

### **Guidance Policies for ICT Acceptable Use**

#### Introduction

ICT in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, schools need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

Information and Communications Technology covers a wide range of resources including; web-based and mobile learning. It is also important to recognise the constant and fast paced evolution of ICT within our society as a whole. Currently the internet technologies children and young people are using both inside and outside of the classroom include:

- Websites
- Learning Platforms/Remote Learning and Virtual Learning Environments
- E-mail and Instant Messaging
- Chat Rooms and Social Networking
- Blogs and Wikis
- Podcasting
- Video Broadcasting
- Music Downloading
- Gaming
- Mobile/ Smart phones with text, video and/ or web functionality
- Other mobile devices with web functionality



Whilst exciting and beneficial both in and out of the context of education, much ICT, particularly web-based resources, are not consistently policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these Internet technologies.

At Highweek Primary School, we understand the responsibility to educate our pupils

on eSafety issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Schools hold personal data on learners, staff and other people to help them conduct their day-to-day activities. Some of this information is sensitive and could be used by another person or criminal organisation to cause harm or distress to an individual. The loss of sensitive information can result in media coverage, and potentially damage the reputation of the school. This can make it more difficult for your school to use technology to benefit learners.

Everybody in the school has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties and even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise them.

Both this policy and the Acceptable Use Agreement (for all staff, governors, visitors and pupils) are inclusive of both fixed and mobile internet; technologies provided by the school (such as PCs, laptops, personal digital assistants (PDAs), tablets, webcams, whiteboards, voting systems, digital video equipment, etc); and technologies owned by pupils and staff, but brought onto school premises (such as laptops, mobile phones, camera phones, PDAs and portable media players, etc).

### Monitoring

Authorised ICT staff may inspect any ICT equipment owned or leased by the School at any time without prior notice. If you are in doubt as to whether the individual requesting such access is authorised to do so, please ask for their identification badge and contact their department. Any ICT authorised staff member will be happy to comply with this request.

October 2025



ICT authorised staff may monitor, intercept, access, inspect, record and disclose telephone calls, e-mails, instant messaging, internet/intranet use and any other electronic communications (data, voice or image) involving its employees or contractors, without consent, to the extent permitted by law. This may be to confirm or obtain School business related information; to confirm or investigate compliance with School policies, standards and procedures; to ensure the effective operation of School ICT; for quality control or training purposes; to comply with a Subject Access Request under the GDPR Act 2018, or to prevent or detect crime.

ICT authorised staff may, without prior notice, access the e-mail or voice-mail account where applicable, of someone who is absent in order to deal with any business-related issues retained on that account.

All monitoring, surveillance or investigative activities are conducted by ICT authorised staff and comply with the GDPR Act 2018, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and the Lawful Business Practice Regulations 2000.

Please note that personal communications using School ICT may be unavoidably included in any business communications that are monitored, intercepted and/or recorded.

#### **Breaches**

A breach or suspected breach of policy by a School employee, contractor or pupil may result in the temporary or permanent withdrawal of School ICT hardware, software or services from the offending individual.

Any policy breach is grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with the School Disciplinary Procedure or, where appropriate, the School Disciplinary Procedure or Probationary Service Policy.

Policy breaches may also lead to criminal or civil proceedings.

October 2025



#### **Incident Reporting**

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the school's SIRO or eSafety Co-ordinator. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access SecureID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy noncompliance must be reported to your Senior Information Risk Owner who is Headteacher.

### Acceptable Use Agreement / eSafety Rules

- I will only use ICT in school for school purposes.
- I will ask a teacher to send e-mails to people who have been approved.
- I will not tell other people my ICT passwords.
- I will only open/delete my own files.
- I will make sure that all ICT contact with other children and adults is responsible, polite and sensible.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this I will tell my teacher immediately.
- I will not give out my own details such as my name, phone number or home address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part
  - of a school project approved by my teacher and a responsible adult

October 2025



comes with me.

- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules are to keep me safe.
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community
- I know that my use of ICT can be checked and that my parent/ carer contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my eSafety.
- I will report any website/messages that make me feel uncomfortable to my teacher/other member of staff and will not show it to other pupils.

#### Dear Parent/ Carer

ICT including the internet, e-mail and mobile technologies, etc has become an important part of learning in our school. We expect all children to be safe and responsible when using any ICT.

Please read and discuss these eSafety rules with your child and return the slip at the bottom of this page. If you have any concerns or would like some explanation please contact Miss Eden.

Parent/ carer signature We have discussed this and(child name)
agrees to follow the eSafety rules and to support the safe use of ICT at Highweek



Primary School.

Parent/ Carer S	ignature	
	Class	. Date

### Staff, Governor and Visitor Acceptable Use Agreement / Code of Conduct

ICT (including data) and the related technologies such as e-mail, the internet and mobile devices are an expected part of our daily working life in school. This policy is designed to ensure that all staff are aware of their professional responsibilities when using any form of ICT. All staff are expected to sign this policy and adhere at all times to its contents. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with Miss Eden school eSafety coordinator or Headteacher Senior Information Risk Owner.

