

PERSONAL INFORMATION PRIVACY POLICY FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

1 The School's Commitment to You

Safeguarding personal information of parents and students is a fundamental concern of Oak and Orca. The school is committed to meeting or exceeding the privacy standards established by British Columbia's *Personal Information Protection Act* (PIPA) and any other applicable legislation.

This Personal Information Privacy Policy describes the policies and practices of Oak and Orca regarding the collection, use and disclosure of personal information about students and parents, including the steps the school has taken to ensure personal and financial information is handled appropriately and securely.

Oak and Orca may add, modify or remove portions of this Personal Information Privacy Policy when it is considered appropriate to do so, and any such changes will be effective upon giving notice of the revised policy. You may ask for the most recent update of this Personal Information Privacy Policy at the school office. This Personal Information Privacy Policy may be supplemented or modified by agreements entered into between Oak and Orca and an individual from time to time.

2 Ten Privacy Principles

As part of Oak and Orca's commitment, the *Ten Privacy Principles* govern the actions of the school as they relate to the use of personal information. This Personal Information Privacy Policy describes the *Ten Privacy Principles* and provides further details regarding Oak and Orca's compliance with the principles.

3 Definitions

In this Personal Information Privacy Policy, the following terms have the meanings set out below:

"**Oak and Orca**" refers to Oak and Orca Bioregional School and Oak and Orca School (DL)

"**personal information**" means any information about an identifiable individual, as further defined under British Columbia's *Personal Information Protection Act* or other applicable laws. Personal information excludes the name, position name or title, business telephone number, business address, business email, and business fax number of an individual, as well as any publicly available information as designated under applicable laws, such as information available from a public telephone directory or from a public registry.

"**parent**" means the parent, guardian, or other legal representative of a student.

"**student**" means a prospective, current, or past student of Oak and Orca

4 Principle 1 – Accountability

Oak and Orca is responsible for maintaining and protecting the personal information under its control. In fulfilling this mandate, the school designates (an) individual(s) who is(are) accountable for the school's compliance with the *Ten Privacy Principles*. This individual is the *Privacy Officer* of the school.

5 *Principle 2 – Identifying Purposes*

Oak and Orca will, before or at the time personal information is collected, identify the purposes for which the information is collected, used and disclosed.

What Information is Collected?

Oak and Orca collects and uses personal information to provide students with the best possible educational services enunciated by the Mission statement of the school. Most of the information the school collects either comes to the school directly from parents and students or is information regarding the students' school activities, performance, or behaviour (such as attendance records or grades). For example, when a student applies to register in the school, the school asks the parent to provide information that enables it to complete the registration process. This also includes information on academic, health, and personal matters needed by the school to provide the best possible education and co-curricular programs. Oak and Orca also collects information in connection with the use of its computer systems.

6 *Principle 3 – Consent*

Oak and Orca will obtain consent of the individual for the collection, use or disclosure of personal information except where the law states exemptions, grants permission, or creates a requirement for collection, use, or disclosure of personal information.

Requirements for consent to collection, use or disclosure of personal information vary depending on circumstances and on the type of personal information that is intended to be collected, used, or disclosed. In determining whether consent is required and, if so, what form of consent is appropriate, Oak and Orca will take into account both the sensitivity of the personal information and the purposes for which Oak and Orca will use the information. Consent may be express, implied (including through use of "opt-out" consent where appropriate) or deemed. For example, if an individual provides his/her mailing address and requests information regarding a particular service, consent to use the address to provide the requested information may be implied.

On giving reasonable written notice to Oak and Orca an individual may withdraw consent to the collection, use or disclosure of his or her personal information. Upon notice of withdrawal of consent, Oak and Orca will notify the individual of the likely consequences of withdrawing his or her consent and, except where otherwise required or permitted by law, Oak and Orca will stop collecting, using or disclosing the personal information as requested.

If a person provides Oak and Orca or its service providers or agents with personal information about an individual, the person represents that it has all necessary authority and/or has obtained all necessary consents from such individual to enable Oak and Orca to collect, use and disclose such personal information for the purposes set forth in this Personal Information Privacy Policy.

7 *Principle 4 – Limiting Collection*

Oak and Orca will limit the personal information collected to that information necessary for the purposes identified by the school.

8 Principle 5 – Use, Disclosure and Retention

Oak and Orca will only use, disclose and retain personal information for the purpose for which it was collected unless the individual has otherwise consented, or when its use, disclosure or retention is required or permitted by law.

How is Information Used by Oak and Orca?

Oak and Orca uses personal information as follows:

- to communicate with parents and students, process applications, and ultimately to deliver educational services and co-curricular programs to the students.
- to enable the school to operate its administrative function, including payment of school fees and maintenance of non-educational school programs such as parent and volunteer participation and fundraising.
- health, psychological, or legal information to provide certain specialized services in those areas or as adjunct information in delivering educational services.

