in paragraph 18.1 (c) are—

(a) in the circumstances, consent to the processing cannot be given by the data subject;

(b) in the circumstances, the controller cannot reasonably be expected to obtain the consent of the data subject to the processing;

(c) the processing must be carried out without the consent of the data subject because obtaining the consent of the data subject would prejudice the provision of the protection mentioned in paragraph 18.1 (a).

18.3 For the purposes of this paragraph, an individual aged 18 or over is “at risk” if the controller has reasonable cause to suspect that the individual—

(a) has needs for care and support,

(b) is experiencing, or at risk of, neglect or physical, mental or emotional harm, and

(c) as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the neglect or harm or the risk of it.

Battle Baptist Church may process Special Category Data and Criminal Offence Data for the purposes of safeguarding children or adults at risk.

Condition 19: Safeguarding of economic wellbeing of certain individuals

19.1 This condition is met if the processing—

(a) is necessary for the purposes of protecting the economic wellbeing of an individual at economic risk who is aged 18 or over,

(b) is of data concerning health,

(c) is carried out without the consent of the data subject for one of the reasons listed in paragraph 19.2 below, and

(d) is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest.

19.2 The reasons mentioned in paragraph 19.1 (c) are—

(a) in the circumstances, consent to the processing cannot be given by the data subject;

(b) in the circumstances, the controller cannot reasonably be expected to obtain the consent of the data subject to the processing;

(c) the processing must be carried out without the consent of the data subject because obtaining the consent of the data subject would prejudice the provision of the protection mentioned in paragraph 19.1 (a).

19.3 In this paragraph, “individual at economic risk” means an individual who is less able to protect his or her economic wellbeing by reason of physical or mental injury, illness or disability.

Condition 31: Processing by not-for-profit bodies

31.1 This condition is met if the processing is carried out—

(a) in the course of its legitimate activities with appropriate safeguards by a foundation, association or other not-for-profit body with a political, philosophical, religious or trade union aim, and

(b) on condition that—

(i) the processing relates solely to the members or to former members of the body or to persons who have regular contact with it in connection with its purposes, and

(ii) the personal data is not disclosed outside that body without the consent of the data subjects.

Who we share your personal data with

We are required to share your data with third parties where we have a legal obligation to do so. We may also share information with our partner organisations with whom we have a Data Sharing Agreement, or as set out in our Privacy Notice.

The persons/organisations we may share your Special Category and Criminal Offence Data with are:

- Our charity trustees, employees, contractors and volunteers on a need-to-know basis;
- The BUGB Specialist Teams;
- South Eastern Baptist Association;
- Churches and other appointing or employing bodies as appropriate
- Counsellors, professional supervisors and risk assessment consultants
- The Police and Social Services, Local Authority Designated Officers and other statutory agencies
- The Disclosure and Barring Service and our DBS Checking Company
- Before sharing information with any of the above persons or organisations, careful consideration is given to the rights and freedoms of the data subject against what is needed to be shared to achieve our overarching goal of safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk from harm within Battle Baptist Church and to support and promote exemplary ministry. Special Category and Criminal Offence Data is only disclosed where it is reasonably necessary to do so and a record and full details of any disclosure to third parties is kept.

Automated decision making

Currently Battle Baptist Church undertakes no automated decision making in relation to your personal data.

How we keep your data secure and how long we keep it for

Battle Baptist Church deploys a range of technical and organisational measures to protect the personal data it holds and processes. Controls include but are not limited to:

- Annual data protection training for all staff and part of the induction for new staff
- Acceptable use of IT equipment and systems defined in the IT General Policy provided to all users of Battle Baptist Church systems
- Strong defences of the Battle Baptist Church core IT system (e.g. Firewalls, Malware Detection & Defence)
- Where needed, appropriate redaction takes place before witness statements, case notes or investigation reports are shared.
- Deployment of Information Security Tools (e.g. Data Loss Prevention, Mobile Device Management, Secure External Email)
- Robust procedures for the reporting of any data or potential data breaches.

These measures are under constant review by Battle Baptist Church.

Battle Baptist Church has a Data Retention Schedule which lists the data we hold and how long we hold it for. To find out how long we keep your data for please see our Data Retention Schedule.

Your rights in relation to the data we hold

Data protection legislation provides you with a number of rights relating to your personal data, including your Special Category and Criminal Offence Data. These rights are subject to some specific exemptions. Your rights may include:

- the right to access your data
- the right to have your data corrected if it is wrong or incomplete
- the right to request restrictions to the processing of your data
- the right to object to your data being processed
- the right to have your data erased
- the right to be informed about how your data is processed
- rights relating to automated decision making and data portability

You should keep us informed of any changes to your information so that we can be confident that the data we hold about you is accurate. To understand more about these rights and how to exercise them please see our Privacy Notice and the Information Commissioner's Office website: <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Data Protection Officer/Contact

The Church Administrator is BBC's Data Protection Officer and is the person responsible for matters relating to the protection of personal data and can be contacted at the address below or by email office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk or phone 01424 774825.

Your right to complain to the Information Commissioner

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the way in which we have processed your personal data, you have the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office:

www.ico.org.uk

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Feedback or complaints about Battle Baptist Church, staff or volunteers

If you want to give us feedback or make a complaint about Battle Baptist Church, its staff or volunteers in relation to the handling of your personal data, please contact

Jo Reeves
Church Administrator
Battle Baptist Church
Mount Street
Battle TN33 0EG

Tel: 01424 774825

Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk

Review of this policy

This policy will be regularly reviewed and may be subject to revision. Please visit our website to check for any updates.