My data protection rights factsheet: Getting your data deleted

This is known as the right to erasure. This right can be important when somebody under 18 has provided their personal data to an online company like a social media platform but then they change their mind later on and now want to get the social media platform to delete their account. So **children have a special protection in this way**.

It's important to remember that just because you have asked a social media platform to delete a piece of your data like a photograph that you posted, this doesn't mean that the photo will be deleted on the phones of everyone who might have saved it or screenshotted it. So make sure to **think before you post**.

Does this mean I can make anyone delete all of my data whenever I want?

No, because **there will be some situations where you can't use your data protection rights**. There are lots of examples from daily life where an organisation needs to keep your personal data, whether you agree to it or not. For example, your school needs to keep certain information about you such as your name, where you live and who your parents are. You can't make them delete this information because it's necessary for the school to know these things.

You only have the right to delete your data in certain cases. For example, if you told an organisation they could use your data but you've now changed your mind, or if the organisation collected your personal data without a good reason in the first place then you normally have a right to get it deleted if you want.

Correcting mistakes in your data

On top of deleting your data, you also have the **right to ask organisations to fix it or update it** if you think there's a mistake in it or there's something missing or it's out of date. This is called the **right to rectification**. You might use this right if you've changed phone numbers and you want your sports club to update this information so you don't miss out on any important messages about matches or training.

What data protection rights do I have?

You can find more information about all your data protection rights on the DPC's website: https://www.dataprotection.ie/en/dpc-guidance/childrens-data-protection-rights