- ➤ I will only use the school's email / Internet / Intranet / Learning Platform and any related technologies for professional purposes or for uses deemed 'reasonable' by the Head or Governing Board.
- > I will comply with the ICT system security and not disclose any passwords provided to me by the school or other related authorities
- > I will ensure that all electronic communications with pupils and staff are compatible with my professional role.
- ➤ I will not give out my own personal details, such as mobile phone number and personal email address, to pupils.
- > I will only use the approved, secure e-mail system(s) for any school business.
- ➤ I will ensure that personal data (such as data held on MIS software) is kept secure and is used appropriately, whether in school, taken off the school premises or accessed remotely. Personal data can only be taken out of school or accessed remotely when authorised by the Head or Governing Board. Personal or sensitive data taken off site must be encrypted.
- > I will not install any hardware of software without permission of Miss Eden
- > I will not browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory.
- > Images of pupils and/ or staff will only be taken, stored and used for professional purposes



inline with school policy and with written consent of the parent, carer or staff member. Images will not be distributed outside the school network without the permission of the parent/ carer, member of staff or Headteacher.

- I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community
- I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available, on request, to my Line Manager or Headteacher.
- I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights.
- ➤ I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not bring my professional role into disrepute.
- ➤ I will support and promote the school's e-Safety and Data Security policies and help pupils to be safe and responsible in their use of ICT and related technologies.
- > I understand this forms part of the terms and conditions set out in my contract of employment. **User Signature**

I agree to follow this code of conduct and to support the safe and secure use of ICT throughout the school

Signature	Date	
Full Name	(prin	ted)
Job title		

### **Computer Viruses**

- All files downloaded from the Internet, received via e-mail must be checked for any viruses using school provided anti-virus software before using them
- Never interfere with any anti-virus software installed on school ICT equipment that you use
- If your machine is not routinely connected to the school network, you must make provision for regular virus updates through Mrs Toms/Miss Hopkins/NAC IT Support
- If you suspect there may be a virus on any school ICT equipment, stop using the equipment and contact Mrs Toms/Miss Hopkins/NAC IT Support immediately. The ICT support provider will advise you what actions to take and



be responsible for advising others that need to know

#### E-Mail

The use of e-mail within most schools is an essential means of communication for both staff and pupils. In the context of school, e-mail should not be considered private. Educationally, e-mail can offer significant benefits including; direct written contact between schools on different projects, be they staff based or pupil based, within school or international. We recognise that pupils need to understand how to style an e-mail in relation to their age and good network etiquette; netiquette. In order to achieve ICT level 4 or above, pupils must have experienced sending and receiving e-mails.

#### Managing e-Mail

- The school gives staff their own e-mail account to use for all school business as a work based tool This is to minimise the risk of receiving unsolicited or malicious e-mails and avoids the risk of personal profile information being revealed
- It is the responsibility of each account holder to keep the password secure.

  For the safety and security of users and recipients, all mail is filtered and logged; if necessary e-mail histories can be traced. The school email account should be the account that is used for all school business
- Under no circumstances should staff contact pupils, parents or conduct any school business using personal e-mail addresses
- The school requires a standard disclaimer to be attached to all e-mail correspondence, stating that, 'the views expressed are not necessarily those of the school or the LA'. The responsibility for adding this disclaimer lies with the account holder
- All e-mails should be written and checked carefully before sending, in the

October 2025



same way as a letter written on school headed paper

- Staff sending e-mails to external organisations, parents or pupils are advised to cc. the Headteacher, line manager or designated account
- Pupils are not issued individual email accounts, teachers email on their behalf as a class
- Pupils may only use school approved accounts on the school system and only under direct teacher supervision for educational purposes
- Pupils and teachers only use approved accounts for Remote Learning (Seesaw). Access for pupils at home is closely monitored and logged by teachers and only accessible by a specific code emailed to a parent's email account. Members of SLT will check periodically and will have access to each class account.
- During Remote learning pupils are able to access details for class Zoom meetings. Details of the meetings are to be arranged by the class teacher and links/password details to the meetings are sent directly to an approved parent email address or on the pupil's Seesaw account.
- Zoom meetings must include a virtual waiting room, where only the host is able to invite members and admit them. The use of video is permitted if there is an adult present and they must make themselves known otherwise it is requested that videos are turned off. No recording of Zoom meetings.
- If there is an Esafety breach during a Zoom meeting (inappropriate behaviour etc) then the host must have control in turning off cameras and muting or having the participant leave the meeting. These are settings that must be secured when the meeting is scheduled. Any breaches must be recorded on Cpoms.

