Tiffany Yang

Pupilpath

How does this service make its money?

PupilPath was part of Illuminate Education, which provided educational software to schools. Schools paid for access to the platform, likely through contracts. "Illuminate has raked in more than $16 million from DOE schools in the last three years, records show."

This service no longer exists or is running. Illuminate education was purchased by Renaissance Education shortly after the data breach.

Nature/type/scope of the data collected:

The platform stored student information, including grades, attendance, test results, communication records, and personal information (student ID, birthdays, etc). I do not know what administration has input.

Some possible information that may have been input are student addresses, parental information, and other personal details like social security. The amount of information in the system is sufficient enough to commit identity fraud. Due to the data leak, Illuminate did offer identity monitoring services free of charge to the affected students and family, meaning the amount of information could be dangerous.

Who has access to this data?

Parents, students, teachers, and administrators had access to different levels of data. However, due to security vulnerabilities, unauthorized parties were able to access student data. Because the data was not encrypted, it is likely that staff at Illuminate Education also had access to the data.

How long do these parties retain said access?

Access is presumably retained for the duration of the contract between the school and Illuminate Education. However I was unable to find information on this due to the user agreements no longer being available to view.

I would like to hope that all data was purged following the leaks and the DOE prohibiting them from being used by public schools.

What rules govern usage of your data by third parties?

Illuminate Education was expected to follow data privacy regulations, which included encrypting the data. But not only was the data not encrypted and led to a major data breach in 2022 exposed student information, but they also failed to report it for weeks.

How could the parties who have access to your data leverage it?

Schools and educators used the data for academic tracking and communication. However, the

breach raised concerns about potential misuse by unauthorized parties. Neither the DOE or pupilpath offered any known compensation for the affected individuals with their data leaked other than identity monitoring.

Are there any terms you, the end user, can opt out of?
It's unclear if students or parents had opt-out options, but because it was the schools that licensed the software, individual users likely have limited control over data collection. We could not control what information was even put into the system.

How visible/findable are the terms governing your data and its usage?
Illuminate Education faced criticism for its handling of data privacy, particularly after failing to notify schools promptly about the breach. That flooded most information away. I am unable to find the terms of conditions/EULA.

Has this service been vetted by independent security/privacy/legal outfits?
Illuminate Education was removed from the Student Privacy Pledge after the breach. Previously, the DOE made it almost mandatory to use Pupilpath.

What would happen if you objected to its use on ethical grounds?
Since PupilPath was integrated into school systems, opting out would likely require discussions with school administrators or the Department of Education.

Use of AI: I tried using AI to find the EULA but no luck.

MISC NOTES:

Pupilpath has no locatable EULA.
The website has already met its EOS, however there is this .me site still running.

Renaissance purchased Illuminate Education in August 2022 and Pupilpath is still listed on their website with redirect links to Pupilpath.

I tried contacting their website's support bot but it was unhelpful and very…. Static.

[Support Thank you | Renaissance](#)

[Submit a request – Renaissance Help Center](#)

Contact Name *
Tiffany Yang

Email *
tyang50@stuy.edu

Phone

District or school name: *
Stuyvesant High School

Product Family: *
General

Task or Product Area: *
Other

Login Method: *
Manually with username & password

Specific User Example: *
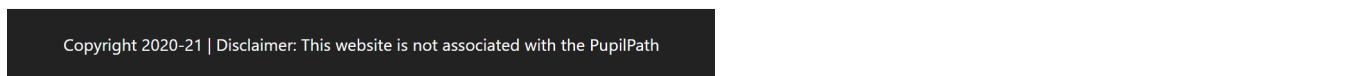N/A---

Class Name:

Device:
--None--

Browser:
--None--

Description *
Hello, I'm doing a report for a school assignment. I'd like to request the EULA for Pupilpath if possible. Thank you!

Illuminate page still exists and seems functionally the same with the exception of their chat bot which is actually connected to Renaissance's.

Lead to some confusion.

[PupilPath - Students & Parents Account Login](#)

Support Case 02279301: `External` `Inbox ×`

🖨 ↗

General Support <support@renaissance.com>   Unsubscribe
to me, contracts@renaissance.com ▾

6:48 PM (6 minutes ago)   ☆   ↩   ⋮

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting Customer Support!

To my knowledge, PupilPath was no longer available as of 6/30/22 and Renaissance Learning did not acquire Illuminate Education until 8/24/22. That being said, I have cc'd our Contracts Team to see if they can assist you with the EULA for PupilPath.

Thank you,

Kathryn Cumberland
Support Agent Senior
Submit a Support Request
(in) (◎) (▶) (f) (𝕏)

Renaissance
See Every Student.

http://www.renaissance.com | Renaissance Privacy Policy | Unsubscribe

ICB THEY ACTUALLY REPLIED BUT YAY

[Renaissance Acquires Illuminate Education -- THE Journal](#)

https://www.nydailynews.com/2022/03/25/data-of-820000-nyc-students-compromised-in-hack-of-online-grading-system-education-dept/

"Illuminate also offered identity monitoring for any notified individual following the cyberattack."

https://www.k12dive.com/news/class-action-dismissed-illuminate-data-breach/648400/

PupilPath
By IO Education

Welcome

Sign In

Parents Register | Student Register

Instructions / Quick Setup Document
Forgot Password?