



BCS Foundation Certificate in Data Protection

Specimen Paper

Record your surname / last / family name and initials on the answer sheet.

Specimen paper only 20 multiple-choice questions – 1 mark awarded to each question. Mark only one answer to each question. There are no trick questions.

A number of possible answers are given for each question, indicated by either **A B C or D**. Your answers should be clearly indicated on the answer sheet.

Pass mark is [26/40]

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- 1 When did the GDPR become enforceable?
- A 1998.
 - B 2003.
 - C 2018.
 - D 2016.
- 2 What is the purpose of Pseudonymisation?
- A It makes it impossible to attribute a piece of data to a specific person without additional information.
 - B It mitigates the requirement for consent.
 - C It encrypts data so it cannot be read if accessed by hackers.
 - D It negates the requirement to fulfil a data subject request.
- 3 Which of the following is **NOT** one of the GDPR data protection principles?
- A Data minimisation.
 - B Purpose imitation.
 - C Data encryption.
 - D Storage limitation.
- 4 A car company wants to market a new car to its existing customers.
- Identify the **MOST** appropriate lawful basis for processing:
- A Public interest.
 - B Business to business.
 - C Legitimate interests.
 - D Contract.

- 5 Which of the following Article 9 conditions of processing may be used to process special category data?
- A Legitimate interests.
 - B Public health.
 - C Contract.
 - D Profiling.
- 6 Which **BEST** describes the purpose of a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)?
- A To ensure personal data is encrypted.
 - B To assist in effectively tracking consent.
 - C To help you identify and minimise the data protection risks of a project.
 - D To help you decide if you can use legitimate interests as a lawful basis.
- 7 Article 30 of the GDPR states that you must:
- A Respond to Data Subject Requests within 72 hours.
 - B Keep records of your processing activities.
 - C Ensure that all 3rd party processors encrypt their databases.
 - D Unsubscribe users after one year of inactivity.
- 8 Which **BEST** describes data protection by design and default?
- A Employing a dedicated Data Protection Officer to ensure policies are in place.
 - B Always using the best available security solution for any personal data.
 - C Deploying appropriate technical and organisational measures to meet GDPR principles.
 - D Ensuring consent is always obtained when processing personal data.

- 9 Which of the following statements regarding Data Protection Officers is **FALSE**:
- A The DPO must report to the highest management level.
 - B A DPO may perform additional job roles.
 - C The DPO must be a permanent employee.
 - D A DPO's role has a protected status.
- 10 Which of the following **BEST** reflects Article 30 - Records of Processing?
- A Controllers have sole responsibility for records of processing.
 - B Processors have sole responsibility for records of processing.
 - C Processors and controllers are both required to maintain records of processing.
 - D Processors, controllers and data subjects are each responsible for their own records of processing.
- 11 When processing personal data under the authority of the controller or processor, a processor may process data on instructions from the controller and also:
- A Under Legitimate Interests.
 - B For business to business marketing.
 - C Where required to do so by Union or Member State law.
 - D For service messages only.
- 12 What is the purpose of an EU Commission adequacy decision?
- A Where adequacy is granted, a company may conduct specific processing of personal data without consent.
 - B When adequacy is in place, the ICO permits companies to leave databases unencrypted with suitable mitigating controls.
 - C It's a formal notice that a company may forgo compliance with any one of the data protection principles.
 - D Companies may execute restricted transfers without further approval where adequacy is in place.

- 13** You are tasked with creating a company policy for handling data subject requests, select an appropriate policy statement:
- A** Data subject requests must be responded to within 72 hours.
 - B** Data subject requests must be submitted in writing to the DPO.
 - C** A subject access request can be refused if it is excessive.
 - D** A subject access request can be refused if it includes financial transactions.
- 14** Under which circumstances may a data subject request be refused:
- A** Releasing the data could be damaging to the business.
 - B** It involves disclosing personal information about other people.
 - C** The data subject is under the age of 14.
 - D** The data subject has refused to pay the fee.
- 15** What assistance does the ICO offer companies in achieving and maintaining compliance with the GDPR?
- A** Conducting data protection audits for UK companies.
 - B** Advising on appropriate wording for consent statements and privacy policies for your website.
 - C** Providing data protection courses for the public.
 - D** Liaising with the the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) on behalf of UK companies.
- 16** Select the enforcement action that the ICO may take in the event of a compliance breach:
- A** Order the company to pay compensation to the data subjects.
 - B** Prosecute the shareholders of the company.
 - C** Issue enforcement notices.
 - D** Dock salaries of the company directors.