Emails created or received as part of your School job will be subject to disclosure in response to a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You must therefore actively manage your e-mail account as follows:

☐ Delete all e-mails of short-term value



☐ Organise e-mail into folders	and carry or	ut frequent l	house-keeping	on all
folders and archives				

- The forwarding of chain letters is not permitted in school.
- All pupil e-mail users are expected to adhere to the generally accepted rules
  of netiquette particularly in relation to the use of appropriate language and
  not revealing any personal details about themselves or others in e-mail
  communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission, virus
  checking attachments
- Pupils must immediately tell a teacher/ trusted adult if they receive an offensive e-mail
- Staff must inform Mrs Lowe/Mrs Toms/Miss Hopkins if they receive an
  - offensive e-mail Pupils are introduced to e-mail as part of the Computing Scheme of

Work.

- However you access your school e-mail (whether directly, through mail 365 when away from the office or on non-school hardware) all the school e-mail policies apply
- The use of Hotmail, BTInternet, AOL or any other Internet based webmail service for sending, reading or receiving business related e-mail is not permitted

### Sending e-Mails

 If sending e-mails containing personal, confidential, classified or financially sensitive data to external third parties or agencies, refer to the Section emailing Personal, Sensitive, Confidential or Classified Information

Use your own school e-mail account so that you are clearly identified as the

October 2025



originator of a message

- The office will deal with the email accounts of any absent members of staff should the need arise
- Keep the number and relevance of e-mail recipients, particularly those being copied, to the minimum necessary and appropriate
- Do not send or forward attachments unnecessarily. Whenever possible, send the location path to the shared drive rather than sending attachments
- An outgoing e-mail greater than ten megabytes (including any attachments) is likely to be stopped automatically. This size limit also applies to incoming email
- School e-mail is not to be used for personal advertising

#### Receiving e-Mails

- Check your e-mail regularly
- Activate your 'out-of-office' notification when away for extended periods
- Use the 'Delegation' facility within your e-mail software so that your e-mail can be handled by someone else while you are not at work (contact The Office for details)
- Never open attachments from an untrusted source; Consult your network manager first.
- Do not use the e-mail systems to store attachments. Detach and save business related work to the appropriate shared drive/folder
- The automatic forwarding and deletion of e-mails is not allowed

e-mailing Personal, Sensitive, Confidential or Classified Information

October 2025



- Assess whether the information can be transmitted by other secure means before using e-mail - e-mailing confidential data is not recommended and should be avoided where possible. The use of Egress should be used for confidential or sensitive information.
- The use of Hotmail, BtInternet, AOL or any other Internet based webmail service for sending e-mail containing sensitive information is not permitted Where your conclusion is that e-mail must be used to transmit such data:

☐ Obtain express consent from your manager to provide the information by
email
T Evercise caution when sending the e-mail and always follow these check

- ☐ Exercise caution when sending the e-mail and always follow these checks before releasing the e-mail:
  - Verify the details, including accurate e-mail address, of any intended recipient of the information
  - Verify (by phoning) the details of a requestor before responding to email requests for information
  - Do not copy or forward the e-mail to any more recipients than is absolutely necessary

☐ Do not send the information to any body/person whose details you have
been unable to separately verify (usually by phone)
☐ Send the information as an encrypted document <b>attached</b> to an e-mail
□Provide the encryption key or password by a <b>separate</b> contact with the recipient(s)
□ Do not identify such information in the subject line of any e-mail
□Request confirmation of safe receipt

In exceptional circumstances, the County Council makes provision for secure data transfers to specific external agencies. Such arrangements are currently in place with:

Constabulary



- Partnership Trust
- When sending an e-mail containing personal or sensitive data you need to
  put a security classification in the first line of the e-mail. For e-mails to do with
  information about a pupil, for example, you need to put in **PROTECT** –
- PERSONAL on the first line of the e-mail.
  - This also needs to go on the top of any documents that you send (i.e. Word documents, Reports, Forms, including paper documents you send in hardcopy, etc). The name of the individual is not to be included in the subject line and the document containing the information encrypted. This provides additional security.

### **Equal Opportunities**

### **Pupils with Additional Needs**

The school endeavours to create a consistent message with parents for all pupils and this in turn should aid establishment and future development of the schools' eSafety rules.

However, staff are aware that some pupils may require additional teaching including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their existing knowledge and understanding of eSafety issues.

Where a pupil has poor social understanding, careful consideration is given to group interactions when raising awareness of eSafety. Internet activities are planned and well managed for these children and young people.

### **eSafety**

eSafety - Roles and Responsibilities

October 2025



As eSafety is an important aspect of strategic leadership within the school, the Head and governors have ultimate responsibility to ensure that the policy and practices are embedded and monitored. The named eSafety co-ordinator in this school is Miss Eden. All members of the school community have been made aware of who holds this post. It is the role of the eSafety co-ordinator to keep abreast of current issues and guidance through organisations such as SWGfL, Becta, CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) and Childnet.

Senior Management and Governors are updated by the Head/ eSafety co-ordinator and all governors have an understanding of the issues and strategies at our school in relation to local and national guidelines and advice.

This policy, supported by the school's acceptable use agreements for staff,

governors, visitors and pupils, is to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It is linked to the following mandatory school policies: keeping children safe, child protection, health and safety, home—school agreements, and behaviour/pupil discipline (including the anti-bullying) policy and PSHE

### **E.Safety in the Curriculum**

ICT and online resources are increasingly used across the curriculum. We believe it is essential for eSafety guidance to be given to the pupils on a regular and meaningful basis. eSafety is embedded within our curriculum and we continually look for new opportunities to promote eSafety.

