

DAWN HOUSE SCHOOL – STAFF HANDBOOK

**Policy Title: Online Safety Policy**

**Section: O**

**Policy No: O 2**

**Version Date:** January 2024

**Review Date:** January 2025

**Name of Originator:** KF

**Designation:** Deputy Principal

Online Safety Policy  
Dawn House School

## Development/Monitoring/Review of this Policy

This online safety policy has been developed by a working group made up of:

- Deputy Principal
- Online Safety Coordinator
- Staff – including teachers and the safeguarding team
- Governors

Consultation with the whole school community has taken place through a range of formal and informal meetings.

### Schedule for Development/Monitoring/Review

This online safety policy was approved by the Governing Body:	TBC
The implementation of this online safety policy will be monitored by the:	Education team with the teacher of Computing
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	Annually
The Governing Body will receive a report on the implementation of the online safety policy generated by the monitoring group (which will include anonymous details of online safety incidents) at regular intervals:	Annually
The online safety policy will be reviewed annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments in the use of the technologies, new threats to online safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be:	January 2025
Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following external persons/agencies should be informed:	LA Safeguarding Officer, LADO, Police

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- Logs of reported incidents
- Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited)/filtering
- Internal monitoring data for network activity
- Surveys/questionnaires of
  - pupils
  - parents/carers
  - staff

### Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, students/pupils, volunteers, parents/carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of school digital technology systems, both in and out of the school.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Principals to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of pupils when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is pertinent to incidents of online-bullying or other online safety incidents covered by this policy, which may take place outside of the school, but is linked to membership of the school. The 2011 Education Act increased these powers with regard to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data (see appendix for policy). In the case of both acts, action can only be taken over issues covered by the published Behaviour Policy.

The school will deal with such incidents within this policy and associated behaviour and anti-bullying policies and will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online safety behaviour that take place out of school.

## Roles and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the online safety roles and responsibilities of individuals and groups within the school.

### Governors/Board of Directors

Governors are responsible for the approval of the online safety policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. This will be carried out by the Governors receiving regular information about online safety incidents and monitoring reports. A member of the Governing Body has taken on the role of Online Safety Governor. The role of the Online Safety Governor will include:

- regular meetings with the Online Safety Co-ordinator
- attendance at Online Safety Group meetings
- regular monitoring of online safety incident logs
- regular monitoring of filtering/change control logs
- reporting to relevant Governors meeting

### Principal and Senior Leaders

- The Principal has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including online safety) of members of the school community, though the day to day responsibility for online safety will be delegated to the Online Safety Lead.
- The Principal and Deputy Principal should be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious online safety allegation being made against a member of staff. (see flow chart on dealing with online safety incidents – “Responding to incidents of misuse” and relevant ICAN disciplinary procedures).
- The Principal and Senior Leaders are responsible for ensuring that the Online Safety Lead and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their online safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant.
- The Principal and Senior Leaders will ensure that there is a system in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in school who carry out the internal online safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also support to those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles.
- The Senior Leadership Team will receive regular monitoring reports from the Online Safety Lead.

### Online Safety Lead

- leads the Online Safety Group
- takes day to day responsibility for online safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school online safety policies/documents
- ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident taking place.
- provides training and advice for staff
- liaises with Speech and Language UK
- liaises with technical staff
- receives reports of online safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future online safety developments
- meets regularly with Online Safety Governor to discuss current issues, review incident logs and filtering/change control logs
- attends relevant meetings of Governors
- reports regularly to Senior Leadership Group

### Network Manager/Technical staff

Dawn House School has a managed ICT service provided by an outside contractor, and it is the responsibility of the school to ensure that the managed service provider carries out all the online safety measures that would

otherwise be the responsibility of the school technical staff, as suggested below. The managed service provider is to be fully aware of the school online safety policy and procedures.

Those with technical responsibilities are responsible for ensuring:

- that the school's technical infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack
- that the school meets required online safety technical requirements and any Speech and Language UK online safety policy/guidance that may apply.
- that users may only access the networks and devices through a properly enforced password protection policy
- the filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis and that its implementation is not the sole responsibility of any single person
- that they keep up to date with online safety technical information in order to effectively carry out their online safety role and to inform and update others as relevant
- that the use of the networks/internet/digital technologies is regularly monitored in order that any misuse/attempted misuse can be reported to the Principal and Senior Leaders and Online Safety Lead for investigation/action/sanction
- that monitoring software/systems are implemented and updated as agreed in school policies

## **Teaching and Support Staff**

Are responsible for ensuring that:

- they have an up to date awareness of online safety matters and of the current school online safety policy and practices
- they have read, understood and signed the staff acceptable use agreement (AUA)
- they report any suspected misuse or problem to the Principal/Senior Leader/Online Safety Lead for investigation/action/sanction
- all digital communications with pupils/parents/carers should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems
- online safety issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum and other activities
- pupils understand and follow the Online Safety Policy and acceptable use policies
- pupils have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- they monitor the use of digital technologies, mobile devices, cameras, etc. in lessons and other school activities (where allowed) and implement current policies with regard to these devices
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned pupils should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches

## **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Should be trained in online safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection/safeguarding issues to arise from:

- sharing of personal data
- access to illegal/inappropriate materials
- inappropriate on-line contact with adults/strangers
- potential or actual incidents of grooming
- online-bullying

## **Online Safety Group**

The Online Safety Group provides a consultative group that has wide representation from the school community, with responsibility for issues regarding online safety and the monitoring the Online Safety Policy including the impact of initiatives. Depending on the size or structure of the school this group may be part of the safeguarding group. The group will also be responsible for regular reporting to the Governing Body

Members of the Online Safety Group (or other relevant group) will assist the Online Safety Lead (or other relevant person, as above) with:

- the production/review/monitoring of the school online safety policy/documents.
- the production/review/monitoring of the school filtering policy and requests for filtering changes.
- mapping and reviewing the online safety/digital literacy curricular provision – ensuring relevance, breadth and progression
- monitoring network/internet/filtering/incident logs
- consulting stakeholders – including parents/carers and the pupils about the online safety provision
- monitoring improvement actions identified through use of the 360 degree safe self-review tool

### **Pupils:**

- are responsible for using the school digital technology systems in accordance with the pupil acceptable use agreement
- have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- need to understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so
- will be expected to know and understand policies on the use of mobile devices and digital cameras. They should also know and understand policies on the taking/use of images and on online-bullying.
- should understand the importance of adopting good online safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's online safety policy covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school

### **Parents/carers**

Parents/carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the internet/mobile devices in an appropriate way. The school will take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, website, social media and information about national/local online safety campaigns/literature. Parents and carers will be encouraged to support the school in promoting good online safety practice and to follow guidelines on the appropriate use of:

- digital and video images taken at school events
- access to parents' sections of the website and on-line pupil records
- their children's personal devices in the school

### **Community Users**

Community Users who access school systems or programmes as part of the wider school provision will be expected to sign a Community User AUA before being provided with access to school systems.