17 Under which circumstances are personal data breaches **NOT** reportable to an independent supervisory authority?

- A** There is minimal risk to the data subject.
- B** It could make the company liable to legal action by the data subject.
- C** The data was breached by a third party data processor.
- D** The company does not conduct large-scale, systematic processing of data.

18 A company experiences the theft of a database containing customers' personal information.

The ICO investigates and finds the following:

1. The security controls applied to the database were not state of the art.
2. There was no DPIA conducted when the database was implemented, or subsequently.
3. The data subjects were not notified of the breach despite a clear risk to them.
4. This is the first reportable incident the company has experienced.

What is the maximum financial penalty that could be incurred under GDPR?

- A** 4% of the company's global annual turnover or £17.5 million.
- B** £20,000,000.
- C** £10 million or 2% of the company's global annual turnover.
- D** £500,000.

19 Which of the following would definitely not be special category data?

- A** A mobile app which stores individuals Covid test results.
- B** A list of Trade Union members who work for a public sector organisation.
- C** A voice recording used to identify and validate people who ring into a contact centre.
- D** A hospital record holding the medical cause of death of an identified individual.

- 20** You've been asked to redesign your company's marketing strategy to ensure it is fully compliant with data protection law. The current strategy was designed before 2016 and was not created with data protection in mind so you decide to start from scratch, creating a presentation for the board outlining your requirements.

Choose the **CORRECT** statement below:

- A** Consent gained under PECR does not have to meet GDPR specifications.
- B** PECR applies to B2B marketing, GDPR does not.
- C** The GDPR replaced the PECR in 2018.
- D** Electronic marketing campaigns must comply with PECR AND GDPR.

End of Paper

BCS Foundation Certificate in Data Protection Answer Key and Rationale

Question	Answer	Explanation / Rationale	Syllabus Section
1	C	The GDPR became enforceable on 25 May 2018.	LO1.1
2	A	Pseudonymisation is a technique that replaces or removes information in a data set to render the data subject unidentifiable.	LO2.1
3	C	The GDPR Principles are: Lawfulness, fairness and transparency, Purpose limitation, Data minimisation, Accuracy, Storage limitation, Integrity and confidentiality (security), Accountability.	LO2.2
4	C	Legitimate interest may be used to conduct marketing ONLY in a Business to Business context.	LO3.1
5	B	See GDPR Article 9, 2 (i)	LO3.2
6	C	See Article 35, GDPR (data protection impact assessment).	LO4.2
7	B	See Article 30, GDPR.	LO4.4
8	C	Article 25, GDPR (data protection by design and default) data protection must be integrated, or 'baked in' to your systems.	LO4.6
9	C	See Article 37 –39, GDPR.	LO4.8
10	C	See Article 28, GDPR.	LO5.1
11	C	See Article 29, GDPR.	LO5.1
12	D	A country with an adequacy decision is deemed by the EU commission to have suitable data protection measures in place; Article 45, GDPR.	LO6.1
13	C	See Article 15, GDPR	LO7.1
14	B	The data protection rights of an individual should not infringe the rights or freedoms of another.	LO7.3
15	A	See Article 58, GDPR.	LO8.1
16	C	See Article 58, GDPR.	LO8.1
17	A	See Articles 33 & 34, GDPR.	LO9.1
18	A	See Article 83, 5, (a) & (b), GDPR.	LO9.2
19	D	GDPR does not apply to deceased individuals.	LO2.1
20	D	PECR and GDPR always apply to all forms of electronic marketing.	LO10.1