GDPR Cartoon Explanation…

Wait a minute, what exactly is GDPR and personal data?

- GDPR stands for the **General Data Protection Regulation**. It is a new law and it helps us to keep information about you safe. This information is called personal data. We have always looked after your information safely but GDPR helps us to make sure that we are doing the best job we can.
- **Personal data** includes information like your name, address or phone number, how old you are, if you have any brothers or sisters, and what school you go to. It can also include a photo or video that can identify you.

Hang on, how does the cartoon have anything to do with GDPR?

So, if you lend your bike to your friend, you expect them to take care of it, don't you? You also expect them to be honest with you, by telling you whether they will keep your bike in a garage or somewhere safe. This is just how someone, who asks to use your personal data, should treat it too. They need to:

- ask for permission to use it;
- never give it to anyone else without asking you first;
- protect it and make sure it's kept somewhere safe;
- be honest and tell you if something were to happen to your personal data.

But why do we have to be so careful with our personal data, like Sarah is with her bike?

- The new GDPR means that we must protect our personal data in a much better way. We have to protect our personal data as it is private information about us. We don't want other people using it without us saying it's OK. This also means that we have to respect other people's personal data too by following all of the steps above. Others must also ask permission before they take photos of you or include you in the filming of a video at Church.

Why does Sarah have to ask her parent's permission before she lets her friend use her bike?

- If you are under 13 years old in the UK and 16 years old in Ireland you must always ask your parent or guardian's permission if someone can use your personal data as you are too young to make this decision yourself. However, if you are 13 years old in the UK and 16 years old in Ireland or older you can make this decision yourself. It is a good idea to still double check with your parent or guardian too.