

# FAMILY FACTSHEETS

## MY SCHOOL IS INTRODUCING AN EDTECH TOOL I DON'T WANT TO USE —CAN I OBJECT?

### THE CHALLENGE

In recent years, the use of EdTech in schools has increased and the pandemic has fueled this further and faster. The pandemic saw a rush to adopt apps, platforms, and digital monitoring in schools without understanding what effects hundreds of companies would have on children's lives and learning. On the face of it there are many benefits to using EdTech tools, however, there are also many concerns when it comes to data and privacy. With these tools being used in the home, it is further encroaching into the lives of pupils and their families, widening the scope of data collected and blurring the boundaries between school and home life.

The use of EdTech is so prolific in school systems that it is almost impossible to opt out of.

*A Guide for parents and young people to understand their rights across all EdTech.*

Ed Tech refers to the technology used in schools and educational institutions such as online learning platforms and software, apps and quizzes. Pupils might be using this to access their lessons or homework online, or schools to monitor behaviour. This technology may be provided by a range of external businesses who is given access to your child's personal confidential data.

### YOUR RIGHTS

Depending on what the company is doing exactly (product development, targeted advertising, showing ads — to your child) there may be slightly different grounds for complaint and objection.

You may want to read more about the Right to Object from a project at Winchester University by Dr Caroline Stockman (Department of Education Studies and Liberal Arts), Dr Emma Nottingham (Centre for Information Rights, Department of Law) and Prof. Maria Burke (Head of Research and Knowledge Exchange, Faculty of Business, Law and Digital Technologies).

<https://www.winchester.ac.uk/research/our-impactful-research/research-in-business-law-and-digital-technologies/highlight-projects/right2object-project/>



**"Much of this data is knowingly given by children and teachers, [and] whether or not they have a choice, even more of that data is not knowingly given"**

*— Professor Sonia Livingstone. LSE and the Digital Futures Commission, 5Rights*

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### TAKE ACTION

- Our children need your help to build a rights' respecting digital environment in education.

- How our school records are used must be made safe. You should have control over how they are used. Tell your friends and family, people you work with, tell your local press, and tell your MP.

<https://defenddigitalme.org/my-school-records/my-records-my-rights/>



defenddigitalme is a call to action to protect children's rights to privacy. We are teachers and parents who campaign for safe, fair and transparent data processing in education, in England, and beyond. For more information see <http://defenddigitalme.org/> (September 2022 v.1.1)