

On our data collection forms we ask you to confirm the national identity and ethnic background of your child, as all schools are asked to do by the Welsh Assembly Government. Please read the descriptions of “national identity” and “ethnic background” then tick the appropriate boxes on the form.

We are committed to ensuring that pupils from all ethnic backgrounds enjoy equal opportunities to fulfil their potential in every aspect of school life. The information we are requesting now will help us to achieve that, therefore, we hope you will feel able to provide this information. These details will increase the level of knowledge we have about our pupils and the communities we serve. It will also help us to plan and meet individual pupil’s learning needs and assist us in ensuring that the curriculum meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of pupils.

The information you provide will also be used to compile statistics on the school careers, experiences and achievements of pupils from different ethnic backgrounds. The statistics will help to highlight any areas in which pupils from particular ethnic backgrounds may not enjoy the opportunity to fulfil their potential. It will then be possible to address these areas. The statistics will also help to highlight good practice, so that it can be identified and shared between schools and Local Education Authorities throughout Wales.

These statistics will not allow individual children to be identified publicly and the information will only be used for statistical and research purposes. This information will be passed to the Local Education Authority and the Welsh Assembly Government to contribute to local and national statistics.

Where possible, information about your child’s national identity and ethnic background will be passed on to any other school in Wales to which your child transfers, to save you being asked for it again.

If you do not wish to provide your child’s national identity and/or ethnic background information, please tick the appropriate box or boxes on the form.

If you do not return the form, this will not, in itself, amount to refusal to provide the information. If you have not returned your completed form within four weeks, the school will use its best judgement to assess the ethnic background of your child, noting that the information has been arrived at in this way, rather than provided by you. The school will let you know this decision and you can ask to have the information altered or removed, if you wish. The school will not, however, assess your child’s national identity.

Please note that you can ask to check your child’s information at any time, and, if you wish, you may have the national identity and/or ethnic background information changed or removed.