



University of Brighton Data Protection Policy

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Introduction

The University of Brighton needs to process certain information about its employees, students and other users to allow it to deliver its core teaching and learning functions, operate effectively as an organisation and meet legislative, contractual and statutory obligations.

The University needs to process personal data relating to prospective, present and past students, employees, alumni (former students), friends, supporters, partners, suppliers, research participants and many others.

This policy has been written to provide demonstrable commitment to, and support of, compliance with the legal requirements in the handling of personal information. Compliance with data protection legislation also enables efficient working practices, and significantly reduces the likelihood of an information or security breach and its wider effects that could include; harm/distress to data subjects, reputational damage, large fines or compensation, and investigations from the Information Commissioner.

Items marked with an * can be found in the glossary of terms in Appendix 1.

Policy Statement

The University of Brighton and all staff who process or use any personal information will ensure that personal data is processed in accordance with the following data protection principles (Appendix 2):

- Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals
- Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step shall be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay
- Kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data shall be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data shall be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals
- Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Breaches of Policy

All breaches of this policy and data protection legislation shall be reported immediately to the Data Protection Officer, see <https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/reg/legal/Pages/Data-b.aspx>
Third parties shall report via their University point of contact.

A deliberate or negligent breach of this policy by an employee or student may result in disciplinary action being taken following an appropriate investigation.

Where a supplier fails to comply with the policy or any associated data protection condition it may result in termination for breach of contract and/or result in a claim for compensation.

The Data Controller*

The University of Brighton is the data controller under the Data Protection Act (DPA), and is responsible to demonstrate compliance with the principles of data protection legislation.

In matters of collaboration and partnership with other bodies, it is possible for either or both organisations to be the data controller, depending upon the nature of the agreement or contract. Please refer any queries to the Head of Head of Data Compliance and Records Management

Data Protection Officer (DPO)*

The University has appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO) to monitor internal compliance. This is an advisory role and is concerned with the University's compliance with data protection legislation. The DPO shall:

- enable compliance with data protection legislation
- provide advice, assistance and recommendations in relation to data protection risks
- support and foster a data protection culture within the University
- help implement essential elements of data protection legislation, such as the principles of data processing, data subjects' rights, data protection by design and by default, records of processing activities, security of processing and notification and communication of data breaches
- be the University's point of contact with the Information Commissioner's Office.

The DPO shall not determine the purposes of processing personal data, or the means by which any personal data processing activity is done.

Notification of data* held and processed*

The University of Brighton undertakes to maintain an accurate and timely notification of its data processing activities with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The university is registered as a Data Controller and its registration number with the ICO is : **Z5395727**

Responsibilities

University Executive Board:

- shall ensure that the purposes and means of processing of personal data for which the University is data controller are determined in compliance with legislation.

- responsibility for ensuring implementation of, and compliance with, this policy will be in accordance with the University's line management structure.

All staff are responsible for:

- checking that any information that they provide to the University of Brighton in connection with their employment is accurate and up-to-date
- informing the University of Brighton of any changes to information already provided, e.g. new address
- notifying the University of Brighton of any errors or necessary amendments. The University of Brighton cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies unless the staff member has previously provided the University with the correct information

All staff (and any individual, organisation, or third party) that processes personal data on behalf of the University) is responsible for:

- Ensuring that they comply with this policy and associated data protection, information security, information management and information technology regulations, policies, processes and procedures.
- To undertake training as required

In order to embed best practice in the management of personal data across the University, the primary operational responsibility for the management of personal data lies with the relevant line managers. In order to provide clarity a number of data areas will be designated and the appropriate manager will be termed as the senior information owner for that area. In addition the University has established a number of additional roles to serve as supporting champions for the continuing enhancement of its data management.

The main responsibilities of the Senior Information Owners and those of the additional data champion roles are set out below.

Senior Information Owners:

Is an accountable role and is concerned with the management of all information within a specified data area. With regards personal data, they are responsible for:

- Departmental responsibility for compliance with relevant data protection legislation and regulation in their data areas.
- Ensure that local processes and procedures are developed, implemented, followed and regularly reviewed as they relate to the processing of personal data
- Ensuring that the DPO is involved properly, and in a timely manner, in all issues which relate to the protection of personal data, and that the DPO is consulted promptly once a data breach or another incident has occurred.
- The monitoring and mitigation of data protection risks, which could include ensuring principle of data protection by design or default is applied with new or changing personal data processing.
- Ensure that no individual is given access to personal data without having undertaken appropriate training and read relevant policy and guidance
- Ensuring that staff who have access to the personal data within their remit are appropriately briefed or trained on the processing of that data.
- Monitor sector or professional communications for data protection related issues or benchmarking opportunities.

