



## Is it necessary for Applicants to have a Data Processing Agreement with ABRSM?

ABRSM takes data protection seriously, particularly in relation to children, and as such, our policies and practices are compliant with EU GDPR and UK data protection law.

We have been asked frequently whether it is necessary for Applicants to have a Data Processing Agreement with ABRSM. We have received legal advice that ABRSM is a Data Controller in relation to exam entries, not a Data Processor, and that a data processing agreement is not necessary.

The basis for this analysis is that ABRSM determines the purpose and means for our processing of the personal data. ABRSM has overall control in determining:

- what personal data is required and collected from pupils in order that they can use our services;
- the purpose and legal basis for which this personal data is processed; and
- with whom that personal data is shared in order that we can provide our services.

As ABRSM is not acting as a Data Processor, we do not therefore see a requirement under GDPR for ABRSM to enter into a data processing agreement. The rights of individuals are protected because ABRSM is directly liable to those individuals for the lawful processing of their data.

We have recently updated our Privacy Policy and our Exam Regulations and both are available on our website.

If you think that the above analysis does not accurately reflect your relationship, as an Applicant, with ABRSM or you have any queries relating to GDPR please contact our Data Protection Lead, Rachael Castles at [dataprotection@abrsm.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@abrsm.ac.uk).