If for any reason personal information is required to fulfill another purpose, the school will, where appropriate, notify you and ask you for your consent before the school proceeds.

When May Information be Disclosed?

Oak and Orca may disclose an individual's personal information to others in connection with the purpose for which it was collected, as consented to by the individual, or as required or permitted by law. The following are some examples of how Oak and Orca may disclose personal information.

When Authorized by You

- Other educational institutions routinely contact the school for personal information about students. For example, if a student moves to another school, college or university, student records are requested by the enrolling institution. Your permission to pass on these records is usually obtained when the student is registered, and you authorize the school to disclose such information to other appropriate educational institutions for the ongoing education of the student.
- Contact information may be used to enable the school to provide the para-educational and administrative services usually operated by the school. These services include phoning committees, participation groups, parent meetings, fundraising, events, annual general meetings, etc.
- Keeping with other school policies and values, we might share your information when and as requested by you with the parties with whom you request that we share the information.

In some cases, when communication is over the telephone, your consent to the use and/or disclosure of your information will be obtained verbally. In other cases, such as when you communicate through e-mail, your consent will be obtained electronically.

When Required by Law

The type of information the school is legally required to disclose most often relates to family court issues, legal proceedings, court orders and government tax reporting requirements. Student information as per Form 1701 is annually filed with the Ministry of Education.

Only the information specifically requested is disclosed and the school takes precautions to satisfy itself that the authorities making the request have legitimate grounds to do so.

When Permitted by Law

The school is legally permitted to disclose some personal information in situations such as an investigation of illegal activities, reasonable methods to collect overdue accounts, a medical emergency or suspicion of illegal activities, etc. Only pertinent information is disclosed.

The school does not sell, lease, or trade information about you to other parties.

Outside Service Suppliers

Oak and Orca may contract outside organizations to perform specialized services such as printing, student assessments, market research, or data processing. Suppliers of specialized services are given only the information necessary to perform those services, and Oak and Orca takes appropriate steps to ensure that such information is securely transferred and stored and is used only to fulfill the purposes for which it was disclosed to the service provider.

How Long Is Personal Information Retained?

Personal information will only be retained for the period of time required to fulfill the purpose for which it was collected. Once the personal information is no longer required to be retained to fulfill the purposes for which it was collected and is no longer required or permitted to be retained for legal or business purposes, it will be destroyed or made anonymous.

9 *Principle 6 – Accuracy*

Oak and Orca will take appropriate steps to ensure that personal information collected by Oak and Orca is as accurate and complete as is reasonably required in connection with the purposes for which it was collected, used or disclosed.

How May I Update Outdated or Incorrect Information?

An individual may, upon written request to Oak and Orca, request that Oak and Orca correct an error or omission in any personal information that is under Oak and Orca's control. Oak and Orca will, as appropriate, amend the information as requested and send the corrected personal information to each third party to which it has disclosed the information during the preceding year.

10 *Principle 7 – Safeguarding Personal Information*

Oak and Orca will protect personal information by security safeguards that are appropriate to the sensitivity level of the information. The school's security practices are reviewed periodically to ensure that the privacy of personal information is not compromised.

The School's Employees

In the course of daily operations, access to personal information is restricted to authorized employees who have a legitimate reason for accessing it.

Employees are appropriately educated about the importance of privacy and they are required to follow the school's policies and procedures regarding handling of personal information.

Student Files

Student files are stored in secured filing cabinets. Access is restricted to only those employees (teachers, teacher-aides, counselors, secretaries, etc.) who, by nature of their work, are required to see them. The school manages electronic files appropriately with passwords and security measures that limit access by unauthorized personnel.

11 *Principle 8 – Openness*

Oak and Orca makes information available to individuals concerning the policies and practices that apply to the management of personal information.

Individuals may direct any questions or enquiries with respect to the school's privacy policies or practices to the Privacy Officer of Oak and Orca.

12 *Principle 9 – Individual Access*

Oak and Orca will inform an individual, upon the individual's request, of the existence, use and disclosure of the individual's personal information, and shall give the individual access to it in accordance with the law.

How May I Access My Personal Information?

Individuals may access and verify any personal information with appropriate notice so that the office is able to supply the information required. Most of this information is available in the registration forms and other forms that you filled out.

Parent Access to Student Personal Information

A parent may access and verify school records of the student, with appropriate notice during normal school hours. In situations of family breakdown, the school will grant access to records of students in accordance with the law.

13 *Principle 10 – Complaint Process*

Individuals may question compliance with the above principles.

Questions, Concerns and Complaints

Questions, concerns, and complaints about privacy, confidentiality and personal information handling policies and practices of the school should be directed to the school's Privacy Officer by calling the school

office. If necessary, individuals will be referred to use the school's complaint procedure and appeals policies.