Departmental Information Security Representatives

Each department will be required to nominate a person to undertake this task, and work alongside the above staff, to support compliance within the team/department),

With regards to personal data will be responsible for:

- To work with the DPO on creating and maintaining an Information Asset Register
- Support and advise to colleagues, embedding data protection good practice/compliance culture
- Report areas of concern/risks to the DPO.
- Undertake regular reviews of data security in line with the Departmental Information Security Policy. Including regular review of permissions to ensure ongoing authorized access, ensure that equipment is disposed of appropriately and in accordance with policy.
- To regularly review and update retention schedules, in line with the appropriate legal basis for processing. Ensure data is deleted on a regular basis as per the retention schedules and report issues or areas of concern
- To be a departmental point of contact for issues such as, facilitating subject access requests, timely identification, investigation and mitigation for data breaches (being mindful of our legislative duty to report certain types of breaches within 72 hours)
- Ensure employees with university owned property e.g. computer equipment, books are returned
- Cascade training, communications and awareness as required

Data Stewards

This role has been created to support the wider assurance and enhancement of data management at the University under the remit of the Data Governance Group, and stewards are designated by that body. A separate Data Quality Framework, focusing on wider data management will be published.

With regards to personal data the data stewards will be responsible for

- Ensuring and evidencing that the impact of personal data protection is explicitly and appropriately considered in the review and development of wider data management processes and policies.
- Alerting the DPO to any data protection concerns that emerge as a consequence of their data stewards activity.
- To undertake regular data protection training as necessary to support these responsibilities.

Student Responsibilities

Personal information

All students are responsible for:

- checking that information they provide to the University of Brighton in connection with their membership of the university is accurate and up-to-date.

- Advising the University of Brighton of any amendments to this information, e.g. changes of address. The University of Brighton cannot be held responsible for any errors unless the student has provided updated information as here requested.
- In most cases updating your student record can be done via the 'personal tab of studentcentral' or via in person accessing Student Information Desk at your site of study

Students who process personal data

Students who need to process personal data as a justifiable part of their studies or as part of employment with the University (whatever the level or mode) will be covered by the University of Brighton's Data Protection Policy. They will be expected to observe the relevant guidelines issued by the University. Should they be processing on behalf of another organisation, whilst on placement for example, they will be bound by the Data Protection policies and provisions of that body as the Data Controller.

Data Subject Rights - Staff and student data

All staff, students and other users are entitled to

- access and obtain a copy of your data on request, this is known as a subject access request, see below
- require the University to change incorrect or incomplete data;
- require the University to delete or stop processing your data, for example where the data is no longer necessary for the purposes of processing;
- object to the processing of your data, in certain circumstances, for example, where the university is relying on its legitimate interests as the legal ground for processing; or for direct marketing purposes
- ask the University to stop processing data for a period if data is inaccurate or there is a dispute about whether or not your interests override the University's legitimate grounds for processing data.
- withdraw your consent at any time, where we have requested and obtained your consent
- where our lawful basis is consent or performance of a contract we will allow portability of your data.

If you would like to exercise any of these rights, please contact the University's Data Protection Officer, Rachel Page, Head of Data Compliance and Records Management, 01273 642010, dataprotection@brighton.ac.uk

Subject Access request

Staff, students and other users of the University of Brighton have the right to access any personal data that is being kept about them either on computer or in manual files.

Individuals wishing to exercise this right can follow the process here <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/foi/requesting-information/index.aspx>. Requests need to be accompanied by the appropriate ID.

There is no charge for this request but the University reserves the right to charge a 'reasonable fee' when a request is considered to be unfounded or excessive, or repetitive.

In accordance with the legislation, the University has 1 month with which to respond to a subject access request. Should there be a good reason for delay, this will be explained in writing to the data subject making the request.

Guidance for staff on how to respond or record a Subject Access Request can be found here <https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/reg/legal/Pages/SAR.aspx>

Examination Scripts

Students may also make a request using the above procedure to obtain a copy of their exam scripts once marks have been formally ratified and published. Note that if a Subject Access Request is received, the University need not provide examination marks until either the end of five months from receipt of the request or the end of 40 days after the day on which the results of the examination are announced, whichever is the earlier. Copies of the exam paper will not be provided.

