Using the template in Europe or the United States

The template is written to UK law. To use it in the EU or the United States, check the four things below. Children's data, staff data and some sectors have extra rules, listed under special cases.

European Union	What to change	Who to ask
The law behind this policy	The law. Name the EU GDPR and your country's own data protection law in place of the UK law. The UK's 2025 additions are not EU law: remove recognised legitimate interests, and check the automated decisions, complaints, subject access and cookie sections.	Your data protection adviser
Working with the regulator	Your regulator. Name your country's data protection authority in place of the Information Commission; the fee section is UK law. With sites in several EU countries, check which authority leads; with none, check whether you need an EU representative.	Your data protection authority
Personal data breaches	Breaches. As in the UK, report to the authority without undue delay and, where feasible, within 72 hours of becoming aware, where required; tell people without undue delay when the risk to them is high, unless an exception applies. The EU has proposed changing these rules, so check the current position.	Your data protection authority
Sending personal data abroad	Transfers. Data can move between the UK and the EU, because each accepts the other's protection; the EU's decision on the UK runs to December 2031. Sending data elsewhere follows the EU GDPR's own transfer rules.	Your data protection adviser
Special cases	Where you rely on a child's consent online, the age is 16, or lower if your country sets it, not below 13. Staff data may have national rules, and a data protection officer is needed on the same tests as in the UK, or where your country's law requires one.	Your legal or data protection advisers

United States	What to change	Who to ask
The law behind this policy	The law. There is no single comprehensive federal privacy law for companies; check which state privacy laws apply to you. Name them and their regulators in place of the UK laws, the Information Commission and the UK fee.	Your privacy counsel
People's rights and subject access requests	People's rights. State laws give rights such as access, correction and opting out of the sale of data. Deadlines differ from the UK's one month: in California, requests to see, delete or correct data have 45 days.	Your privacy counsel
Personal data breaches	Breaches. Every state has its own breach notification law, generally requiring you to tell the people affected within a set time. Replace the 72-hour rule with the laws that apply to you.	Your privacy counsel
Special category data	Sector laws. Health data (HIPAA), financial data (the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act) and children's data online (COPPA) have federal rules. Check whether any applies to you.	Your legal advisers
Special cases	California's law also covers the staff and job applicants of the businesses it covers. Under HIPAA, people affected by a health data breach must be told without unreasonable delay and within 60 days of its discovery, and financial firms must explain how they share customer data.	Your legal or regulatory advisers

Sources: the statements above were taken from official pages read on 4 October 2026. The pages are listed at policysight.com/templates/data-protection. Version 1.0, next review April 2027.

This guide is a starting point, not legal or regulatory advice, and PolicySight Ltd is not a law firm. It is a list of things to check. It is not complete and law changes. Have your own advisers confirm what applies to you before you rely on it.