- The school teaches internet skills and eSafety in Computing/ PSHE lessons
- Educating pupils on the dangers of technologies that maybe encountered outside school is done informally when opportunities arise and as part of the computing curriculum.
- Pupils take part in an annual Safer Internet day by learning about and completing activities from the eSafety curriculum.
- Pupils are aware of the relevant legislation when using the internet such as

October 2025



data protection and intellectual property which may limit what they want to do but also serves to protect them

- Pupils are taught about copyright and respecting other people's information, images, etc through discussion, modeling and activities
- Pupils are aware of the impact of Cyberbullying and know how to seek help if
  they are affected by any form of online bullying. Pupils are also aware of where
  to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and
  related technologies; i.e. parent/ carer, teacher/ trusted staff member, or an
  organisation such as Childline or CEOP report abuse button
- Pupils are taught to critically evaluate materials and learn good searching skills through cross curricular teacher models, discussions and via the ICT curriculum.

#### **E.Safety Skills Development for Staff**

- Our staff receive regular information and training on eSafety issues
- Details of the ongoing staff training programme can be found in The Office  $\Box$
- New staff receive information on the school's acceptable use policy as

part of their induction

- All staff have been made aware of individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of eSafety and know what to do in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community (see enclosed flowchart)
- All staff are encouraged to incorporate eSafety activities and awareness within their curriculum areas



#### Managing the School eSafety Messages

- We endeavour to embed eSafety messages across the curriculum whenever the internet and/or related technologies are used
- The eSafety policy will be introduced to the pupils at the start of each school year
- eSafety posters will be prominently displayed

### Incident Reporting, E.Safety Incident Log & Infringements

#### **Incident Reporting**

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the school's SIRO or eSafety Co-ordinator. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access SecureID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy noncompliance must be reported to your Senior Information Risk Owner.

### E.Safety Incident Log - kept in The Office

Some incidents may need to be recorded in other places if they relate to a bullying or racist incident.

### eSafety Incident Log

Details of ALL eSafety incidents to be recorded by the eSafety Coordinator, Miss Hopkins and on Cpoms. This incident log will be monitored termly by the Headteacher, Members of SLT and Resources

October 2025



Committee. Any incidents involving Cyberbullying should be reported on Cpoms and may also need to be recorded elsewhere

Date & time	Name of pupil or staff member	Male or Female	Room and computer/	Details of incident (including evidence)	Actions and reasons
			device	,	
			number		

### **Misuse and Infringements**

#### **Complaints**

Complaints and/ or issues relating to eSafety should be made to the eSafety coordinator or Headteacher. Incidents should be logged and appropriate procedures should be followed.

#### **Inappropriate Material**

 All users are aware of the procedures for reporting accidental access to inappropriate materials. The breach must be immediately reported to the eSafety co-ordinator

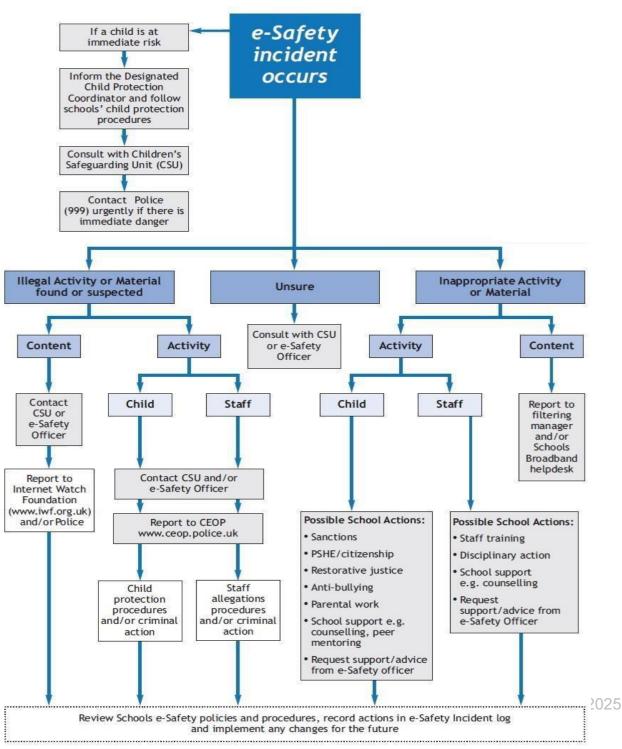
October 2025



- Deliberate access to inappropriate materials by any user will lead to the incident being logged by the eSafety co-ordinator, depending on the seriousness of the offence; investigation by the Headteacher/ LA, immediate suspension, possibly leading to dismissal and involvement of police for very serious cases
- Users are made aware of sanctions relating to the misuse or misconduct by relevant policies issued on accepting employment

Flowcharts for Managing an E.Safety Incident







#### **Internet Access**

The internet is an open communication medium, available to all, at all times. Anyone can view information, send messages, discuss ideas and publish material which makes it both an invaluable resource for education, business and social interaction, as well as a potential risk to young and vulnerable people. All use of the **Grid for Learning** (SWGfL) is logged and the logs are randomly but regularly monitored. Whenever any inappropriate use is detected it will be followed up.