## **Policy Statements**

### **Education – Pupils**

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating *students/pupils* to take a responsible approach. The education of pupils in online safety/digital literacy is therefore an essential part of the school's online safety provision. Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid online safety risks and build their resilience.

In planning their online safety curriculum school refers to:

- DfE Teaching Online Safety in Schools
- Education for a Connected World Framework
- SWGfL Project Evolve – online safety curriculum programme and resources

Online safety should be a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce online safety messages across the curriculum. The online safety curriculum should be broad, relevant and provide progression, with opportunities for creative activities and will be provided in the following ways:

- A planned online safety curriculum should be provided as part of Computing/PHSE/other lessons and should be regularly revisited
- Key online safety messages should be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies and pastoral activities
- Pupils should be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials/content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.
- Pupils should be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Pupils should be supported in building resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making.
- Pupils should be helped to understand the need for the pupil acceptable use agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside school.
- Staff should act as good role models in their use of digital technologies, the internet and mobile devices
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned, it is best practice that pupils should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.
- Where pupils are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit.
- It is accepted that from time to time, for good educational reasons, students may need to research topics (e.g. racism, drugs, discrimination) that would normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the Technical Staff (or other relevant designated person) can temporarily remove those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so, should be auditable, with clear reasons for the need.

## Education – Parents/carers

Many parents and carers have only a limited understanding of online safety risks and issues, yet they play an essential role in the education of their children and in the monitoring/regulation of the children's online behaviours. Parents may underestimate how often children and young people come across potentially harmful and inappropriate material on the internet and may be unsure about how to respond.

The school will therefore seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through

- Curriculum activities
- Letters, newsletters, web site,
- Parents/carers evenings/sessions
- High profile events/campaigns e.g. Safer Internet Day
- Reference to the relevant web sites/publications e.g. [www.swgfl.org.uk](http://www.swgfl.org.uk), [www.saferinternet.org.uk/](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/), <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers> (see appendix for further links/resources)

## Education – The Wider Community

The school will provide opportunities for local community groups/members of the community to gain from the school's online safety knowledge and experience. This may be offered through the following:

- Providing family learning courses in use of new digital technologies, digital literacy and online safety
- Online safety messages targeted towards grandparents and other relatives as well as parents.
- The school website will provide online safety information for the wider community
- Sharing their online safety expertise/good practice with other local schools

- Supporting community groups e.g. Early Years Settings, Childminders, youth/sports/voluntary groups to enhance their online safety provision (possibly supporting the group in the use of Online Compass, an online safety self-review tool for groups such as these - [www.onlinecompass.org.uk](http://www.onlinecompass.org.uk))

## Education & Training – Staff/Volunteers

It is essential that all staff receive online safety training and understand their responsibilities, as outlined in this policy. Training will be offered as follows:

- A planned programme of formal online safety training will be made available to staff. This will be regularly updated and reinforced. An audit of the online safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly. Online Safety BOOST includes unlimited online webinar training for all, or nominated, staff (<https://boost.swgfl.org.uk/>)
- All new staff should receive online safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school online safety policy and acceptable use agreements. Online Safety BOOST includes an array of presentations and resources that can be presented to new staff (<https://boost.swgfl.org.uk/>)
- It is expected that some staff will identify online safety as a training need within the performance management process.
- The Online Safety Lead (or other nominated person) will receive regular updates through attendance at external training events (e.g. from SWGfL/LA/other relevant organisations) and by reviewing guidance documents released by relevant organisations.
- This online safety policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff/team meetings/training sessions.
- The Online Safety Lead (or other nominated person) will provide advice/guidance/training to individuals as required.

## Training – Governors

**Governors should take part in online safety training/awareness sessions**, with particular importance for those who are members of any group involved in technology/online safety/health and safety /safeguarding. This may be offered in a number of ways:

- Attendance at training provided by the National Governors Association or other relevant organisation (e.g. SWGfL).
- Participation in school training/information sessions for staff or parents (this may include attendance at assemblies/lessons).

## Technical – infrastructure/equipment, filtering and monitoring

The school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure/network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that policies and procedures approved within this policy are implemented. It will also need to ensure that the relevant people named in the above sections will be effective in carrying out their online safety responsibilities:

- School technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school/academy meets recommended technical requirements
- There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school technical systems
- Servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted
- All users will have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices.
- All users (at KS3 and above) will be provided with a username and secure password by BlueCube who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames. Tutors will support users to be responsible for the security of their username and password.
- The “master/administrator” passwords for the school systems, used by the Network Manager (or other person) must also be available to the Principal or other nominated senior leader and kept in a secure place (e.g. school safe)

- The Computing teacher and BlueCube are responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations
- Internet access is filtered for all users. Illegal content (child sexual abuse images) is filtered by the broadband or filtering provider by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation CAIC list. Content lists are regularly updated and internet use is logged and regularly monitored. There is a clear process in place to deal with requests for filtering changes (see appendix for more details)
- Internet filtering/monitoring should ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet.
- The school has provided enhanced/differentiated user-level filtering
- The School Business Manager regularly monitors and record the activity of users on the school technical systems and users are made aware of this in the acceptable use agreement.
- An appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual/potential technical incident/security breach to the relevant person, as agreed.
- Appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, routers, wireless systems, work stations, mobile devices, etc. from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school systems and data. These are tested regularly. The school infrastructure and individual devices are protected by up to date virus software.
- An agreed policy is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (e.g. trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems.
- An agreed policy is in place regarding the extent of personal use that users (staff/pupils/community users) and their family members are allowed on school devices that may be used out of school.
- An agreed policy is in place that forbids staff from downloading executable files and installing programmes on school devices.
- An agreed policy is in place regarding the use of removable media (e.g. memory sticks/CDs/DVDs) by users on school devices. Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured. (see School Personal Data Policy Template in the appendix for further detail)

## **Mobile Technologies (including BYOD/BYOT)**

We do not allow pupils to bring personally owned devices for use within school, which might include: smartphone, tablet, notebook/laptop or other technology that usually has the capability of utilising the school’s wireless network.

We allow pupils to bring their mobile phones to school to utilize during their journey but they are then securely locked away.

A more detailed Mobile Technologies Policy can be found in the appendix.

