

# Computing Related Legislation

The Data Protection Act: Protects the rights of the owners of the data.

Data is used:

1. For specific reasons
2. Inside the law
3. For the registered, intended purpose only

Data is kept:

4. Up to date
5. Safe
6. Not longer than necessary

Personal Data: Any information about a living individual that allows them to be identified.

Data Subject: The person the data is being stored about.

Data User: The person who needs to access or use the data as part of their job

Data Controller: The person who needs to apply for permission to collect and store data. They decide what data needs to be collected, what it will be used for and how it will be used.

Information Commissioner: The person who enforces the DPA and who organisations need to gain permission from to collect and store personal data. This person also makes the general public aware of their rights under the DPA.

Computer Misuse Act:

- Part 1: Unauthorised access to Computer Material (Hacking, Data Theft)
- Part 2: Unauthorised access with intent to commit further offences (Blackmail, Phishing)
- Part 3: Unauthorised access with intent to impair the computer's operation (Planting malware)

Copyright Design and Patents Act: Illegal to copy any work without the owner's permission. Owning the copyright does not stop others from copying it, but it allows the owner to take legal action. However, the copier can be hard to trace. Copies are easily made and shared. Software Piracy; Copying Files to avoid paying for them; Using software without the correct licence.

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act:

- ISPs must provide access to their customers' digital communications, without informing the customer
- Carry out mass surveillance.
- Hand over the keys to encrypted information

Challenges:

- Content that is illegal in one country may be legal in another
- Catching hackers is very difficult when they are in a different country
- Accessing data and Encryption Keys will provide evidence, however, this must be balanced with maintaining privacy
- The anonymity on the dark web stops the police from catching criminals