Students requiring replacement certificates and transcripts
<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/alumni/helping-you/index.aspx>

The right to complain to the ICO

If you are unsatisfied with the way the University has processed your personal data, or have any questions or concerns about your data please contact dataprotection@brighton.ac.uk, if we are not able to resolve the issue to your satisfaction, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). They can be contacted at <https://ico.org.uk/>

Data Breach

A personal data breach means a breach of security leading to the destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to personal data.

Data breaches could include, for example:

- Loss or theft of data or equipment (external hard drives, laptops) on which data is stored
- Inappropriate access controls allowing unauthorised use
- Contact details and financial details being accidentally emailed to inappropriate or incorrect recipients
- Equipment failure
- Unforeseen circumstances such as a fire or flood
- Hacking or phishing
- 'Blagging' offences where information is obtained by deceiving the organisation who holds it.

Any breach of data may render the University liable to legal action by the Information Commissioners Officer and may also amount to a disciplinary offence.

Data breach reporting

The University of Brighton will make every effort to avoid breaches of the Data Protection Act, and in particular the loss of personal data. All data breaches, whether accidental or not, should be reported to the Head of Data Compliance and Records Management so that appropriate

action can be taken, where possible to contain the breach or to advise any individuals likely to suffer distress or inconvenience as a result.

Any member of staff, student employed by the University or third party data processor, who becomes aware that they or another person has caused, or may have caused, an unintentional disclosure of personal data held by the University, or some other breach of the Data Protection Act by the University, is responsible for reporting it at the earliest possible point via the [Data Breach Form](#) or contact dataprotection@brighton.ac.uk

For further guidance and details of the response plane see <https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/reg/legal/Pages/Data-b.aspx>

Publication of information by the University of Brighton

The University of Brighton is committed to openness and accessibility in the provision of information for all aspects of its work, having due regard to issues of efficiency, legality, security and confidentiality. Information that is already in the public domain is exempt from the DPA and it is university policy that certain types of information will normally be available via the [university website](#), including but not limited to the following:

- names of members of staff with university contact details
- names and images of the University Board of Governors
- names and images of the University Executive Board

The University of Brighton internal phone list will not be a public document but it will be possible to find details of telephone extension, email address and department for any member of staff by a name search through the website. Any individual who has good reason for wishing details in these lists or categories to remain confidential should contact his/her Head of School or Department in the first instance. If this fails to resolve the matter, then it should be raised with the DPO.

Images, either of individuals or small groups, will not be displayed on the University website or used in other promotional material without the explicit consent of the individuals involved. However, images of large groups at public events, where it would not be practicable to approach each person individually, may be used freely.

Personal information accessible via the internet

It may still be possible to access references to former staff and students through internet search engines after they have left the University of Brighton. This is unavoidable. As the information is already in the public domain, it is not subject to Data Protection legislation. However, should there be good cause to request its suppression, application should be made to the DPO in the first instance.

UniCard

Personal information held on the [UniCard](#) Database will be treated confidentially, and will only be used for the purposes of card administration, and where necessary, extracted and shared with other departments to enable members of staff, students and associates to access University facilities and services.

The University may share information held on UniCard with other departments of the University and / or appointed agents: to provide users with the service applied for; to help resolve a

complaint, for analysis and / or Management Information; or: for purposes of fraud prevention, audit or debt collection; other cardholders, but only where it is considered necessary for resolution of fraud or dispute and for the investigation of crime or in connection with disciplinary investigations.

Data will be processed in accordance with relevant legislation and, specifically, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (2000).

Unless specifically requested, for legislative or academic reasons, personal UniCard data will be deleted from the system 90 days after the user of the UniCard is no longer employed by the university or is not attending any course.

The University may share information held on UniCard with other departments of the University and / or appointed agents: to provide users with the service applied for; to help resolve a complaint, for analysis and / or Management Information; or: for purposes of fraud prevention, audit or debt collection; other cardholders, but only where it is considered necessary for resolution of fraud or dispute and for the investigation of crime or in connection with disciplinary investigations.

Access Control Records

Access control records will be processed in strict accordance with the Data Protection Act. Records relating to an individual's use of the Unicaard to gain access to University premises will not routinely be divulged to any third parties. This information may lawfully be disclosed, however, in connection with a disciplinary or criminal investigation or because of health and safety concerns. Such disclosure is subject to the specific authorisation of a member of the University Executive Board.