- The school acceptable use agreements for staff, pupils and parents/carers will give consideration to the use of mobile technologies
- The school allows:



	School Devices			Personal Devices		
	School owned for single user	School owned for multiple users	Authorised device <sup>1</sup>	Student owned	Staff owned	Visitor owned
Allowed in school	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>
Full network access	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	No	No
Internet only			N/A	No	Yes	No
No network access						

## Use of digital and video images

The development of digital imaging technologies has created significant benefits to learning, allowing staff and students/pupils instant use of images that they have recorded themselves or downloaded from the internet. However, staff, parents/carers and pupils need to be aware of the risks associated with publishing digital images on the internet. Such images may provide avenues for online-bullying to take place. Digital images may remain available on the internet forever and may cause harm or embarrassment to individuals in the short or longer term. It is common for employers to carry out internet searches for information about potential and existing employees. The school will inform and educate users about these risks and will implement policies to reduce the likelihood of the potential for harm:

- When using digital images, staff should inform and educate pupils about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images. In particular they should recognise the risks attached to publishing their own images on the internet e.g. on social networking sites.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of students/pupils are published on the school website/social media/local press
- In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office, parents/carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use (as such use is not covered by the Data Protection Act). To respect everyone's privacy and in some cases protection, these images should not be published/made publicly available on social networking sites, nor should parents/carers comment on any activities involving other pupils in the digital/video images.
- Staff and volunteers are allowed to take digital/video images to support educational aims, but must follow school policies concerning the sharing, distribution and publication of those images. Those images should only be taken on school equipment; the personal equipment of staff should not be used for such purposes.
- Care should be taken when taking digital/video images that pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.
- Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs.
- Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the pupil and parents or carers.

<sup>1</sup> Authorised device – purchased by the pupil/family through a school-organised scheme. This device may be given full access to the network as if it were owned by the school.

<sup>2</sup> The school should add below any specific requirements about the use of mobile/personal devices in school

## Data Protection

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the current data protection legislation.

### The school must ensure that:

- it has a Data Protection Policy. (see appendix for template policy)
- it implements the data protection principles and is able to demonstrate that it does so through use of policies, notices and records.
- it has paid the appropriate fee Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and included details of the Data Protection Officer (DPO).
- it has appointed an appropriate Data Protection Officer (DPO) who has a high level of understanding of data protection law and is free from any conflict of interest. The school may also wish to appoint a Data Manager and Systems Controllers to support the DPO
- it has an 'information asset register' in place and knows exactly what personal data it holds, where this data is held, why and which member of staff has responsibility for managing it
- the information asset register records the lawful basis for processing personal data (including, where relevant, how consent was obtained and refreshed). Where special category data is processed, an additional lawful basis will have also been recorded
- it will hold only the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and it will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for. The school should develop and implement a 'retention policy' to ensure there are clear and understood policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data to support this. personal data held must be accurate and up to date where this is necessary for the purpose it is processed for. Have systems in place to identify inaccuracies, such as asking parents to check emergency contact details at suitable intervals
- it provides staff, parents, volunteers, teenagers and older children with information about how the school looks after their data and what their rights are in a clear Privacy Notice (see Privacy Notice section in the appendix)
- procedures must be in place to deal with the individual rights of the data subject, e.g. one of the 8 data subject rights applicable is that of Subject Access which enables an individual to see to have a copy of the personal data held about them (subject to certain exceptions which may apply).
- data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) are carried out where necessary. For example, to ensure protection of personal data when accessed using any remote access solutions, or entering into a relationship with a new supplier (this may also require ensuring that data processing clauses are included in the supply contract or as an addendum)
- IT system security is ensured and regularly checked. Patches and other security essential updates are applied promptly to protect the personal data on the systems. Administrative systems are securely ring fenced from systems accessible in the classroom/to learners
- it has undertaken appropriate due diligence and has required data processing clauses in contracts in place with any data processors where personal data is processed.
- it understands how to share data lawfully and safely with other relevant data controllers.
- it [reports any relevant breaches to the Information Commissioner](#) within 72hrs of becoming aware of the breach in accordance with UK data protection law. It also reports relevant breaches to the individuals affected as required by law. In order to do this, it has a policy for reporting, logging, managing, investigating and learning from information risk incidents.

- If a maintained school/academy, it must have a Freedom of Information Policy which sets out how it will deal with FOI requests.
- all staff receive data protection training at induction and appropriate refresher training thereafter. Staff undertaking particular data protection functions, such as handling requests under the individual's rights, will receive training appropriate for their function as well as the core training provided to all staff.

**When personal data is stored on any mobile device or removable media the:**

- data must be encrypted and password protected.
- device must be password protected.
- device must be protected by up to date virus and malware checking software
- data must be securely deleted from the device, in line with school policy (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete.

**Staff must ensure that they:**

- at all times take care to ensure the safe keeping of personal data, minimising the risk of its loss or misuse
- can recognise a possible breach, understand the need for urgency and know who to report it to within the school
- can help data subjects understand their rights and know how to handle a request whether verbal or written. Know who to pass it to in the school
- where personal data is stored or transferred on mobile or other devices (including USBs) these must be encrypted and password protected.
- will not transfer any school personal data to personal devices except as in line with school policy
- access personal data sources and records only on secure password protected computers and other devices, ensuring that they are properly "logged-off" at the end of any session in which they are using personal data

## Communications

A wide range of rapidly developing communications technologies has the potential to enhance learning. The following table shows how the school currently considers the benefit of using these technologies for education outweighs their risks/disadvantages:

Communication Technologies	Staff & other adults				Students/Pupils			
	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed for selected staff	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed with staff permission	Not allowed
Mobile phones may be brought to the school		X				X		
Use of mobile phones in lessons				X				X
Use of mobile phones in social time				X				X
Taking photos on mobile phones/cameras				X				X
Use of other mobile devices e.g. tablets, gaming devices				X			X	
Use of personal email addresses in school, or on school network				X				X
Use of school email for personal emails				X				X
Use of messaging apps				X				X
Use of social media			X					X
XUse of blogs				X				X

When using communication technologies, the school considers the following as good practice:

- The official school email service may be regarded as safe and secure and is monitored. Users should be aware that email communications are monitored. Staff and pupils should therefore use only the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or on school systems (e.g. by remote access).
- Users must immediately report, to the nominated person – in accordance with the school policy, the receipt of any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, discriminatory, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such communication.
- Any digital communication between staff and pupils or parents/carers (email, social media, chat, blogs, VLE etc) must be professional in tone and content. These communications may only take place on official (monitored) school systems. Personal email addresses, text messaging or social media must not be used for these communications.
- Pupils should be taught about online safety issues, such as the risks attached to the sharing of personal details. They should also be taught strategies to deal with inappropriate communications and be reminded of the need to communicate appropriately when using digital technologies.

