Weston College **Group**

Cookie Policy

Cookie Policy

CONTENTS

Change Control

Version	1.1
Date approved by CLB:	June 2025
Date approved by Corporation:	N/a
Title of policy holder:	Director of IT, Systems & Compliance
Date issued:	June 2025
Review date:	June 2028

Version	Type	Date	History
1.0	New	October 2022	NA – first cycle within policy approval process
1.1	Review	June 2025	Minor mods only to reflect organisational change

Cookie Policy

1   PURPOSE

1.1   The purpose of this Cookie Policy is to inform users of Weston College websites about the use of cookies and similar technologies. This policy aims to ensure transparency regarding how cookies are used to enhance user experience, improve website functionality, and gather analytical data. By providing clear information on the types of cookies used, their purposes, and how users can manage their cookie preferences, Weston College is committed to protecting user privacy and complying with relevant data protection regulations.

1.2   This policy ensures the college's adherence to privacy legislation, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK-GDPR) and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR), which mandate that organisations inform users about the utilisation of cookies.

2   SCOPE

2.1   This policy applies to users of the following the websites.

- https://www.weston.ac.uk
- https://www.ucw.ac.uk
- https://elearning.weston.ac.uk
- https://www.prison-education.co.uk
- https://www.construction-training-centre.co.uk/
- https://www.weiot.ac.uk/

3   WHAT ARE COOKIES?

3.1   Cookies are small text files stored on a user's device by a website to remember information about the user, such as login details or preferences.

3.2   Cookies enhance user experience by enabling websites to remember user actions and preferences over time, making browsing more efficient and personalised.

3.3   There are various types of cookies, including session cookies (temporary and deleted after closing the browser) and persistent cookies (remain on the device for a set period or until manually deleted).

3.4   Cookies can raise privacy concerns as they track and store user behaviour and preferences,

3.5   Users can manage cookies through their browser settings, allowing them to delete existing cookies, block new ones, or receive notifications when cookies are being used.

4   TYPES OF COOKIES WE USE?

4.1   Weston College use cookies for various purposes, including:

4.1.1   **Essential Cookies**: are necessary for the basic functioning of a website, enabling core features such as security, network management, and accessibility, and cannot be disabled by the user.

4.1.2   **Analytical/Performance Cookies**: collect data on how users interact with a website, helping to improve its functionality and performance by providing insights into areas such as page load times, user behaviour, and error occurrences.

4.1.3 **Functionality Cookies**: enable a website to remember choices you make (such as your username, language, or region) and provide enhanced, more personalised features.

4.1.4 **Targeting/Advertising Cookies**: track your online activity to help advertisers deliver more relevant ads to you based on your interests and browsing history.

5 THIRD-PARTY COOKIES

5.1 Third-party cookies are set by external services, such as social media platforms and streaming services, embedded on Weston College websites. These cookies enable functionalities like content sharing and media playback.

5.2 Third-party cookies collect information about your interactions with the embedded content, such as video views or social media shares, and may track your activity across different websites to personalise your experience.

5.3 While Third-party cookies enhance your browsing experience, they may also raise privacy concerns. You can manage your cookie preferences through your browser settings to limit or block third-party cookies.

6 HOW CAN I CONTROL MY COOKIES?

6.1 You can manage your cookie preferences through your web browser settings, allowing you to block or delete cookies, including those set by social media and streaming service plugins.

6.2 When you first visit our websites, you will see a cookie banner that allows you to accept or reject non-essential cookies, including third-party cookies.

6.3 Many social media and streaming services offer privacy settings within their platforms where you can control how your data is collected and used, including the management of cookies.

6.4 Some third-party services provide opt-out tools that enable you to prevent your data from being used for targeted advertising. Check the privacy policies of these services for more information.

6.5 It is recommended that you periodically review your cookie settings and preferences to ensure they align with your privacy expectations, as cookie practices and technologies may change over time.

7 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, monitoring and review

7.1 This policy is regularly reviewed to reflect changes in technology or applicable regulations. Please check this page periodically for the latest information.

Records management

7.2 This document will be maintained as part of the Weston College Information Security Management System

8 RELATED LEGISLATION

- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK-GDPR)

- Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR)