



Coram Privacy Notice – March 2023

Who are we?

Coram is a voluntary adoption agency working in the London area:

Coram, 41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ

Tel: 020 7520 0383

Coram is the data controller. This means it decides how your personal data is processed and for what purposes.

How do we process your personal data?

Coram complies with its obligations under GDPR by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

Coram complies with the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005 part 7, regulation 40. 'An adoption agency must keep the child's case record and the prospective adopter's case record for such period as it considers appropriate.'

What data do we process?

We collect and process personal data from:

- Prospective adopters directly
- General Practitioners
- The Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)
- Local Authorities
- International police forces (if required)
- Family references (nominated by the prospective adopters)
- Personal references (nominated by the prospective adopters)

We use your personal data for the following purposes:

- To facilitate your adoption enquiry
- In the assessment process
- Subject to approval; in the family finding process in partnership with Local Authorities
- To keep you updated with relevant workshops, conferences and/or training sessions and the annual newsletter
- Or, to locate and share information related to birth records

If you are unable to provide us with personal data, we will not be able to continue your adoption application.

What is the legal basis for processing your data?

Article 6 of the GDPR

- Consent of the data subject;
- Processing if necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject or to take steps to enter into a contract;
- Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation under the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005;
- Processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of a data subject or another person;

- Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the data controller;
- Processing is necessary for the legitimate interests of the data controller or a third party, except where such interests are overridden by interests, rights or freedoms of the data subject. Any information that Coram obtains will be used in the assessment of a prospective adopter. Any information we obtain will contribute to whether the applicant is suitable to be approved as an adopter and to have a child placed with them.
- Processing is necessary for the reasons of public interest in the area of the looked after children population. This will include social media and internet searches in the public domain.

Sharing your personal data

Your personal data will be treated as strictly confidential, and will only be shared with staff members of Coram Adoption department or regulatory bodies such as Ofsted as required. If you are going to be dually approved as a foster carer and adopter for the purposes of early permanence, we will share your information with iHASCO who provide online training. By sharing your personal email address to iHASCO, you will gain access to their Safeguarding training module which is required for foster carer approval. We will only share your data with third parties outside of this with your consent.

How long we keep your data

For Adoption enquiries:

Coram will retain your data for a minimum of 6 years.

In cases which proceed beyond enquiry, but not to the point of placement with a child or children, Coram will retain your data for a minimum of 15 years.

Following approval as prospective adopters and a child or children being placed, Coram will retain the data for 100 years in accordance with the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005.

For access to birth records:

Coram will retain your data for a minimum of 6 years. For the data subject (i.e. the child who was in care or adopted), Coram will retain your data for a minimum of 75 years for a child in care record, or 100 years for an adopted child record, in accordance with the Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005.

Your rights and your personal data

Unless subject to an exemption (under the GDPR), you will have the following rights with respect to your personal data:

- The right to request a copy of your personal data which Coram holds about you;
- The right to request that Coram corrects any personal data if it is found to be inaccurate or out of date;
- The right to request your personal data is erased where it is no longer necessary for Coram to retain such data;
- The right to request that the data controller provide the data subject with his/her personal data and where possible, to transmit that data directly to another data controller (the right to data portability), where applicable.
- The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office.

Further Processing

If we wish to use your personal data for a new purpose, not covered by this Data Protection Notice, then we will provide you with a new notice explaining this new use prior to commencing the processing and setting out the relevant purposes and processing