- Personal information should not be posted on the school website and only official email addresses should be used to identify members of staff.

## Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity

With an increase in use of all types of social media for professional and personal purposes a policy that sets out clear guidance for staff to manage risk and behaviour online is essential. Expectations for teachers' professional conduct are set out in 'Teachers Standards 2012'. Ofsted's online safety inspection framework reviews how a school protects and educates staff and pupils in their use of technology, including the measures that would be expected to be in place to intervene and support should a particular issue arise. Schools are increasingly using social media as a powerful learning tool and means of communication. It is important that this is carried out in a safe and responsible way.

The Social Media Policy can be found in the appendix.

All schools have a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for pupils and staff. Schools could be held responsible, indirectly for acts of their employees in the course of their employment. Staff members who harass, engage in online bullying, discriminate on the grounds of sex, race or disability or who defame a third party may render the school or ICAN liable to the injured party. Reasonable steps to prevent predictable harm must be in place.

The school provides the following measures to ensure reasonable steps are in place to minimise risk of harm to pupils, staff and the school through:

- Ensuring that personal information is not published
- Training is provided including: acceptable use; social media risks; checking of settings; data protection; reporting issues.
- Clear reporting guidance, including responsibilities, procedures and sanctions
- Risk assessment, including legal risk

School staff should ensure that:

- No reference should be made in social media to pupils, parents/carers or school staff
- They do not engage in online discussion on personal matters relating to members of the school community
- Personal opinions should not be attributed to the school or ICAN
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information

**When official school social media accounts are established there should be:**

- A process for approval by senior leaders
- Clear processes for the administration and monitoring of these accounts – involving at least two members of staff
- A code of behaviour for users of the accounts, including
- Systems for reporting and dealing with abuse and misuse
- Understanding of how incidents may be dealt with under school/academy disciplinary procedures

**Personal Use:**

- Personal communications are those made via a personal social media accounts. In all cases, where a personal account is used which associates itself with the school or impacts on the school, it must be made clear that the member of staff is not communicating on behalf of the school with an appropriate disclaimer. Such personal communications are within the scope of this policy
- Personal communications which do not refer to or impact upon the school are outside the scope of this policy
- Where excessive personal use of social media in school is suspected, and considered to be interfering with relevant duties, disciplinary action may be taken
- The school permits reasonable and appropriate access to private social media sites

### Monitoring of Public Social Media:

- As part of active social media engagement, it is considered good practice to pro-actively monitor the Internet for public postings about the school
- The school should effectively respond to social media comments made by others according to a defined policy or process

The school's use of social media for professional purposes will be checked regularly by the senior risk officer and Online Safety Group to ensure compliance with the school policies.

## Dealing with unsuitable/inappropriate activities

Some internet activity e.g. accessing child abuse images or distributing racist material is illegal and would obviously be banned from school and all other technical systems. Other activities e.g. cyber-bullying would be banned and could lead to criminal prosecution. There are however a range of activities which may, generally, be legal but would be inappropriate in a school context, either because of the age of the users or the nature of those activities.

The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in/or outside the school when using school equipment or systems. The school policy restricts usage as follows:

User Actions		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for nominated users	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
Users shall not visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:	Child sexual abuse images –The making, production or distribution of indecent images of children. Contrary to The Protection of Children Act 1978					X
	N.B. Schools/academies should refer to guidance about dealing with self-generated images sexting – <a href="#">UKSIC Responding to and managing sexting incidents</a> and <a href="#">UKCIS – Sexting in schools and colleges</a>					
	Grooming, incitement, arrangement or facilitation of sexual acts against children Contrary to the Sexual Offences Act 2003.					X
	Possession of an extreme pornographic image (grossly offensive, disgusting or otherwise of an obscene character) Contrary to the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008					X
	Criminally racist material in UK – to stir up religious hatred (or hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation) - contrary to the Public Order Act 1986					X
	Pornography				X	
Promotion of any kind of discrimination				X		

threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm				X	
Promotion of extremism or terrorism				X	
Any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute				X	
<p>Activities that might be classed as cyber-crime under the Computer Misuse Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaining unauthorised access to school networks, data and files, through the use of computers/devices</li> <li>• Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files</li> <li>• Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)</li> <li>• Disable/Impair/Disrupt network functionality through the use of computers/devices</li> <li>• Using penetration testing equipment (without relevant permission)</li> </ul> <p>N.B. Schools/academies will need to decide whether these should be dealt with internally or by the police. Serious or repeat offences should be reported to the police. Under the Cyber-Prevent agenda the National Crime Agency has a remit to prevent young people becoming involved in cyber-crime and harness their activity in positive ways – further information <a href="#">here</a></p>					X
Using systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by the school/academy				X	
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial/personal information, databases, computer/network access codes and passwords)				X	
Unfair usage (downloading/uploading large files that hinders others in their use of the internet)				X	
Using school systems to run a private business				X	
Infringing copyright				X	
On-line gaming (educational)		X			
On-line gaming (non-educational)				X	
On-line gambling				X	
On-line shopping/commerce				X	
File sharing			X		
Use of social media			X		
Use of messaging apps				X	
Use of video broadcasting e.g. Youtube			X		

