



RIVERMOUNT COLLEGE

Realising the Potential Within

8.08.01 PRIVACY POLICY

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

Rivermount College is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the *Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988*. This statement outlines the Privacy Policy of the College and describes how the College uses and manages personal information provided to or collected by it.

SCOPE

The Policy applies to Board members, employers, employees, volunteers, parents/guardians and students, contractors, and people visiting the College site; and describes the type of information the College collects, how the information is handled, how and to whom the information is disclosed, and how the information may be accessed.

EXCEPTION IN RELATION TO EMPLOYEE RECORDS

Under the Privacy Act, the Australian Privacy Principles do not apply to an employee record held by the employing entity. As a result, this Privacy Policy does not apply to the College's treatment of an employee record, where the treatment is directly related to a current or former employment relationship between the College and employee.

RESPONSIBILITY

Principal reporting to the Board of Directors

LEGISLATION AND REFERENCES

[Privacy Act 1988 \(Cth\)](#)

[Australian Privacy Principles](#)

[Privacy Amendment \(Enhancing Privacy Protection\) Act 2012](#)

[Privacy Amendment \(Notifiable Data Breaches\) Act 2017](#)

[Privacy Legislation Amendment \(Enforcement and Other Measures\) Act 2022](#)

Area: 8.0 Legal and Compliance	Policy: 8.08.01 Privacy	Current Version: F Original Release: March 2014	Page 1 of 12
Reviewed by Compliance Officer: July 2025	Approved by Executive Committee: 6 Aug 2025	Approved by Board of Directors: Feb 2021 Approved by Compliance Committee: May 2019	Next Review: 2026 (annual review cycle)

6.01.01 Computer and Information Security Policy and Procedure
Child Protection Policy 08.03.01
Disability Discrimination Policy 08.01.02

POLICY

This Privacy Policy sets out how Rivermount College manages personal information provided to or collected by it. The College is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the *Commonwealth Privacy Act*.

The College may, from time to time, review and update this Privacy Policy to take account of new laws and technology, changes to the College's operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing College environment.

What kinds of Personal Information does the College collect and how does the College collect it?

The type of information the College collects and holds includes (but is not limited to) personal information, including health and other sensitive information, about:

- students and parents and/or guardians ('Parents') before, during and after the course of a student's enrolment at the College, including:
 - name, contact details (including next of kin), date of birth, previous school and religion;
 - medical information (e.g. details of disability and/or allergies, absence notes, medical reports and names of doctors);
 - conduct and complaint records, or other behaviour notes, and school reports;
 - counselling reports;
 - health fund details and Medicare number;
 - any applicable court orders;
 - volunteering information; and
 - photos and videos at College events;
- job applicants, staff members, volunteers and contractors, including:
 - name, contact details (including next of kin), date of birth, and religion;
 - information on job application;
 - professional development history;
 - salary and payment information, including superannuation details and tax file numbers;
 - medical information (e.g. details of disability and/or allergies, and medical certificates);
 - complaint records and investigation reports;
 - leave details;
 - photos and videos at College events;
 - workplace surveillance information;
 - work emails and private emails (when using work email address) and Internet browsing history; and
- other people who come into contact with the College, including name and contact details and any other information necessary for the particular contact with the College.

Personal information you provide:

The College will generally collect personal information held about an individual by way of forms filled out by parents or students, face-to-face meetings and interviews, emails and telephone calls. On occasions people other than parents and students provide personal information.

Personal information provided by other people:

In some circumstances the College may be provided with personal information about an individual from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional or a reference from another school.

How will the College use the Personal Information you provide?

The College will use personal information it collects from you for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and reasonably expected by you, or to which you have consented.

Students and Parents

In relation to personal information of students and parents, the College's primary purpose of collection is to enable the College to provide schooling for the students, exercise its duty of care, and perform necessary associated administrative activities, which will enable pupils to take part in all the activities of the College. This includes satisfying the needs of parents, the needs of the students and the needs of the College throughout the whole period the student is enrolled at the College.