Access control data will normally be retained on the system for 90 days only, and will then be archived. After 180 days the records will be deleted. All access control records are deleted 90 days after the card holder ceases to be a student or member of staff of the University.

Please see [UniCard Webpages](#) for further details of the terms and conditions for UniCard.

Sharing of Personal Data

Ensuring that personal data is shared appropriately and securely is vital to the successful operation and the reputation of the University, and for maintaining the trust of our employees, students and other stakeholders. In order to achieve this, the University shall

- Identify a clear objective, or set of objectives, for the sharing of personal data
- Identify a lawful basis in data protection legislation for the sharing of personal data
- Ensure that the sharing of personal data is necessary to achieve the identified objective(s). Anonymised or pseudonymised data shall be shared where the identification of data subjects is not required
- Share the minimum amount of personal data required to achieve the objective(s)
- Provide data subjects with [privacy notices](#) and, where data subjects have a choice, seek consent for the sharing of their personal data
- Check the identity of the requester
- Enquiries/requests for disclosure from the Police should be directed to the DPO.
- In all cases, if there is any doubt as to the validity of the enquirer or their enquiry, no disclosure should be made and the caller should be directed to the DPO

The University is required to record such disclosures, the process and guidelines can be found at <https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/reg/legal/Pages/Disclosure-Form.aspx>.

For those external to the University, see <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/foi/requesting-information/index.aspx>

Working with third parties who process data on our behalf

The University works with a number of third parties that require access to the personal data of students and staff – this could include IT suppliers for the maintenance of systems, confirmation of academic awards to professional or statutory regulatory bodies, statutory reporting bodies such as Office for Students, UKRI or HESA. Where personal data is shared on a systematic basis or there is a large scale transfer of personal data, we will ensure that a written agreement (data sharing arrangement or contract) is in place, at a minimum this will conclude:

- The type or items, of personal data to be shared
- The source(s) of the personal data
- The objective(s) of the data sharing arrangement
- The lawful basis for sharing the personal data
- The individuals/groups that will have access to the personal data
- The methods by which the personal data will be transferred, including any controls for protecting the data from loss, destruction or unauthorised access
- The frequency with which the personal data will be shared
- Storage requirements for the personal data, including any controls for protecting the data from loss, destruction or unauthorised access
- The parties' responsibilities for ensuring the accuracy of the personal data
- Retention and disposal requirements
- Arrangements for enabling data subjects to exercise their rights
- Processes and procedures for handling information security incidents.

Research and consultancy

Staff and, where relevant, students engaging in research will be covered by the University of Brighton's Data Protection notification. Provided that any research undertaken is not published in a way that would identify individuals or cause them damage or distress, data used for research purposes has certain exemptions from the terms of the Act. In practice, this means:

- there is no right of subject access to personal data where the information has been anonymised for research purposes and where the results do not identify individuals (see 11 Rights to access information)
- personal data may be held indefinitely
- there is no right of erasure (or, to be forgotten), as processing personal data for research is part of our public task. However where possible/practical we would give research participants the option to withdraw their data up to the point of anonymisation/aggregation/publication.

Despite the terms of these exemptions, the University of Brighton seeks to ensure that, wherever practically possible, data subjects are made fully aware of any research for which their personal data may be used. Researchers are required to keep their data secure and to guard against any

accidental disclosure that might arise from direct or indirect reference to individuals in any research report.

Consultancy undertaken for and on behalf of an organisation other than the University of Brighton may be subject to the Data Protection policy and provisions of that organisation as well as those of the university, depending upon the nature of the agreement or contract. Please refer any queries to the Legal Adviser.

CCTV

The University operates a CCTV monitoring system around its properties. The function of this system is to assist in the detection and deterrence of crime and to assist the Police and civil authorities in the event of a major emergency. The system will be operated in such a way as to safeguard individuals' right to privacy.

All CCTV images have ownership and copyright vested in the University of Brighton. Cameras will be mounted in public view and signs will be displayed warning of their presence and the purposes of their operation. Recorded images will normally be preserved for a period to be determined in accordance with the University Records Retention Schedules. After this period, if they are not needed for evidential purposes, the recording media will be re-used. If required for evidential purposes, they will be retained for as long as is necessary to the prosecution of the case.