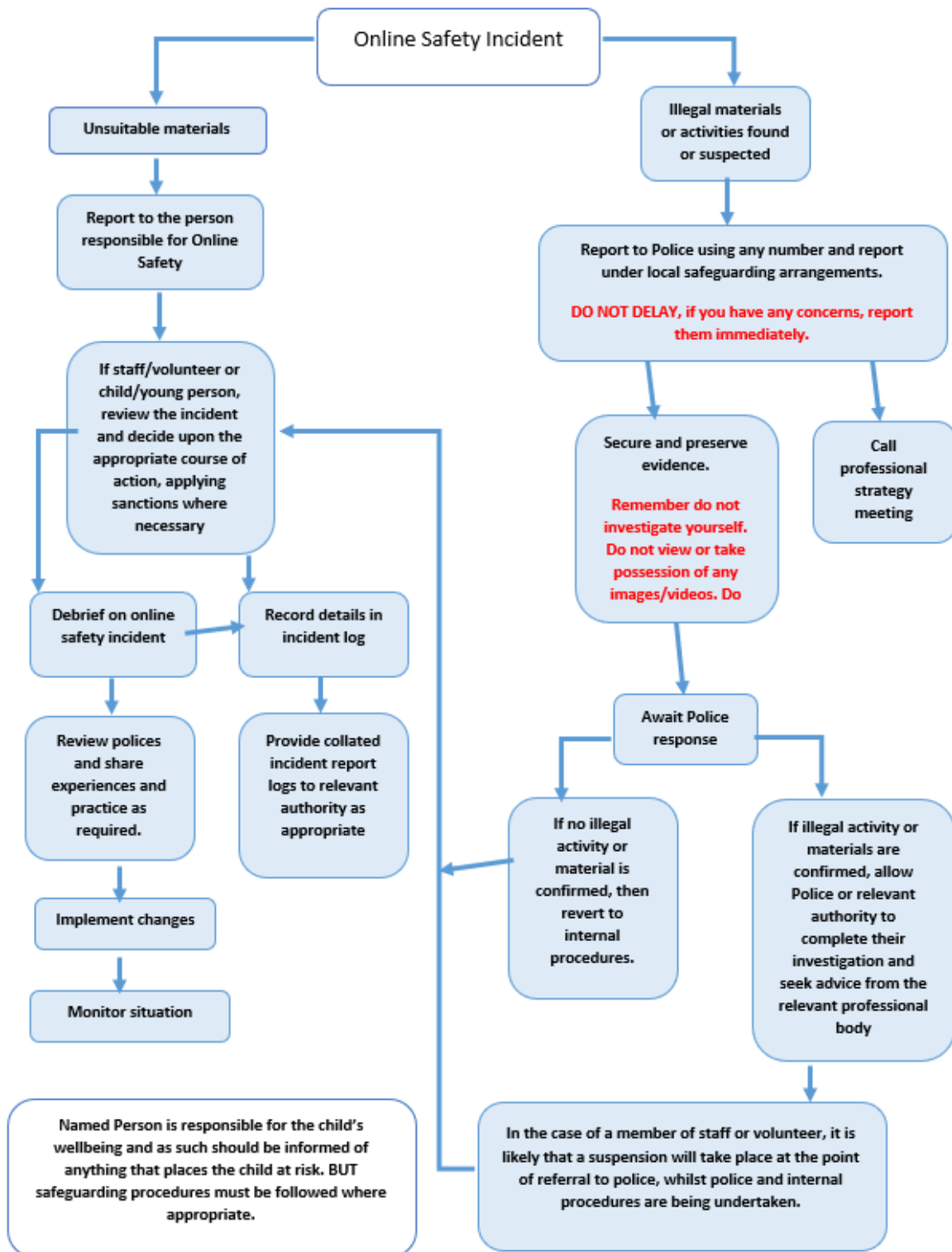
## Responding to incidents of misuse

This guidance is intended for use when staff need to manage incidents that involve the use of online services. It encourages a safe and secure approach to the management of the incident. Incidents might involve illegal or inappropriate activities (see "User Actions" above).



# Illegal Incidents

If there is any suspicion that the web site(s) concerned may contain child abuse images, or if there is any other suspected illegal activity, refer to the right hand side of the Flowchart (below and appendix) for responding to online safety incidents and report immediately to the police.



## Other Incidents

It is hoped that all members of the school community will be responsible users of digital technologies, who understand and follow school policy. However, there may be times when infringements of the policy could take place, through careless or irresponsible or, very rarely, through deliberate misuse.

**In the event of suspicion, all steps in this procedure should be followed:**

- Have more than one senior member of staff involved in this process. This is vital to protect individuals if accusations are subsequently reported.
- Conduct the procedure using a designated computer that will not be used by young people and if necessary can be taken off site by the police should the need arise. Use the same computer for the duration of the procedure.
- It is important to ensure that the relevant staff should have appropriate internet access to conduct the procedure, but also that the sites and content visited are closely monitored and recorded (to provide further protection).
- Record the URL of any site containing the alleged misuse and describe the nature of the content causing concern. It may also be necessary to record and store screenshots of the content on the machine being used for investigation. These may be printed, signed and attached to the form (except in the case of images of child sexual abuse – see below)
- Once this has been completed and fully investigated the group will need to judge whether this concern has substance or not. If it does, then appropriate action will be required and could include the following:
  - Internal response or discipline procedures
  - Involvement by ICAN
  - Police involvement and/or action
- **If content being reviewed includes images of child abuse, then the monitoring should be halted and referred to the Police immediately. Other instances to report to the police would include:**
  - incidents of 'grooming' behaviour
  - the sending of obscene materials to a child
  - adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
  - criminally racist material
  - promotion of terrorism or extremism
  - offences under the Computer Misuse Act (see User Actions chart above)
  - other criminal conduct, activity or materials
- **Isolate the computer in question as best you can. Any change to its state may hinder a later police investigation.**

It is important that all of the above steps are taken as they will provide an evidence trail for the school and possibly the police and demonstrate that visits to these sites were carried out for safeguarding purposes. The completed form should be retained by the group for evidence and reference purposes.

## School actions & sanctions

It is more likely that the school will need to deal with incidents that involve inappropriate rather than illegal misuse. It is important that any incidents are dealt with as soon as possible in a proportionate manner, and that members of the school community are aware that incidents have been dealt with. It is intended that incidents of misuse will be dealt with through normal behaviour/disciplinary procedures as follows:

## Actions/Sanctions

Students/Pupils Incidents	Refer to class teacher/tutor	Refer to Head of Department/Year/other	Refer to Principal	Refer to Police	Refer to technical support staff for action re filtering/security etc.	Inform parents/carers	Removal of network/internet access rights	Warning	Further sanction e.g. detention/exclusion
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable/inappropriate activities).		X	X	X		X	X	X	
Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons	X	X							
Unauthorised/inappropriate use of mobile phone/digital camera/other mobile device	X	X	X			X			
Unauthorised/inappropriate use of social media/messaging apps/personal email		X	X		X	X	X		
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files	X	X			X				
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords	X	X	X				X		
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another pupil's account	X	X	X			X			
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using the account of a member of staff	X	X	X			X			
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users	X	X	X			X			
Sending an email, text or message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	X	X	X			X	X		
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions		X	X			X	X	X	X
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school		X	X	X		X	X	X	
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system			X		X	X	X		

Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident			X	X	X	X	X		
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material			X	X			X	X	X
Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the Data Protection Act			X		X	X	X	X	

**Actions/Sanctions**

**Staff Incidents**

	Refer to line manager	Refer to Principal	Refer to ICAN/HR	Refer to Police	Refer to Technical Support	Staff for action re filtering etc.	Warning	Suspension	Disciplinary action
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable/inappropriate activities).		X	X	X			X	X	X
Inappropriate personal use of the internet/social media/personal email	X	X							
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files	X	X							
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords or attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another person's account	X	X			X				
Careless use of personal data e.g. holding or transferring data in an insecure manner	X				X				
Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules	X	X	X				X		
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software	X	X	X						
Sending an email, text or message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	X	X	X	X			x		x

Using personal email/social networking/instant messaging/text messaging to carrying out digital communications with pupils		X	X			X		
Actions which could compromise the staff member's professional standing		X	X			X		X
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school		X	X			X	X	X
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system		X			X			
Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident		X	X		X	X		
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material		X	X	X		X	X	X
Breaching copyright or licensing regulations		X	X			X		
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions		X	X	X		X	X	X

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# Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement – for older pupils

## School policy

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within schools and outside school. These technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe access to these digital technologies.