The purposes for which the College uses personal information of students and parents include:

- to keep parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling, through correspondence, newsletters and magazines;
- day-to-day administration of the College;
- looking after student's educational, social and medical wellbeing;
- monitoring appropriate use of school-owned laptops;
- seeking donations and marketing for the College; and
- to satisfy the College's legal obligations and allow the College to discharge its duty of care.

In some cases where the College requests personal information about a student or parent, if the information requested is not provided, the College may not be able to enrol or continue the enrolment of the students or permit the students to take part in a particular activity.

On occasions, information such as academic and sporting achievements, students' activities and similar news is published in College newsletters and magazines and on our website. This may include photographs and videos of student activities such as sporting events, school camps and school excursions. Upon enrolment, the College will obtain permission from the parent or guardian to include student photographs and videos in our promotional material or otherwise make this material available to the public such as on the internet. Where permission is denied, the College will take all reasonable steps to avoid publication in the public space.

Job Applicants, Staff Members and Contractors

In relation to personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors, the College's primary purpose of collection is to assess and (if successful) to engage the applicant, staff member or contractor, as the case may be.

The purposes for which the College uses personal information of job applicants, staff members and contractors include:

- in administering the individual's employment or contract, as the case may be;
- for insurance purposes;
- in seeking funds and marketing for the College; and
- to satisfy the College's legal obligations, for example, in relation to child protection legislation.

Volunteers

The College also obtains personal information about volunteers who assist the College in its functions or conduct associated activities, such as Alumni associations, to enable the College and the volunteers to work together.

Marketing and Fundraising

The College treats marketing and seeking donations for the future growth and development of the College as an important part of ensuring that the College continues to provide a quality learning environment in which both students and staff thrive. Personal information held by the College may be disclosed to organisations that assist in the College's fundraising, for example, the College's Families and Friends Association, Alumni, or, on occasions, external fundraising organisations.

Parents, staff, contractors and other members of the wider College community may from time to time receive fundraising information. College publications, like newsletters and magazines, which include personal information, may be used for marketing purposes.

If you would like to opt out of direct marketing please contact the Director of Community Relations on marketing@rivermount.qld.edu.au.

Who might the College disclose Personal Information to and store your information with?

The College may disclose personal information, including sensitive information, held about an individual for educational, administrative and support purposes. This may include to:

- another school;
- government departments (including for policy and funding purposes);
- medical practitioners;
- people providing educational, support and health services to the College, including specialist visiting teachers, [sports] coaches, volunteers, counsellors and providers of learning and assessment tools;
- assessment and educational authorities, including the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and NAPLAN Test Administration

Authorities (who will disclose it to the entity that manages the online platform for NAPLAN);

- people providing administrative and financial services to the College;
- recipients of College publications, such as newsletters and magazines;
- students' parents/guardians;
- anyone you authorise the College to disclose information to; and
- anyone to whom the College is required to disclose the information to by law, including child protection laws.

Sending and Storing Information Overseas

The College may disclose personal information about an individual to overseas recipients, for instance, to facilitate a school exchange. However, the College will not send personal information about an individual outside Australia without:

- obtaining the consent of the individual (in some cases this consent will be implied); or
- otherwise complying with the Australian Privacy Principles or other applicable privacy legislation.

The College may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the College that involve the use of personal information, such as services relating to email, instant messaging and education and assessment applications. Some limited personal information may also be provided to these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services. This personal information may be stored in the 'cloud' which means that it may reside on a cloud service provider's servers which may be situated outside Australia.

An example of such a cloud service provider is Google. Google provides the 'Google Apps for Education' (GAFE) including Gmail, and stores and processes limited personal information for this purpose. College personnel and the AIS and its service providers may have the ability to access, monitor, use or disclose emails, communications (e.g. instant messaging), documents and associated administrative data for the purposes of administering GAFE and ensuring its proper use. The data centres where the personal information is likely to be kept are located in the USA, Taiwan, Singapore, Ireland, Netherlands and Belgium.