Retention of data

Student records

In general, detailed information about students will be kept in the relevant school for a maximum of six years after they leave the University of Brighton. This will include:

- name and most recently notified address
- academic achievements, including marks for coursework
- copies of any reference written

After this period, information on what was studied by the student, what s/he achieved and any periods of intercalation will be available from Academic Services, see also <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/alumni/helping-you/index.aspx>.

Please refer to the [Privacy Notices](#) for links to the relevant retention schedule.

All personal records will be disposed of securely to ensure there is no accidental disclosure to third parties.

Following completion of studies and to enable ongoing communication/interaction, student records are passed to the university's Alumni Association (run by the Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement department). This means the primary point of contact for former students will be via the Alumni Association, in terms of updating details or seeking advice/support as a graduate. More information about the Alumni Association and what it offers former students can be found by visiting www.brighton.ac.uk/alumni

Staff records

In general, all information on a member of staff will be kept for six years after s/he has left the University. Some records, however, will be kept for much longer. This will include material necessary in respect of pensions, taxation, potential or current disputes or litigation regarding the employment. Please refer to the [Privacy Notices](#) for links to the relevant retention schedule.

All personal records will be disposed of securely to ensure there is no accidental disclosure to third parties.

Conclusion

Compliance with the DPA is the responsibility of all members of the University of Brighton. Any deliberate breach of the data protection policy may lead to disciplinary action being taken, or access to University of Brighton facilities being withdrawn, or even a criminal prosecution. Any questions or concerns about the interpretation or operation of this policy should be directed to the Head of Data Compliance and Records Management

Policy Review and Maintenance

This policy shall be reviewed DPO annually or whenever there is a significant change in legislation, strategy or organization. Major changes shall be approved by the IT Governance Board.

Related Policies

[Mobile security policy](#)
[UoB Information Security Policy](#)
[UoB Departmental Information Security Policy](#)
[UoB IT Regulations](#)

Related Guidance

- [Data Protection information](#) on staff central
- [Records Retention](#)

AVW 15.5.15, updated RP May 2018, version 7

Appendix 1 Glossary of Data Protection Terms

Data: in the context of the University of Brighton, information which is processed automatically/recorded with that intention or is recorded as part of a relevant filing system/with that intention.

Data Breach: A personal data breach means a breach of security leading to the destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to personal data.

Data Controller: the person/people who determine(s) the purposes for which, and the manner in which, personal information is to be processed and whose duty it is to ensure that the Data Protection Principles are applied. In the context of this institution, the Data Controller is the University of Brighton.

Data Processor: a person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the controller.

Data Protection Impact Assessment: an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data. See <https://staff.brighton.ac.uk/reg/legal/Pages/Data-Protection-by-Design.aspx>

Data Protection Officer: Under GDPR, organisations are required to appoint a data protection officer (DPO) to be responsible for monitoring compliance with the Regulation, providing information and advice, and liaising with the supervisory authority. At the University of Brighton, this is Rachel Page Head of Data Compliance and Records Management. r.j.page@brighton.ac.uk, ext 2010, based in 802 Cockcroft.

Data subject (individual) means an identifiable natural person “who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, or an online identifier.

Data Subject Access Request: a request made by, or on behalf of, a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Legislation to access their Personal Data.

Inaccurate Data: data which is incorrect or misleading as to a matter of fact.

Notification: entry on the public register maintained by the Information Commissioner’s Office showing types and range of information being processed by the university.

Personal Data: “any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’)”. An identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person..

Processing: obtaining, recording or holding information, or carrying out any operation or set of operations on the information. This includes organising, adapting, or altering the information, disclosing and deleting.

Protective Measures: appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include: pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can

be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of the such measures adopted by it.

Special Category Data: information as to the individual's

- racial or ethnic origin
- political beliefs
- religious beliefs or beliefs of a similar nature
- trade union membership
- Genetics
- Biometrics (where used for ID purposes_
- physical or mental health or condition
- sex life or sexual orientation

The GDPR rules for sensitive (special category) data do not apply to information about criminal allegations, proceedings or convictions. However, there are separate safeguards for the relating to criminal convictions and offences, or related security measures, set out in Article 10.

Further Information:

Key definitions – ICO: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/key-definitions/>

Appendix 2 Data Protection Principles

Under the GDPR, the data protection principles set out the main responsibilities for organisations. Article 5 of the GDPR requires that personal data shall be:

- a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals;
- b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;
- e) kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals; and

f) processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Source: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/principles/>