## This acceptable use agreement is intended to ensure:

- that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other digital technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and will have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the pupils to agree to be responsible users.

## Acceptable Use Agreement

I understand that I must use school systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the systems and other users.

## For my own personal safety:

- I understand that the school will monitor my use of the systems, devices and digital communications.
- I will keep my username and password safe and secure – I will not share it, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.
- I will be aware of "stranger danger", when I am communicating on-line.
- I will not disclose or share personal information about myself or others when on-line (this could include names, addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers, age, gender, educational details, financial details etc.)
- If I arrange to meet people off-line that I have communicated with on-line, I will do so in a public place and take an adult with me.
- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it on-line.

## I understand that everyone has equal rights to use technology as a resource and:

- I understand that the school systems and devices are primarily intended for educational use and that I will not use them for personal or recreational use unless I have permission.
- I will not try (unless I have permission) to make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
- I will not use the school systems or devices for on-line gaming, on-line gambling, internet shopping, file sharing, or video broadcasting (e.g. YouTube).

## I will act as I expect others to act toward me:

- I will respect others' work and property and will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without the owner's knowledge and permission.
- I will be polite and responsible when I communicate with others, I will not use strong, aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will not take or distribute images of anyone without their permission.

## I recognise that the school has a responsibility to maintain the security and integrity of the technology it offers me and to ensure the smooth running of the school:

- I will follow the mobile devices policy

- I understand the risks and will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others, nor will I try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.
- I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless I know and trust the person/organisation who sent the email, or if I have any concerns about the validity of the email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes)
- I will not install or attempt to install or store programmes of any type on any school device, nor will I try to alter computer settings.

**When using the internet for research or recreation, I recognise that:**

- I should ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not try to download copies (including music and videos)
- When I am using the internet to find information, I should take care to check that the information that I access is accurate, as I understand that the work of others may not be truthful and may be a deliberate attempt to mislead me.

**I understand that I am responsible for my actions, both in and out of school:**

- I understand that the school also has the right to take action against me if I am involved in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, that are covered in this agreement, when I am out of school and where they involve my membership of the school community (examples would be online-bullying, use of images or personal information).
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this acceptable use agreement, I may be subject to disciplinary action. This could include loss of access to the school network/internet, detentions, suspensions, contact with parents and in the event of illegal activities involvement of the police.

Please complete the sections on the next page to show that you have read, understood and agree to the rules included in the acceptable use agreement. If you do not sign and return this agreement, access will not be granted to school systems and devices.

**Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement Form**

This form relates to the pupil acceptable use agreement; to which it is attached.

Please complete the sections below to show that you have read, understood and agree to the rules included in the acceptable use agreement. If you do not sign and return this agreement, access will not be granted to school systems.

I have read and understand the above and agree to follow these guidelines when:

- I use the school systems and devices (both in and out of school)
- I use my own devices in the school (when allowed) e.g. mobile phones, gaming devices USB devices, cameras etc.

Name of Pupil: .....

Group/Class: .....

Signed: .....

Date: .....



## Student/Pupil Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

This is how we stay safe when we use computers:

- I will ask a teacher or suitable adult if I want to use the computers/tablets
- I will only use activities that a teacher or suitable adult has told or allowed me to use
- I will take care of computers/tablets and other equipment
- I will ask for help from a teacher or suitable adult if I am not sure what to do or if I think I have done something wrong
- I will tell a teacher or suitable adult if I see something that upsets me on the screen
- I know that if I break the rules I might not be allowed to use a computer/tablet

Signed (child): .....

Signed (parent): .....

## Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within schools and outside school. These technologies provide powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. They can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

### This acceptable use policy is intended to ensure:

- that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that parents and carers are aware of the importance of online safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people with regard to their on-line behaviour.

The school will try to ensure that pupils will have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the pupils to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the pupil acceptable use agreement is attached to this permission form, so that parents/carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.

Parents are requested to sign the permission form below to show their support of the school in this important aspect of the school's work.

### Permission Form

Parent/Carers Name: .....

Pupil Name: .....

As the parent/carers of the above pupil, I give permission for my son/daughter to have access to the internet and to ICT systems at school.

I know that my son/daughter has signed an acceptable use agreement and has received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

I understand that the school has discussed the acceptable use agreement with my son/daughter and that they have received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that my son's/daughter's activity on the systems will be monitored and that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the acceptable use agreement.

I will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home and will inform the school if I have concerns over my child's online safety.

This form is available in both printed and online form
The form will be stored with the pupil records and available only to a limited number of admin and senior staff.
This form will be stored in line with current guidance for the keeping of pupil records
This form will be destroyed in accordance with the school GDPR policy

Signed: .....

Date: .....

### Use of Digital/Video Images

The use of digital/video images plays an important part in learning activities. Pupils and members of staff may use digital cameras to record evidence of activities in lessons and out of school. These images may then be used in presentations in subsequent lessons.

Images may also be used to celebrate success through their publication in newsletters, on the school website and occasionally in the public media. Where an image is publicly shared by any means, only your child's initials will be used.

The school will comply with the Data Protection Act and request parent's/carers permission before taking images of members of the school. We will also ensure that when images are published that the young people cannot be identified by the use of their names.

In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office, parents/carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use (as such use is not covered by the Data Protection Act). To respect everyone's privacy and in some cases protection, these images should not be published/made publicly available on social networking sites, nor should parents/carers comment on any activities involving other pupils in the digital/video images.

### Digital/Video Images Permission Form

Parent/Carers Name:.....Student/Pupil Name:.....

As the parent/carer of the above student/pupil, I agree to the school taking digital/video images of my child/children.	Yes/No
I agree to these images being used:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to support learning activities.</li> </ul>	Yes/No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>in publicity that reasonably celebrates success and promotes the work of the school.</li> </ul>	Yes/No
Insert statements here that explicitly detail where images are published by the school/academy	Yes/No
I agree that if I take digital or video images at, or of school events which include images of children, other than my own, I will abide by these guidelines in my use of these images.	Yes/No

Signed: .....

Date: .....