#### Managing the Internet

- The school maintains students who will have supervised access to Internet resources (where reasonable) through the school's fixed and mobile internet technology
- Pupils will be monitored by adults at all times when using the Internet. The
  use of the Internet at lunchtimes and break times is forbidden unless and
  adult is present.
- The use of YouTube by pupils is forbidden unless specific videos are being used or pupils are working directly with an adult.
- Staff will preview any recommended sites before use
- Raw image searches are discouraged when working with pupils
- If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research
- All users must observe software copyright at all times. It is illegal to copy or distribute school software or illegal software from other sources

October 2025



All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic resources

#### **Internet Use**

- You must not post personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise its intended restricted audience
- Don't reveal names of colleagues, pupils or parents or any other confidential information acquired through your job on any social networking site or blog
- On-line gambling or gaming is not allowed

It is at the Headteacher's discretion what internet activities are permissible for staff and pupils and how this is disseminated.

#### Infrastructure

- Local Authority has a monitoring solution via the Grid for Learning where web-based activity is monitored and recorded
- School internet access is controlled through the LA's web filtering service.
   For further information relating to filtering please go to South West Grid for Learning
- Highweek Primary School is aware of its responsibility when monitoring staff communication under current legislation and takes into account; GDPR Act 2018, The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, Human Rights Act 1998

October 2025



- Staff and pupils are aware that school based email and internet activity can be monitored and explored further if required
- The school does not allow pupils access to internet logs
- The school uses management control tools for controlling and monitoring workstations
- If staff or pupils discover an unsuitable site, the screen must be switched off/ closed and the incident reported immediately to the e-safety coordinator or teacher as appropriate
- It is the responsibility of the school, by delegation to the network manager, to ensure that Anti-virus protection is installed and kept up-to-date on all school machines
- Pupils and Staff using personal removable media are responsible for measures to protect against viruses, for example making sure that additional systems used have up-to-date virus protection software. It is not the school's responsibility nor the network manager's to install or maintain virus protection
- on personal systems. If pupils wish to bring in work on removable media it must be given to the teacher for a safety check first
- Pupils and staff are not permitted to download programs or files on school based technologies without seeking prior permission from ICT subject leader
- If there are any issues related to viruses or anti-virus software, the network manager should be informed.

### **Managing Other Web 2 Technologies**

Web 2, including social networking sites, if used responsibly both outside and within an educational context can provide easy to use, creative, collaborative and free

October 2025



facilities. However it is important to recognise that there are issues regarding the appropriateness of some content, contact, culture and commercialism. To this end, we encourage our pupils to think carefully about the way that information can be added and removed by all users, including themselves, from these sites.

- At present, the school endeavors to deny access to social networking sites to pupils within school
- All pupils are advised to be cautious about the information given by others on sites, for example users not being who they say they are
- Pupils are taught to avoid placing images of themselves (or details within images that could give background details) on such sites and to consider the appropriateness of any images they post due to the difficulty of removing an image once online
- Pupils are always reminded to avoid giving out personal details on such sites
- which may identify them or where they are (full name, address, mobile/ home phone numbers, school details, IM/ email address, specific hobbies/ interests)
- Our pupils are advised to set and maintain profiles on such sites to maximum privacy and deny access to unknown individuals
- Pupils are encouraged to be wary about publishing specific and detailed private thoughts online
- Our pupils are asked to report any incidents of bullying to the school
- Staff may only create blogs, wikis or other web 2 spaces in order to communicate with pupils using other systems approved by the Headteacher.

### **Passwords and Password Security**

#### **Passwords**

Always use your own personal passwords to access computer based

October 2025



services

Make sure you enter your personal passwords each time you logon. Do not include passwords in any automated logon procedures

- Staff should change temporary passwords at first logon
- Change passwords whenever there is any indication of possible system or password compromise
- Do not record passwords or encryption keys on paper or in an unprotected file
- Only disclose your personal password to authorised ICT support staff when necessary, and never to anyone else. Ensure that all personal passwords that have been disclosed are changed once the requirement is finished
- Passwords must contain a minimum of six characters and be difficult to guess
- User ID and passwords for staff and pupils who have left the School are removed from the system immediately.

If you think your password may have been compromised or someone else has become aware of your password report this to your ICT support team

#### **Password Security**

Password security is essential for staff, particularly as they are able to access and use pupil data. Staff are expected to have secure passwords which are not shared with anyone. The pupils are expected to keep their passwords secret and not to share with others, particularly their friends. Staff and pupils are regularly reminded of the need for password security.

- All users read and sign an Acceptable Use Agreement to demonstrate that they have understood the school's e-safety Policy and Data Security
- Users are provided with an individual network, email, Learning Platform and

October 2025



Management Information System (where appropriate) log-in username.

