Scratch

Part 1	
Resource Type (Digital or Application)	Digital & Application
Application/Software Title (with links)	**Scratch** Scratch - Imagine, Program, Share
Developer/Vendor	Scratch Foundation
Privacy Policy, Terms of Use (Links)	Scratch Terms of Use : Scratch Help Center Scratch Privacy Policy : Scratch Help Center
Description of Application and its Educational Value (Refer to "About Us" page, if applicable) *What is the initiative? Describe your initiative in enough detail that a reader who knows nothing about your work will understand the purpose of your initiative and who your partners and other stakeholders are. Describe what you're doing, how it works, who is involved and when or how long your initiative runs.*	**Scratch** is a free, block-based coding platform created by MIT that allows students to learn programming concepts by creating interactive stories, animations, games, and art. Using colorful drag-and-drop code blocks, students can experiment with logic, sequencing, and problem-solving— without needing to write traditional syntax-based code. Scratch is widely used in Grades 3–9, often in digital literacy, STEM, and coding programs. It's ideal for introducing computational thinking and creativity at an age-appropriate level, helping learners build confidence before progressing to text-based languages like Python or JavaScript. Scratch is always free and is available in more than 70 languages.
Part 2	
Is this initiative a data-linking program under FOIPPA? *If yes, this PPIA must be submitted to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC). A data linking program is when multiple distinct data sets are used in conjunction with each other. (E.g. MyED information used in School Messenger)*	No
Is this initiative a common or integrated program or activity (CIPA)? *If yes, this PPIA must be submitted to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC). A CIPA is a program or activity that provides one or more services through a public body either working collaboratively or on behalf of other public bodies or agencies.*	No
What Personal Information (PI) is involved? *List all the PI elements that will be collected, used, and/or stored through the use of this app by (but not limited to): students, staff, parents, and vendors, even unintentionally. If the answer is 'none', then skip to PART 5 and submit this PPIA to the Privacy Officer for completion.*	• Identifying information (Name, email address, birthdate, gender) • User-created content (projects, comments, discussions, activity logs) • Device information (IP address, device types, browser information, location)

	• Payment information (for subscription – credit card info, transactions)
Use *What is the PI used for (purpose)?* *Will the PI be used to make decisions that directly affect individuals? Does the vendor/provider use collected PI for other purposes, e.g., to advertise its services to students, teachers or parents?*	• Personal information is used for account management, personalized user experiences, and communication (e.g., updates, newsletters). • PI is not used to make decisions that directly affect individuals, such as profiling or targeting. • Scratch does not use PI for marketing or advertising purposes and does not share data with third parties for such activities.
Disclosure *Who will/might access the PI?* *How might the vendor/provider share the collected PI? What disclosure to 3rd parties might occur (which 3rd parties) and the type of PI being disclosed/shared. How might disclosed PI be used (see above)?*	• Scratch staff and authorized service providers may access PI to operate the platform, provide support, maintain security, and moderate the community; access is limited to what is necessary for these functions. • PI may be shared with third-party service providers for hosting, data analytics, and support, but not for advertising. • Shared PI is used solely to operate, secure, and improve the Scratch service, including infrastructure hosting, performance analytics, safety enforcement, and legal compliance—not for profiling, targeted ads, or commercial exploitation.
Security *Describe the measures put in place, including those implemented internally and by the provider, to secure the PI and to prevent unauthorized access to the PI. Describe the technical and physical measures in place to protect the PI.*	• Scratch uses encryption, secure authentication, and firewalls to protect user data and prevent unauthorized access. • Data is stored in secure data centers with restricted access, surveillance, and physical security measures. • Infrastructure and physical safeguards are provided through secure hosting environments and the option to use the offline Scratch app, which keeps data local and reduces exposure to online risks.
Part 3	
Will any PI be stored outside Canada? *Yes or No. If No, skip to PART 4*	Yes
Is any of the PI 'sensitive'? *Click on link above to determine if PI is considered sensitive*	No
Where is the PI being stored? *Where, what regions are the PI being stored in, including backups. What hosting providers are being used?*	• All personal information is stored on servers located in the United States, and this includes operational data as well as system backups. • No Canadian data residency is offered; PI from Canadian students, teachers, or parents is

	processed and stored outside Canada whenever Scratch is used. • Scratch does not publicly name its hosting providers but confirms that data is stored on U.S.-based infrastructure managed by its service providers, meaning PI and backups reside within U.S. cloud/hosting environments.
Part 4	
Ownership and Retention of PI *Who owns the PI, according to applicable contracts/agreements. Describe the provisions, controls and guarantees in place on the retention of PI: storage before expiry, backups, destruction/deletion of PI*	• Users retain ownership of their personal information (PI), with Scratch acting as a data processor to provide services. • Scratch retains personal information as long as necessary to provide services, such as user account management, project storage, and communication. The specific retention period is not detailed but is tied to active account usage. • Scratch stores user data, including PI, in secure data centers. While backup details are not explicitly described. • PI is deleted or de-identified when no longer needed, and users may request deletion of their accounts or data; Scratch removes PI unless it must be kept for legal, security, or abuse-prevention purposes.
Accuracy of PI *Describe the provisions that allow individuals to request corrections to their PI held within the application/service*	For questions about personal Information, you may contact them at help@scratch.mit.edu or via mail at: **Scratch Foundation** ATTN: **Privacy Policy** 201 South Street Unit 102 Boston, MA 02111
Part 5	
Recommendation *Recommendation for **Approval, Abeyance/Suspension** (pending further review) or **Rejection**, based on a review and assessment of Privacy Risk. For an approval, provide any applicable conditions of use and/or other risk mitigation measures advised to achieve an acceptable level of privacy risk*	**Approved**. We recommend using the **Scratch – offline version** which is available in the Software Center.
PIA Version	1.0
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