## Use of Cloud Systems Permission Form

The school uses Office 365 for pupils and staff. This permission form describes the tools and pupil responsibilities for using these services.

The following services are available to each pupil as part of the school's online presence in Office 365

Using Office 365 will enable your child to collaboratively create, edit and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other pupils and members of staff. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any internet-connected computer.

The school believes that use of the tools significantly adds to your child's educational experience.

Do you consent to your child to having access to this service? Yes/No

Student/Pupil Name: .....Parent/Carers Name:.....

Signed: .....Date: .....

## Student/Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement

On the following pages we have copied, for the information of parents and carers, the student/pupil acceptable use agreement.

# Staff (and Volunteer) Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Template

## School Policy

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools/academies and in their lives outside school. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. They also bring opportunities for staff to be more creative and productive in their work. All users should have an entitlement to safe access to the internet and digital technologies at all times.

### **This acceptable use policy is intended to ensure:**

- that staff and volunteers will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that staff are protected from potential risk in their use of technology in their everyday work.

The school will try to ensure that staff and volunteers will have good access to digital technology to enhance their work, to enhance learning opportunities for pupils learning and will, in return, expect staff and volunteers to agree to be responsible users.

## Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

I understand that I must use school systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the systems and other users. I recognise the value of the use of digital technology for enhancing learning and will ensure that pupils receive opportunities to gain from the use of digital technology. I will, where possible, educate the young people in my care in the safe use of digital technology and embed online safety in my work with young people.

### **For my professional and personal safety:**

- I understand that the school will monitor my use of the school digital technology and communications systems.
- I understand that the rules set out in this agreement also apply to use of these technologies (e.g. laptops, email, VLE etc.) out of school, and to the transfer of personal data (digital or paper based) out of school
- I understand that the school digital technology systems are primarily intended for educational use and that I will only use the systems for personal or recreational use within the policies and rules set down by the school.
- I will not disclose my username or password to anyone else, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.
- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident, I become aware of, to the appropriate person.

### **I will be professional in my communications and actions when using school systems:**

- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without their express permission.
- I will communicate with others in a professional manner, I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will ensure that when I take and/or publish images of others I will do so with their permission and in accordance with the school's policy on the use of digital/video images. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images. Where these images are published (e.g. on the school website) it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured.
- I will only communicate with students/pupils and parents/carers using official school systems. Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner

- I will not engage in any on-line activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.

**The school and the local authority have the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the *school/academy*:**

- When I use my mobile devices in school, I will follow the rules set out in the mobile device policy.
- I will not use personal email addresses on the school/academy ICT systems.
- I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted, or if I have any concerns about the validity of the email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes)
- I will ensure that my data is regularly backed up, in accordance with relevant school policies.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, terrorist or extremist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will not try (unless I have permission) to make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings.
- I will not disable or cause any damage to school equipment, or the equipment belonging to others.
- I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the School Personal Data Policy (or other relevant policy). Where digital personal data is transferred outside the secure local network, it must be encrypted. Paper based documents containing personal data must be held in lockable storage.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or pupil data to which I have access, will be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by school policy to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.

**When using the internet in my professional capacity or for school sanctioned personal use:**

- I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).

**I understand that I am responsible for my actions in and out of the school:**

- I understand that this acceptable use policy applies not only to my work and use of school digital technology equipment in school, but also applies to my use of school systems and equipment off the premises and my use of personal equipment on the premises or in situations related to my employment by the school
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this acceptable use agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors and/or ICAN and in the event of illegal activities the involvement of the police.

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the school digital technology systems (both in and out of school) and my own devices (in school and when carrying out communications related to the school) within these guidelines.

Staff/Volunteer Name: .....

Signed: .....

Date: .....

# Acceptable Use Agreement for Community Users Template

This acceptable use agreement is intended to ensure:

- that community users of school digital technologies will be responsible users and stay safe while using these systems and devices
- that school systems, devices and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that users are protected from potential harm in their use of these systems and devices

## Acceptable Use Agreement

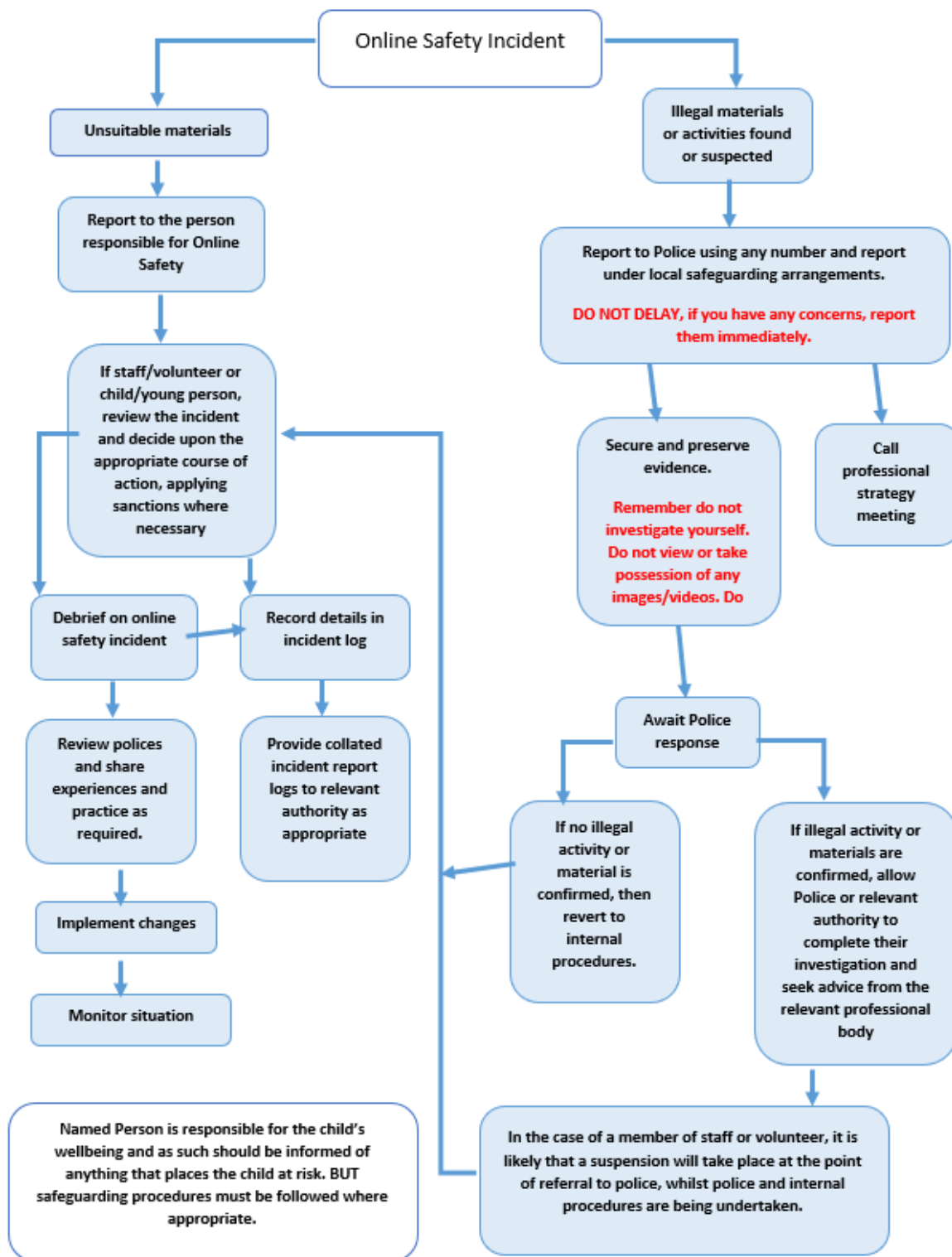
I understand that I must use school systems and devices in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the systems, devices and other users. This agreement will also apply to any personal devices that I bring into the school:

