

Policies Document

Cambridge Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

Cookies Policy

Cookies are small files which sit on a computer and record specific interactions between the user and an online system or website. This information is sometimes shared with the University of Cambridge, and in other cases, third parties. Below is more detail about the cookies the University uses, what they record and who the information is shared with. Students are of course free to disable cookies.

The University uses this information to help improve Moodle by ensuring that the material and content of the courses match with the users' requirement and also to make sure users are not having problems with access. The usage statistics are visible to Moodle administrators and may be visible to course lecturers and supervisors and, where applicable, authorised users from an employer's organisation.

A new EU law came into force ([e-Privacy directive](#)) on 26 May 2012 regulating the use of cookies on websites. The University does not use many cookies for its websites, but those that are used are detailed below. Options to allow students to share links on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter etc are included on each page, and will use cookies that students already have for those sites (which may record the student's username etc to aid logging in). Please refer to those media sites to review their cookie policy.

Students can opt out of using cookies. There are a number of options available; students can set their browser either to reject all cookies, to allow only "trusted" websites to set them, or to accept them only from a particular website. It is important to remember though that some aspects of this website, such as the online course booking system, rely on cookies as a crucial part of its functionality. A student's web browser will have an option to select which will block cookies. If a student disables cookies, or doesn't opt in to receive them from these sections of Moodle, some functionality will not be available.

The cookies in use

(Please note that the cookies listed here are liable to change without notice).

Cookie name	What the Cookie does
__utma, __utmz	These are Google Analytics cookies to collect information on how visitors use our site and to help us target areas of the site for improvement. The information collected is anonymous, but allows us to track how many visitors we have had to the site and how they arrived at our site.
MoodleSession	This cookie provides continuity and maintains your login from page to page. When you log out or close the browser this cookie is destroyed (in your browser and on the server).
MOODLEID_	This cookie records the username you log in as when you visit the site, and allows the username field to be automatically filled in the next time you visit.