

Data Privacy Agreements



What are data privacy agreements?

Data Privacy Agreements (DPAs) are legal documents outlining how schools and ed-tech companies handle your child's personal information. Northside ISD implements a DPA provided by the Texas Student Privacy Alliance when using online applications or systems. DPAs are obtained when teachers request to use a new application in their classroom or when the district searches for new educational materials to align with the curriculum; Data Privacy Agreements are obtained. Teachers and district personnel must submit these resources to a committee consisting of Technology Services, Security, and Academic Technology personnel for review.

Why are Data Privacy Agreements used?

Data Protection Agreements (known as the Data Protection Addendum for District purposes) are designed to:

- Prohibit the selling or sharing of personal information
- Prohibit retaining, using, or disclosing personal information outside of the direct business relationship between the third-party contractor and the business
- An agreement between the contractor and the business that attests to compliance with various consumer privacy and student data protection regulations

FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
PPRA	Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment
COPPA	Children's Online Privacy Protection Act
TDPSA	Texas Data Privacy and Security Act
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
GDPR	EU General Data Protection Regulation



Why are data privacy agreements important for students?

Data privacy agreements play a vital role in protecting your child's personal information, as detailed below:

- **Protection of Sensitive Information:** Students produce a substantial quantity of personal data while participating in the district curriculum, from first name and last name to the location data when using school-provided devices. To safeguard this sensitive information, data privacy agreements are established. These agreements define the rules and regulations governing data ownership, authorized access, security measures, and breach notification procedures. These agreements aim to ensure that personal student data is handled responsibly and not misused or shared without proper consent.
- **Prevention of Identity Theft and Fraud:** Student data can be attractive to cybercriminals who may attempt to use it for identity theft, financial fraud, or other malicious purposes. Strong data privacy agreements hold vendors accountable by establishing clear guidelines for data handling and security measures.
- **Compliance with Laws and Regulations:** There are various federal and state laws that govern student data privacy, such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). Data privacy agreements help ensure compliance with these regulations, which ensures your child's data is protected.

What apps are approved for student use in Northside ISD?

Northside is part of the National Student Data Privacy Consortium, a database that hosts Data Privacy Agreements for applications vetted in Northside ISD and other school districts around Texas. Parents can view a comprehensive list of the technology resources available for use in Northside ISD [here](#).

When is a DPA required?

Whenever PII (or Personally Identifiable Information) is collected or accessed by a third-party vendor, a DPA should be attached to the Contracted Services Agreement (CSA). If the vendor requests to use their own Contract (and not sign the CSA), ask for the agreement in a Word copy for Legal to review and incorporate the DPA into the vendor's Contract.



What is considered PII (Personally Identifiable Information)?

Direct and Indirect Identifiers	Staff / Student
Name	Both
Family Member Names	Both
Mother's Maiden Name	Both
Address	Both
Personal Telephone #	Both
Date of Birth	Both
Place of Birth	Both
Social Security #	Both
Biometric Data (fingerprints, iris/retina scan, etc.)	Both
Photo	Student
I.D. #	Student
Record (hardcopy, digital media, video, etc.)	Student
Health Information	Both
Financial Information	Staff