

## The Education (Student Information) (Wales) Regulations 2017 2017 No. 886 (W. 214)

A new Statutory Instrument in Wales has introduced [regulations](#) to create a new student database.

The personal data will include names, date of birth and ethnicity, home address including postcode, alongside exam results and unique ID.

Third parties (prescribed persons) who will get the data include [\[Part 1\]](#) the Student Loans Company and [\[Part 2\]](#)<sup>1</sup> persons who, for the purpose of promoting the education or well-being of students in Wales, require the information for that purpose.

That near-identical wording was used in 2012 to change the law in England which has since been used to pass [identifiable and confidential pupil-level data](#) to commercial [companies](#), charities and [press](#), into the wild, hundreds of times a year ever since.

In England our [children's privacy](#) has been pimped out to [third parties](#) since 2012. Wales looks set to follow suit.

Where are the communications to staff, parents and pupils? What oversight will there be? Will a register of uses be published? And why does government get to decide without debate that our fundamental right to privacy can be written out of law? Why has there been no Privacy Impact Assessment?

Scope creep is a further ever present threat. After all, MPs were assured on the changes to the "Central Pupil Database" in 2002, that the Department had no interest in the identity of individual pupils.

Children's names are used now in an [agreement with the Home Office](#) handling over up to 1,500 school children's personal details a month. The Department for Education just confirmed to [Sky News](#) for the first time, that information obtained from the National Pupil Database was used to contact families to "regularise their stay or remove them". The Department for Education has become The Department for Deportation.

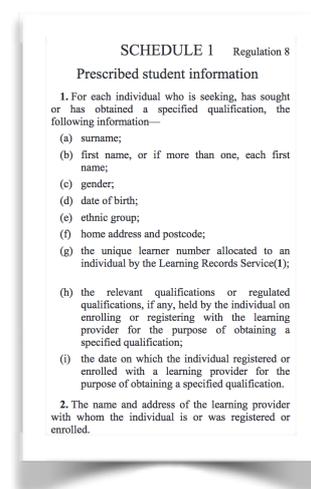
These expansions at national level are highly sensitive and seem totally inappropriate for Statutory Instruments without debate.

[Link: Statutory Instrument and Explanatory Notes](#)

Made 7 September 2017

Laid before the National Assembly for Wales 11 September

Coming into force 6 October 2017



<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/886/pdfs/wsi\\_20170886\\_mi.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/886/pdfs/wsi_20170886_mi.pdf)