The College also uses Microsoft 365 and has configured it to use Australian data centres.

How does the College treat Sensitive Information?

In referring to 'sensitive information', the College means: information relating to a person's racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religion, trade union or other professional or trade association membership, philosophical beliefs, sexual orientation or practices or criminal record, that is also personal information, health information and biometric information about an individual.

Sensitive information will be used and disclosed only for the purpose for which it was provided or a directly related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise, or the use or disclosure of the sensitive information is allowed by law.

Management and Security of Personal Information

The College staff are required to respect the confidentiality of students' and parents' personal information and the privacy of individuals. The College has in place steps to protect the personal information the College holds from misuse, interference and loss, unauthorised access, modification or disclosure by use of various methods including locked storage of paper records and password access rights to computerised records.

Data Breaches

It will be deemed that an 'eligible data breach' has occurred if:

- there has been unauthorised access to, or unauthorised disclosure of, personal information about one or more individuals (the affected individuals);
- a reasonable person would conclude there is a likelihood of serious harm to any affected individuals as a result; or
- the information is lost in circumstances where:
 - unauthorised access to, or unauthorised disclosure of, the information is likely to occur
 - assuming unauthorised access to, or unauthorised disclosure of, the information was to occur, a reasonable person would conclude that it would be likely to result in serious harm to the affected individuals.

Serious harm may include serious physical, psychological, emotional, economic and financial harm, as well as serious harm to reputation.

What must the College do in the event of an 'eligible data breach'?

If the College suspects that an eligible data breach has occurred, it will carry out a reasonable and expedient assessment/investigation within 30 days.

If such an assessment/investigation indicates there are reasonable grounds to believe an eligible data breach has occurred, then the College will be required to lodge a statement to the Privacy Commissioner (**Commissioner**). Where practical to do so, the College will also notify the affected individuals. If it is not practicable to notify the affected individuals, Rivermount College will publish a copy of the statement on its website, or publicise it in another manner.

Exception to notification obligation

An exception to the requirement to notify will exist if there is a data breach and immediate remedial action is taken, and as a result of that action:

- there is no unauthorised access to, or unauthorised disclosure of, the information
- there is no serious harm to affected individuals, and as a result of the remedial action, a reasonable person would conclude the breach is not likely to result in serious harm.

Access and Correction of Personal Information

Under the *Privacy Act*, an individual has the right to seek and obtain access to any personal information which the College holds about them and to advise the College of any perceived inaccuracy. There are some exceptions to this right set out in the Act. Students will generally be able to access and update their personal information through their parents, but older students may seek access and correction themselves.

To make a request to access or update any personal information the College holds about you or your child, please contact the Principal in writing. Rivermount College may require you to verify your identity and specify what information you require. The College may charge a fee to cover the cost of verifying your application and locating, retrieving, reviewing and copying any material requested. If the information sought is extensive, Rivermount College will advise the likely cost in advance. If we cannot provide you with access to that information, we will provide you with written notice explaining the reasons for refusal.

The College will take reasonable steps to ensure that any personal information is accurate, up to date, complete, relevant and not misleading.

Consent and Rights of Access to the Personal Information of Students

The College respects every parent's right to make decisions concerning their child's education. Generally, the College will refer any requests for consent and notices in relation to the personal information of a student to the student's parents. The College will treat consent given by parents as consent given on behalf of the students, and notice to parents will act as notice given to the students.

As mentioned above, parents may seek access to personal information held by the College about them or their child by contacting the Principal. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where release of the information would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, or where the release may result in a breach of the College's duty of care to the students.

The College may, at its discretion on the request of a student, grant that student access to information held by the College about them, or allow a student to give or withhold consent to the use of their personal information, independently of their parents. This would normally be done only when the maturity of the student and/or the student's personal circumstances so warranted.

Enquiries and Complaints

If you would like further information about the way the College manages the personal information it holds, or wish to complain that you believe that the College has breached the Australian Privacy Principles please contact the Principal. The College will investigate any complaint and will notify you of the making of a decision in relation to your complaint as soon as is practicable after it has been made.

APPENDIX 1

Standard Collection Notice *(to be distributed on College Letterhead)*

Rivermount College collects personal information, including sensitive information about students and parents/guardians before and during the course of a student's enrolment at the College. This may be in writing or in the course of conversations. In some circumstances, the College may collect personal information about you from a third party, for example a report provided by a medical professional, a reference from another school or a report about your use of school devices.

The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable the College to provide schooling for your son/daughter, exercise its duty of care, engage in marketing/fundraising and perform necessary associated administrative activities, which will enable them to take part in all the activities of the College.

Some of the information we collect is to satisfy the College's legal obligations, particularly to enable the College to discharge its duty of care.

Laws governing or relating to the operation of a College require certain information to be collected and disclosed. These include relevant Education Acts, and Public Health and Child Protection laws.

Health information about students is sensitive information within the terms of the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) under the *Privacy Act 1988*. We may ask you to provide medical reports about students from time to time.

The College may disclose personal and sensitive information to others for educational, administrative, legal marketing and support purposes. This may include to:

- other schools and teachers at those schools (for the purpose of facilitating the transfer of a student);
- government departments (including for policy and funding purposes),
- emergency services;
- medical practitioners;
- people providing educational, support and health services to the College, including specialist visiting teachers, sports coaches, volunteers and counsellors;
- providers of learning and assessment tools;
- assessment and educational authorities including the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and NAPLAN Test Administration Authorities (who will disclose it to the entity that manages the online platform for NAPLAN);
- people providing administrative and financial services to the College;
- anyone you authorise the College to disclose information to; and
- anyone to whom the College is required or authorised to disclose the information to by law, including child protection laws.

Personal information collected from students is regularly disclosed to their parents or guardians.

The College will send information about a student overseas (student transfer or study exchange) only with consent of the parents/guardians.

Personal information collected may be disclosed by the College to debt collection agencies for the purpose of recovering outstanding tuition fees.

The College may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the College that involve the use of personal information, such as services relating to email, instant messaging and education and assessment applications. Some limited personal information may also be provided to these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services. This personal information may reside on a cloud service provider's servers which may be situated outside Australia. Further information about the use of online or 'cloud' service providers is contained in the College's *Privacy Policy*.

The College may engage in fundraising activities. Information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. It may also be disclosed to organisations that assist in the College's fundraising activities solely for that purpose. We will not disclose your personal information to third parties for their own marketing purposes without your consent.

On occasions, information such as academic and sporting achievements, students' activities and similar news is published in College newsletters and magazines, on our intranet and on our website. This may include photographs and videos of student activities such as sporting events, school camps and school excursions. Upon enrolment, the College will obtain permission from the parent or guardian to include student photographs and videos in our promotional material or otherwise make this material available to the public such as on the internet. Where permission is denied, the College will take all reasonable steps to avoid publication in the public space such as the internet.

The College may include student and parent/guardian contact details in a class list and College directory.

If you provide the College with the personal information of others, such as doctors or emergency contacts, we encourage you to inform them that you are disclosing that information to the College and why.

Rivermount College's *Privacy Policy*, accessible on the College website, sets out how parents or students may seek access to and correction of their personal information which the College has collected and holds. However, there will be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, where access may result in a breach of the College's duty of care to the students, or where students have provided information in confidence. Any refusal will be notified in writing with reasons if appropriate.

The College's *Privacy Policy* also sets out how you may complain about a breach of privacy and how the College will deal with such a complaint.

APPENDIX 2

Alumni Association Collection Notice *(to be distributed on College Letterhead)*

The Rivermount College Alumni Association may collect personal information about you from time to time. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable us to inform you about our activities and the activities of Rivermount College and to keep Alumni members informed about other members.