Pupils are not allowed to deliberately access on-line materials or files on the

school network, of their peers, teachers or others

- Staff are aware of their individual responsibilities to protect the security and confidentiality of school networks, MIS systems and/or Blog, including ensuring that passwords are not shared and are changed periodically. Individual staff users must also make sure that workstations are not left unattended and are locked.
- Due consideration should be given when logging into the Blog to the browser/cache options (shared or private computer)

### Safe Use of Images

### Taking of Images and Film

Digital images are easy to capture, reproduce and publish and, therefore, misuse. We must remember that it is not always appropriate to take or store images of any member of the school community or public, without first seeking consent and considering the appropriateness.

- With the written consent of parents (on behalf of pupils) and staff, the school permits the appropriate taking of images by staff and pupils with school equipment
- Staff are not permitted to use personal digital equipment, such as mobile phones and cameras, to record images of pupils, this includes when on field trips. However with the express permission of the Headteacher, images can be taken provided they are transferred immediately and solely to the school's network and deleted from the staff device
- Pupils are not permitted to use personal digital equipment, including mobile phones and cameras, to record images of the others, this includes when on



field trips.

#### Consent of Adults Who Work at the School

☐ Permission to use images of all staff who work at the school is sought on induction and a copy is located in the personnel file

#### **Publishing Pupil's Images and Work**

On a child's entry to the school, all parents/carers will be asked to give permission to use their child's work/photos in the following ways:

- on the school web site
- on the school's Blog
- in the school prospectus and other printed publications that the school may produce for promotional purposes
- recorded/ transmitted on a video or webcam
  - in display material that may be used in the school's communal areas
- in display material that may be used in external areas, i.e. exhibition promoting the school
- general media appearances, eg local/ national media/ press releases sent to the press highlighting an activity (sent using traditional methods or electronically)

This consent form is considered valid for the entire period that the child attends this school unless there is a change in the child's circumstances where consent could be an issue, eg divorce of parents, custody issues, etc.

Parents/ carers may withdraw permission, in writing, at any time.

Pupils' names will not be published alongside their image and vice versa. E-mail and

October 2025



postal addresses of pupils will not be published.

Only the Web Manager has authority to upload to the website.

### **Storage of Images**

- Images/ films of children are stored on the school's network
- Pupils and staff are not permitted to use personal portable media for storage of images (e.g., USB sticks) without the express permission of the Headteacher
- Rights of access to this material are restricted to the teaching staff and pupils within the confines of the school network/ Blog
- At the end of each year images that are no longer required will be cleared and saved to disc.

#### **Webcams and CCTV**

- The school uses CCTV for security and safety. The only people with access
  to this are Head Teacher and Caretaker Notification of CCTV use is
  displayed at the front of the school.
- We do not use publicly accessible webcams in school

### School ICT Equipment including Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment & Removable Media

### **School ICT Equipment**

- As a user of ICT, you are responsible for any activity undertaken on the
- school's ICT equipment provided to you

October 2025



- It is recommended that schools log ICT equipment issued to staff and record serial numbers as part of the school's inventory
- Do not allow your visitors to plug their ICT hardware into the school network points (unless special provision has been made). They should be directed to the wireless ICT Facilities if available
- Ensure that all ICT equipment that you use is kept physically secure
- Do not attempt unauthorised access or make unauthorised modifications to computer equipment, programs, files or data. This is an offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990
- It is imperative that you save your data on a frequent basis to the school's network drive. You are responsible for the backup and restoration of any of your data that is not held on the school's network drive
- Personal or sensitive data should not be stored on the local drives of desktop
   PCs. If it is necessary to do so the local drive must be encrypted
- It is recommended that a time locking screensaver is applied to all machines.
   Any PCs etc accessing personal data must have a locking screensaver as must any user profiles
- Privately owned ICT equipment should not be used on a school network
  - On termination of employment, resignation or transfer, return all ICT equipment to your Manager. You must also provide details of all your system logons so that they can be disabled
- It is your responsibility to ensure that any information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure, and that no personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is disclosed to any unauthorised person
- All ICT equipment allocated to staff must be authorised by the appropriate Line Manager. Authorising Managers are responsible for:



of maintaining control of the allocation and transfer within their Unit of recovering and returning equipment when no longer needed

 All redundant ICT equipment is disposed of in accordance with Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive and GDPR Act (GDPR)

#### **Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment**

This section covers such items as laptops, PDAs and removable data storage devices. Please refer to the relevant sections of this document when considering storing or transferring personal or sensitive data

- All activities carried out on School systems and hardware will be monitored in accordance with the general policy
- Staff must ensure that all school data is stored on school's network, and not kept solely on the laptop. Any equipment where personal data is likely to be stored must be encrypted
- Equipment must be kept physically secure in accordance with this policy to be covered for insurance purposes. When travelling by car, best practice is to place the laptop in the boot of your car before starting your journey
- Synchronise all locally stored data, including diary entries, with the central school network server on a frequent basis
  - Ensure portable and mobile ICT equipment is made available as necessary for anti-virus updates and software installations, patches or upgrades
- The installation of any applications or software packages must be authorised by the ICT support team, fully licensed and only carried out by your ICT support



