

# School the World

## Privacy Policy

Effective Date: March 7, 2026 | Last Updated: March 7, 2026

School the World ("we," "us," or "our") is committed to protecting your privacy. This Privacy Policy explains how we collect, use, disclose, and safeguard your personal information when you visit our website, make a donation, sign up for our newsletter, or submit a contact or volunteer form. Please read this policy carefully. If you do not agree with its terms, please do not use our website.

School the World is an international education nonprofit on a mission to provide quality education to children in rural and remote communities of the world. We partner with rural communities to strengthen public education systems—building schools and playgrounds, equipping libraries, training teachers, and empowering parents as first educators.

### 1. Who We Are

School the World is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building schools and improving educational opportunities in underserved communities. Our website is operated from the United States. For the purposes of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), School the World is the data controller of your personal information.

Contact us at [info@schooltheworld.org](mailto:info@schooltheworld.org).

### 2. Information We Collect

We collect personal information in the following ways:

#### 2.1 Donation & Payment Information

When you make a donation, we collect:

- Full name and billing address
- Email address and phone number
- Payment card information (processed securely by our third-party payment processor; we do not store full card numbers)
- Donation amount and frequency preferences

#### 2.2 Newsletter & Email Signups

When you subscribe to our newsletter or updates, we collect:

- Email address
- First and last name (optional)
- Communication preferences

#### 2.3 Volunteer & Contact Forms

When you submit a volunteer application or contact form, we collect:

- Full name and email address
- Phone number (optional)
- Location or country of residence
- Skills, interests, and any other information you voluntarily provide

## 2.4 Analytics & Cookies

When you browse our website, we automatically collect certain technical information, including:

- IP address and browser type
- Pages visited, time spent on site, and referring URLs
- Device and operating system information

We use cookies and similar tracking technologies to improve your browsing experience, analyze site traffic, and understand how visitors use our website. You may control cookie settings through your browser preferences. See Section 7 for more details.

## 3. How We Use Your Information

We use the personal information we collect to:

- Process donations and send donation receipts and tax acknowledgment letters
- Send newsletters, program updates, and impact reports (with your consent)
- Respond to volunteer inquiries and manage volunteer onboarding
- Communicate with you about your questions or requests
- Improve our website, services, and fundraising efforts
- Comply with legal obligations, including tax reporting requirements
- Prevent fraud and maintain the security of our systems

## 4. Legal Bases for Processing (GDPR)

If you are located in the European Economic Area (EEA) or United Kingdom, we process your personal data on the following legal grounds:

- Consent: When you sign up for our newsletter, volunteer, or contact us voluntarily.
- Contractual Necessity: To process your donation and fulfill your transaction.
- Legitimate Interests: To analyze website usage, improve our services, and prevent fraud, where not overridden by your rights.
- Legal Obligation: To comply with applicable laws and regulations.

You may withdraw your consent at any time by contacting us or using the unsubscribe link in any email communication.

## 5. How We Share Your Information

We do not sell, rent, or trade your personal information. We may share your information with:

- Payment Processors: We use GiveButter to securely process donations. GiveButter has its own privacy policy and is PCI-DSS compliant. We do not store full payment card numbers on our systems.

- **Email Service Providers:** We use HubSpot to send newsletters, donation receipts, and other communications. HubSpot processes your email address and communication preferences on our behalf.
- **Analytics Providers:** Such as Google Analytics, to help us understand website usage.
- **Legal Authorities:** If required by law, court order, or to protect the rights and safety of School the World or others.
- **Organizational Partners:** Only with your explicit consent and only to the extent necessary.

All third-party service providers are contractually required to protect your data and may only use it for the specific services they provide to us.

## 6. Data Retention

We retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfill the purposes for which it was collected, including:

- **Donation records:** Retained for a minimum of 7 years to comply with IRS and applicable financial regulations.
- **Newsletter subscriptions:** Until you unsubscribe or request deletion.
- **Volunteer and contact inquiries:** Up to 3 years unless you have an ongoing relationship with us.
- **Website analytics data:** Typically retained for up to 26 months.

## 7. Cookies & Tracking Technologies

Our website uses the following types of cookies:

- **Essential Cookies:** Required for the website to function properly (e.g., security, navigation).
- **Analytics Cookies:** Help us understand how visitors interact with our website (e.g., Google Analytics).
- **Preference Cookies:** Remember your settings and preferences.

You can manage or disable cookies through your browser settings. Note that disabling certain cookies may affect the functionality of our website. For EU/UK visitors, we will request your consent before placing non-essential cookies.

## 8. Your Rights

### 8.1 Rights for US Residents

Depending on your state of residence, you may have the right to:

- Know what personal information we collect and how it is used
- Request deletion of your personal information (subject to legal obligations)
- Opt out of certain data sharing or marketing communications

California residents may have additional rights under the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). Please contact us to exercise these rights.

### 8.2 Rights for EEA / UK Residents (GDPR)

If you are located in the EEA or UK, you have the following rights:

- Right of Access: Request a copy of the personal data we hold about you.
- Right to Rectification: Request correction of inaccurate or incomplete data.
- Right to Erasure: Request deletion of your personal data ("right to be forgotten").
- Right to Restriction: Request that we limit processing of your data.
- Right to Data Portability: Receive your data in a structured, machine-readable format.
- Right to Object: Object to processing based on legitimate interests or for direct marketing.
- Right to Withdraw Consent: Withdraw consent at any time where processing is based on consent.

To exercise any of these rights, please contact us at [info@schooltheworld.org](mailto:info@schooltheworld.org). We will respond within 30 days (or within 1 month as required by GDPR). You also have the right to lodge a complaint with your local data protection authority.

## 9. Data Security

We implement industry-standard technical and organizational measures to protect your personal information, including:

- SSL/TLS encryption for all data transmitted via our website
- Secure, access-controlled systems for storing donor and volunteer records
- PCI-DSS compliant payment processing through trusted third-party providers
- Regular security reviews and staff training on data privacy

No method of transmission over the internet is 100% secure. While we strive to protect your data, we cannot guarantee absolute security.

## 10. International Data Transfers

School the World is based in the United States. If you are accessing our website from the EEA, UK, or other regions with data protection laws, please be aware that your information may be transferred to and processed in the United States, which may have different data protection standards than your country.

Where required, we will implement appropriate safeguards for cross-border data transfers, such as Standard Contractual Clauses (SCCs) approved by the European Commission.

## 11. Children's Privacy

Our website is not directed to children under the age of 13, and we do not knowingly collect personal information from children. If you believe we have inadvertently collected information from a child, please contact us immediately at [info@schooltheworld.org](mailto:info@schooltheworld.org) and we will promptly delete it.

## 12. Third-Party Links

Our website may contain links to third-party websites. We are not responsible for the privacy practices of those sites and encourage you to review their privacy policies independently.

## 13. Changes to This Privacy Policy

We may update this Privacy Policy from time to time. When we do, we will revise the "Last Updated" date at the top of this page. We encourage you to review this policy periodically to stay informed about how we are protecting your information.

## **14. Contact Us**

If you have any questions, concerns, or requests regarding this Privacy Policy or your personal data, please contact us at [info@schooltheworld.org](mailto:info@schooltheworld.org).