BIDFORD HEALTH CENTRE

Annex A – Easy read privacy notice

Question	Answer
What is a privacy notice?	A privacy notice helps this organisation tell you how we use the information we have about you. The data could be name, address, date of birth and, importantly, the clinical records that a clinician may write about you in your healthcare record.
Why does the organisation need one?	By law, this organisation needs a privacy notice. This is detailed within the Data Protection Act 2018 and is part of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (or UK GDPR for short). There is also a further piece of legislation and that is the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, which supports data, its protection and the correct management of it.
What is the UK GDPR?	The UK GDPR is part of a law that states that the information about you must remain secure. All staff at the surgery must follow these rules and keep your information safe.
How can I learn more about the privacy notice?	This organisation has lots of information about privacy on our website telling you how we use the information we have about you. You can also ask a member of the staff should you have any questions about your data. The UK GDPR details what needs to be provided within the privacy notice, this is: • What information we hold about you • How we keep this especially important information safe and secure and where we keep it • How we use your information • Who we share your information with • What your rights are • When the law gives us permission to use your information
What information do you collect about me?	Personal information is anything that identifies you as a person and we all have personal information. Personal information that tells us something about you includes:

	• Your name • Address • Mobile and/or home telephone number • Information about your parent(s) or person with parental responsibility • All your health records • Appointment records • Treatments you have had • Medicines prescribed for you and any other information to help us to look after you
How do you use my information?	The law gives us permission to use your information in situations when we need it to take care of you. Your information is taken to help us to provide your care. We might need to share this information with other medical teams. We only usually use your information to help us to care for you. That means we might need to share your information with other people who are concerned and involved with looking after your health, such as hospitals if you need to be seen there. We might also need to share your information with the police, courts, social services, solicitors and other people who have a right to your information, but we always make sure that they have a legal right to see it (or have a copy of it) before we provide it to them. The law gives us permission to use your information in situations when we need it to take care of you. Because information about your health is very personal, sensitive and private to you, the law is very strict about how we use it. So, before we can use your information in the ways we have set out in this privacy notice, we have to have a good reason in law which is called a 'lawful basis'. Not only do we have to do that, but we also have to show that your information falls into a special group or category because it is very sensitive. By doing this, the law makes sure we only use your information to look after you and that we do not use it for any other reason. If you would like more information about this, please ask to speak to our Data Protection Officer (DPO) who is mentioned in this privacy notice who will explain this in more detail.
How do you keep my information safe?	We know that it is really important to protect the information we have about you. Therefore, we will follow the rules that are written in the Data Protection Act, the UK GDPR and the Data (Use and Access) Act. Each of these laws says that we must do all we can to keep your information private, safe and secure.

	We use secure computer systems and we make sure that any written information held about you is kept securely and we train our staff to respect your privacy and deal with your information in a manner that makes sure it is always kept and dealt with in a safe way.
Does this organisation use artificial intelligence (AI)?	We may use AI although, prior to doing so, complete checks are made to guarantee that any AI use will comply with all data protection laws and this includes UK GDPR. We will us AI to: • Support processing of incoming documents to file into patient clinical records. We may use AI in the following: • During consultations to support both the compiling and documenting of your clinical record. Data will include your name, any contact details, medical history, diagnosis, treatment information, and any other information shared during the consultation. Should you not wish the clinician to use any AI during your consultation, please make them aware of this.
What if I have a long-term medical problem?	If you have a long-term medical problem then we know it is important to make sure your information is shared with other healthcare workers to help them to help you, making sure you get the care you need when you need it.
Who else will see my information?	Usually, only staff at this practice are allowed to see your information. Should you need to go to the hospital then we may be asked to share your information with them, but this is only so that we can take care of you. Sometimes we might be asked to take part in medical research that could help you in the future. We will always ask you or your parent(s) or an adult with parental responsibility if we can share your information if this happens. Possibly the police, social services, the courts or other organisations may have a legal right to see your information.
OpenSAFELY Data Analytics Service	NHS England has been directed by the government to establish and operate the OpenSAFELY COVID-19 Service and the OpenSAFELY Data Analytics Service. These services provide a secure environment that

	supports research, clinical audit, service evaluation and health surveillance for COVID-19 and other purposes. Each GP practice remains the controller of its own GP patient data but is required to let approved users run queries on pseudonymised patient data. This means identifiers are removed and replaced with a pseudonym. Only approved users are allowed to run these queries, and they will not be able to access information that directly or indirectly identifies individuals. Patients who do not wish for their data to be used as part of this process can register type 1 opt out: https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/opt-out-of-sharing-your-health-records/ Find additional information about OpenSAFELY: https://www.opensafely.org/
What if I don't want to share my medical information?	All our patients, no matter what their age, can say that they don't want to share their information. If you're under 13 this is something that your parents or an adult with parental responsibility will have to decide. If you're over 13 and need help, then it may make sense to discuss this with those who care for you. Should you want to discuss this further, then you can discuss any concerns that you have with a member of staff at the surgery. No patient identifiable information will ever be shared for research without the appropriate consent.
How do I access my records?	If you want to see what is written about you, you have a right to access the information we hold about you, but you will need to complete a Subject Access Request (SAR). There are some rules on this. • If you are under 16, your parents or adults with parental responsibility can do this on your behalf. • If you are over 12, you may be classed as being competent and may be able to do this yourself. • If you are over 16 and need help in understanding what to do, then you can still ask the person who cares for you to do it on your behalf. You may also be able to access some aspects of your records such as your regular medication online and you can discuss this with a member of staff at the surgery.

What if there is something wrong in my record?	If you believe that there are any errors in the information that we hold about you, then you can ask us to correct it.
Can I get anything removed from my record?	Legally, we cannot remove any of the information we hold about you as we need all this information to take care of you.
What do I do if I have a question?	Should you have any questions about this privacy policy or the information we hold about you, you can discuss this with a member of staff, or your parents or adults with parental responsibility, or the person who cares for you. They will advise you to either: • Contact the organisation via email at cwicb.bidfordhealthcentre.nhs.net • Write to the Data Protection Officer at primarycareig@innovatehs.co.uk Please note that the DPO is specially trained in data management.
What if I have a complaint about how my information is being managed?	If you are unhappy with any element of our data processing methods, contact Bidford Health Centre in the first instance. Should you wish this to be considered as a complaint, then the organisation will review this and give you a full response. If you feel that we have not addressed your concern appropriately, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Public Service Ombudsman (PSO) or, specifically for a data complaint, you may escalate your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO is the regulator for the UK GDPR and offers independent advice and guidance on the law and personal data including your rights and how to access your personal information. For further details, visit the ICO webpage titled For the public and select "Make a complaint" or telephone: 0303 123 1113 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm). A complaint may also be made via the ICO live chat service.

This privacy notice will be regularly reviewed. This is normally annually, or should something significant happen that means that the information in this document is incorrect.