- In areas where there are likely to be members of the general public, portable or mobile ICT equipment must not be left unattended and, wherever possible, must be kept out of sight
- Portable equipment must be transported in its protective case if supplied

### **Mobile Technologies**

Many emerging technologies offer new opportunities for teaching and learning including a move towards personalised learning and 1:1 device ownership for children and young people. Many existing mobile technologies such as portable media players, PDAs, gaming devices, mobile and Smart phones are familiar to children outside of school too. They often provide a collaborative, well-known device with possible internet access and thus open up risk and misuse associated with communication and internet use. Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the risk assessed before use in school is allowed. Our school chooses to manage the use of these devices in the following ways so that users exploit them appropriately.

#### Personal Mobile Devices (including phones)

- The school allows staff to bring in personal mobile phones and devices for their own use. Mobile phones can only be used in the Staff Room and Office areas. They must not be used where pupils are present. Under no circumstances does the school allow a member of staff to contact a pupil or parent/ carer using their personal device
- Pupils who bring personal mobile devices/phones to school must hand them to the school office on arrival and collect them at the end of the school day.
- The school is not responsible for the loss, damage or theft of any personal mobile device
- The sending of inappropriate text messages between any member of the school community is not allowed

October 2025



Permission must be sought before any image or sound recordings are made on these devices of any member of the school community

- Users bringing personal devices into school must ensure there is no inappropriate or illegal content on the device
- The school has 2 mobile phones which are to be used when on trips/out of school excursions to be used in case or emergencies or contacting the school.

#### School Provided Mobile Devices (including phones)

- The sending of inappropriate text messages between any member of the school community is not allowed
- Permission must be sought before any image or sound recordings are made on the devices of any member of the school community
- Where the school provides mobile technologies such as phones, laptops and PDAs for offsite visits and trips, only these devices should be used
- Where the school provides a laptop for staff, only this device may be used to conduct school business outside of school

#### Removable Media

If storing/transferring personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information using Removable Media

- Only use recommended removable media
- Store all removable media securely
- Removable media must be disposed of securely by your ICT support team

### **Smile and Stay Safe Poster**

eSafety guidelines to be displayed throughout the school

October 2025





### and stay safe

**S**taying safe means keeping your personal details private, such as full name, phone number, home address, photos or school. Never reply to ASL (age, sex, location)

Meeting up with someone you have met online can be dangerous. Only meet up if you have first told your parent or carer and they can be with you. Information online can be untrue, biased or just inaccurate. Someone online my not be telling the truth about who they are - they may not be a 'friend' Let a parent, carer, teacher or trusted adult know if you ever feel worried, uncomfortable or frightened about something online or someone you have met or who has contacted you online. Emails, downloads, IM messages, photos and anything from someone you do not know or trust may contain a virus or unpleasant message. So do not open or reply



### Telephone Services

#### **Mobile Phones**

- You are responsible for the security of your school mobile phone. Always set the PIN code on your school mobile phone and do not leave it unattended and on display (especially in vehicles)
- Report the loss or theft of any school mobile phone equipment immediately
- The school remains responsible for all call costs until the phone is reported lost or stolen
- You must read and understand the user instructions and safety points relating to the use of your school mobile phone prior to using it
- School SIM cards must only be used in school provided mobile phones
- All school mobile phones are barred from calling premium rate numbers and any numbers outside of the UK as the default
- You must not send text messages to premium rate services
- In accordance with the Finance policy on the private use of School provided mobiles, you must reimburse the school for the cost of any personal use of your school mobile phone. This includes call charges incurred for incoming calls whilst abroad. [To assist you in identifying personal use, add \* to the end of the number being contacted, these will be shown separately on your bill]. Payment arrangements should be made through your finance administrator
- Never use a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving a vehicle. Only genuine 999 or 112 emergency calls may be made if it would be unsafe to stop before doing so



### Writing and Reviewing this Policy

### **Staff Involvement in Policy Creation**

☐ Staff have been involved in making/ reviewing the Policy for ICT Acceptable Use

#### **Review Procedure**

There will be an on-going opportunity for staff to discuss with the eSafety coordinator any issue of eSafety that concerns them.

The 360 Degree safe tool is being used to review and evaluate the school's eSafety policies and procedures.

There will be an on-going opportunity for staff to discuss with the SIRO/AIO any issue of data security that concerns them

This policy will be reviewed every (12) months and consideration given to the implications for future whole school development planning

The policy will be amended if new technologies are adopted or Central Government change the orders or guidance in any way

This policy has been read, amended and approved by the staff, head teacher and governors on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

#### **Equality Statement**

This policy is compliant with the Equality and Cohesion Policy. This Policy is based on best practice to ensure a consistent and effective approach. The Governing Board and the Head Teacher (Chair of Governors) have a particular responsibility to ensure that the processes are managed fairly, equitably, objectively and must not discriminate either directly or indirectly on the grounds of a person's race, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, disability, age, pregnancy and maternity or religion or belief.



