Data Protection Statement



Introduction

At The Spark Group, we value an individual's privacy and are committed to protecting personal data. This statement explains how we collect, use, store, and secure individual information in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Data Controller

The Spark Group is the Data Controller responsible for your personal data. If you have any questions, please contact us using the details provided at the end of this statement.

Types of Personal Data Collected

Given the nature of our business we may collect and process various types of personal data, such as contact details, employment information, financial details, demographic information, and any other information you provide voluntarily.

Types of Personal Data We Collect

Depending on your relationship with us (e.g. learner, employee, partner), we may collect and process:

- Contact details (name, address, phone, email)
- Employment or educational details (job role, qualifications, references)
- Financial details (payment and billing information)
- Demographic information (age, gender, preferences)
- Communications and interactions with us (emails, feedback, support requests)
- Any other information you voluntarily provide)

If we collect special category data (such as health or ethnicity), we will only do so where necessary and with appropriate safeguards.

Purposes and Legal Basis for Processing

We process your personal data for the following purposes, under these lawful bases:

Purpose	Lawful Basis
Providing and managing services	Performance of a contract

Processing payments	Performance of a contract, legal obligation
Managing customer and business relationships	Legitimate interests, contract
Communicating with you (including marketing, if applicable)	Consent, legitimate interests
Submitting funding or compliance returns	Legal obligation
Improving our services	Legitimate interests
Ensuring safety and security	Legitimate interests, legal obligation

If we rely on consent, you can withdraw it at any time by contacting us.

Data Sharing and Transfers

We may share your personal data with trusted third parties who assist us in providing our services, for example payment processors, regulatory bodies, funding agencies, professional advisors such as auditors, legal advisors. If we need to transfer your data outside the UK or European Economic Area (EEA), we will ensure appropriate safeguards are in place. We will never sell your data.

Data Retention

We keep your personal data only as long as necessary for the purposes set out in this statement or to meet legal or regulatory requirements. When no longer needed, we securely delete, anonymise, or destroy the data.

Data Security

We have implemented appropriate measures to protect your personal data against unauthorised access, disclosure, alteration, or destruction. Our security practices are regularly reviewed to ensure ongoing data protection. We take steps to ensure that anyone who processes your data does so in an authorised and secure way.

Your Rights

Under data protection law, you have rights including:

- Access to request a copy of your data
- Rectification to correct inaccurate data
- Erasure to request deletion of your data in some cases
- Restriction to limit processing under certain conditions
- Objection to processing based on legitimate interests or direct marketing
- Data portability to request data transfer to another provider

• Withdraw consent - where we rely on your consent

For any queries or to exercise your rights, please contact us using the details provided below.

Updates to this Statement

We may update this statement as needed to reflect changes in our practices or legal requirements.

Approval

This policy has been approved by The Spark Group's Senior Leadership Team.

Signed: Debbie Sturridge

Position: Business Enablement Manager

Revision Date: 30.05.25

Next Review Date: 01.06.26

Contact Information

If you have any questions, concerns, or requests regarding this statement or our data protection practices, please reach out to us using the following details:

Name:	The Spark Group
Email:	enquiries@thespark.group
Phone:	07570 830068