We must have the information referred to above to enable us to continue your membership of the Alumni Association.

As you know, from time to time the College may engage in fundraising activities. The information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. It may also be used by the College to assist in its fundraising activities. If you do not agree to this, please advise us now.

The Rivermount College Alumni Association may publish details about you in our newsletter, magazine or other College publications as well as our College website. If you do not agree to this you must advise us now.

The College's Privacy Policy, accessible on the College website, contains details of how you may seek access to and correction of your personal information which the College has collected and holds, and how you may complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles.

The College may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the College that involve the use of personal information, such as email services. Some limited personal information may also be provided to these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services. This personal information may reside on a cloud service provider's servers which may be situated outside Australia. Further information about the use of online or 'cloud' service providers is contained in the College's Privacy Policy.

If you provide us with the personal information of others, we encourage you to inform them that you are disclosing that information to the College and why.

APPENDIX 3

Employment Collection Notice *(to be distributed on College Letterhead)*

In applying for this position you will be providing Rivermount College with personal information.

If you provide the College with personal information, for example, your name and address or information contained on your resume, we will collect the information in order to assess your application for employment. The College may keep this information on file if your application is unsuccessful in case another position becomes available.

The College's *Privacy Policy*, accessible on the College website, contains details of how you may complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles or how you may seek access to and correction of your personal information which the College has collected and holds. However, there may be occasions when access is denied. Such occasions would include where access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others. Any refusal will be notified in writing with reasons if appropriate.

We will not disclose this information to a third party without your consent.

The College may be required to conduct a criminal record check to collect information regarding whether you are or have been the subject of an Apprehended Violence Order and certain criminal offences under Child Protection laws. The College may also be required to collect personal information about you in accordance with these laws.

Non-Teaching Staff are required to hold a positive blue card which must be kept current for the duration of their employment.

The College may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the College that involve the use of personal information, such as email services. Some limited personal information may also be provided to these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services. This personal information may reside on a cloud service provider's servers which may be situated outside Australia. Further information about the use of online or 'cloud' service providers is contained in the College's Privacy Policy.

If you provide us with the personal information of others, we encourage you to inform them that you are disclosing that information to the College and why.

Rivermount College can be contacted by:

Mail: PO Box 693, Beenleigh, 4207
Email: admin@rivermount.qld.edu.au
Telephone: (07) 3287 0000

APPENDIX 4

Contractor/Volunteer Collection Notice *(to be distributed on College Letterhead)*

In offering, applying or agreeing to provide services to the College, you will be providing Rivermount College with personal information.

If you provide us with personal information, for example your name and address or information contained on your resume, we will collect the information in order to assess your application. We may also make notes and prepare a confidential report in respect of your application.

You agree that we may store this information on file for future reference.

The College's *Privacy Policy*, accessible on the College website, sets out how you may seek access to and correction of your personal information and how you may complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles. However, access may be refused in certain circumstances such as where access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others. Any refusal will be notified in writing with reasons if appropriate.

The College will not disclose this information to a third party without your consent.

The College may be required to conduct a criminal record check to collect information regarding whether you are or have been the subject of an Apprehended Violence Order and certain criminal offences under Child Protection laws. The College may also be required to collect personal information about you in accordance with these laws.

All non-parents/guardians are required to hold a Blue Card.

The College may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the College that involve the use of personal information, such as services relating to email, instant messaging and education and assessment applications. Some limited personal information may also be provided to these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services. This personal information may reside on a cloud service provider's servers which may be situated outside Australia. Further information about the use of online or 'cloud' service providers is contained in the College's Privacy Policy

If you provide us with the personal information of others, we encourage you to inform them that you are disclosing that information to the College and why.

Rivermount College can be contacted by:

Mail: PO Box 693, Beenleigh, 4207
Email: admin@rivermount.qld.edu.au
Telephone: (07) 3287 0000