Date of review and adoption by Governing Board:

November 2025



### **Current Legislation**

### Acts Relating to Monitoring of Staff eMail GDPR Act 2018

The Act protects individuals with regard to the processing of personal data, in particular by requiring personal data to be processed lawfully and fairly, on the basis of the data subject's consent or another specified basis, conferring rights on the data subject to obtain information about the processing of personal data and to require inaccurate personal data to be rectified.

(2) When carrying out functions under the GDPR, the applied GDPR and this Act, must have regard to the importance of securing an appropriate level of protection for personal data, taking account of the interests of data subjects, controllers and others and matters of general public interest. <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/enacted?view=plain">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/enacted?view=plain</a>

### The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000

http://www.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2000/20002699.htm

#### Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

Regulating the interception of communications and making it an offence to intercept or monitor communications without the consent of the parties involved in the communication. The RIP was enacted to comply with the Human Rights Act 1998. The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, however, permit a degree of monitoring and record keeping, for example, to ensure communications are relevant to school activity or to investigate or detect unauthorised use of the network. Nevertheless, any monitoring is subject to informed consent, which means steps must have been taken to ensure that everyone who may use the system is informed that communications may be monitored. Covert monitoring without informing users that surveillance is taking place risks breaching data protection and privacy legislation. <a href="http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/20000023.htm">http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/20000023.htm</a>

#### Human Rights Act 1998

http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts1998/19980042.htm

### Other Acts Relating to eSafety



#### Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006

It a criminal offence to threaten people because of their faith, or to stir up religious hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Other laws already protect people from threats based on their race, nationality or ethnic background.

#### Sexual Offences Act 2003

The new grooming offence is committed if you are over 18 and have communicated with a child under 16 at least twice (including by phone or using the Internet) it is an offence to meet them or travel to meet them anywhere in the world with the intention of committing a sexual offence. Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act is illegal, including looking at images such as videos, photos or webcams, for your own gratification. It is also an offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in sexual activity with any person under 18, with whom they are in a position of trust. Schools should already have a copy of "Children & Families: Safer from Sexual Crime" document as part of their child protection packs.

For more information www.teachernet.gov.uk

#### Communications Act 2003 (section 127)

Sending by means of the Internet a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or sending a false message by means of or persistently making use of the Internet for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety is guilty of an offence liable, on conviction, to imprisonment. This wording is important because an offence is complete as soon as the message has been sent: there is no need to prove any intent or purpose.

#### The Computer Misuse Act 1990 (sections 1 – 3)

Regardless of an individual's motivation, the Act makes it a criminal offence to gain:

- access to computer files or software without permission (for example using another persons password to access files)
- unauthorised access, as above, in order to commit a further criminal act (such as fraud)
- impair the operation of a computer or program

UK citizens or residents may be extradited to another country if they are suspected of committing any of the above offences.

#### Malicious Communications Act 1988 (section 1)

This legislation makes it a criminal offence to send an electronic message (e-mail) that conveys indecent, grossly offensive, threatening material or information that is false; or is of an indecent or grossly offensive nature if the purpose was to cause a recipient to suffer distress or anxiety.



#### Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988

Copyright is the right to prevent others from copying or using work without permission. Works such as text, music, sound, film and programs all qualify for copyright protection. The author of the work is usually the copyright owner, but if it was created during the course of employment it belongs to the employer. Copyright infringement is to copy all or a substantial part of anyone's work without obtaining them author's permission. Usually a licence associated with the work will allow a user to copy or use it for limited purposes. It is advisable always to read the terms of a licence before you copy or use someone else's material. It is also illegal to adapt or use software without a licence or in ways prohibited by the terms of the software licence.

#### Public Order Act 1986 (sections 17 – 29)

This Act makes it a criminal offence to stir up racial hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Like the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 it also makes the possession of inflammatory material with a view of releasing it a criminal offence.

#### Protection of Children Act 1978 (Section 1)

It is an offence to take, permit to be taken, make, possess, show, distribute or advertise indecent images of children in the United Kingdom. A child for these purposes is anyone under the age of 18. Viewing an indecent image of a child on your computer means that you have made a digital image. An image of a child also covers pseudo-photographs (digitally collated or otherwise). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison.

#### Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964

Publishing an "obscene" article is a criminal offence. Publishing includes electronic transmission.

#### Protection from Harassment Act 1997

A person must not pursue a course of conduct, which amounts to harassment of another, and which he knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other.

A person whose course of conduct causes another to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be used against him is guilty of an offence if he knows or ought to know that his course of conduct will cause the other so to fear on each of those occasions.

### **Acts Relating to the Protection of Personal Data GDPR**

**2018** http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1998/ukpga 19980029 en 1 **The** 

Freedom of Information Act 200



http://www.ico.gov.uk/for organisations/freedom of information guide.as

<u>р х</u>