- I understand that my use of school systems and devices will be monitored
- I will not use a personal device that I have brought into school for any activity that would be inappropriate in a school setting.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, terrorist and extremist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident, I become aware of, to the appropriate person.
- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without permission.
- I will ensure that if I take and/or publish images of others I will only do so with their permission. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images, without permission. If images are published it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured.
- I will not publish or share any information I have obtained whilst in the school on any personal website, social networking site or through any other means, unless I have permission from the school.
- I will not, without permission, make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a school device, nor will I try to alter computer settings, unless I have permission to do so.
- I will not disable or cause any damage to school equipment, or the equipment belonging to others.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.
- I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this acceptable use agreement, the school has the right to remove my access to school systems/devices

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the school digital technology systems (both in and out of school) and my own devices (in school and when carrying out communications related to the school) within these guidelines.

Name: .....Signed: .....Date:.....

# Responding to incidents of misuse – flow chart





# Record of reviewing devices/internet sites (responding to incidents of misuse)

Group: .....  
Date: .....  
Reason for investigation: .....  
.....  
.....

## Details of first reviewing person

Name: .....  
Position: .....  
Signature: .....

## Details of second reviewing person

Name: .....  
Position: .....  
Signature: .....

## Name and location of computer used for review (for web sites)

.....  
.....

Web site(s) address/device	Reason for concern

## Conclusion and Action proposed or taken


# Reporting Log

Group: .....

Date	Time	Incident	Action Taken		Incident Reported By	Signature
			What?	By Whom?		

# Training Needs Audit Log

Group: .....

Relevant training the last 12 months	Identified Training Need	To be met by	Cost	Review Date

# School Technical Security Policy (including filtering and passwords)

## Introduction

Effective technical security depends not only on technical measures, but also on appropriate policies and procedures and on good user education and training. The school will be responsible for ensuring that the *school infrastructure/network* is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that:

- users can only access data to which they have right of access
- no user should be able to access another's files (other than that allowed for monitoring purposes within the school's policies).
- access to personal data is securely controlled in line with the school's personal data policy
- logs are maintained of access by users and of their actions while users of the system
- there is effective guidance and training for users
- there are regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school computer systems
- there is oversight from senior leaders and these have impact on policy and practice.

## Responsibilities

The management of technical security will be the responsibility of (insert title) (schools/academies will probably choose the Network Manager/Technical Staff/Head of Computing or other relevant responsible person)

## Technical Security

### Policy statements

The school/academy will be responsible for ensuring that their infrastructure/network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that policies and procedures approved within this policy are implemented. It will also need to ensure that the relevant people receive guidance and training and will be effective in carrying out their responsibilities:

- school/academy technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school/academy meets recommended technical requirements (if not managed by the Local Authority, these may be outlined in Local Authority/other relevant body technical/online safety policy and guidance)
- there will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school/academy technical systems
- servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted
- appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, switches, routers, wireless systems, work stations, mobile devices etc from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school/academy systems and data
- responsibilities for the management of technical security are clearly assigned to appropriate and well trained staff (this may be at school/academy, local authority or managed provider level)
- all users will have clearly defined access rights to school/academy technical systems. *Details of the access rights available to groups of users will be recorded by the network manager/technical staff/other person and will be reviewed, at least annually, by the online safety group.*
- users will be made responsible for the security of their username and password, must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security (*see password section below*)
- Blue Cube and the SBM is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations (Inadequate licencing could cause the school/academy to breach the Copyright Act which could result in fines or unexpected licensing costs)
- *mobile device security and management procedures are in place* (where mobile devices are allowed access to school/academy systems). (schools/colleges may wish to add details of the mobile device security procedures that are in use).

- *school/academy/local authority/managed service provider/technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school/academy technical systems and users are made aware of this in the acceptable use agreement. (schools/colleges may wish to add details of the monitoring programmes that are used)*
- *remote management tools are used by staff to control workstations and view users activity*
- *an appropriate system is in place (to be described) for users to report any actual/potential technical incident to the online safety co-ordinator/network manager/technician (or other relevant person, as agreed)*
- *an agreed policy is in place (to be described) for the provision of temporary access of “guests”, (e.g. trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school/academy system*
- *an agreed policy is in place (to be described) regarding the downloading of executable files and the installation of programmes on school/academy devices by users*
- *an agreed policy is in place (to be described) regarding the extent of personal use that users (staff/learners/community users) and their family members are allowed on school/academy devices that may be used out of school/academy*
- *an agreed policy is in place (to be described) regarding the use of removable media (e.g. memory sticks/CDs/DVDs) by users on school/academy devices (see school/academy personal data policy template in the appendix for further detail)*
- *the school/academy infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up to date software to protect against malicious threats from viruses, worms, trojans etc.*
- *personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school/academy site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured. (see school/academy personal data policy template in the appendix for further detail)*

## Password Security

A safe and secure username/password system is essential if the above is to be established and will apply to all school/academy technical systems, including networks, devices, email and learning platform). You can find out more about passwords, why they are important and how to manage them in our blog article. You may wish to share this with staff members to help explain the significance of passwords as this is helpful in explaining why they are necessary and important. Where sensitive data is in use – particularly when accessed on mobile devices – schools/academies may wish to use more secure forms of authentication e.g. two factor authentication.

Further guidance can be found from the [National Cyber Security Centre](#) and [SWGfL “Why password security is important”](#)

## Policy Statements:

- These statements apply to all users.
- All school/academy networks and systems will be protected by secure passwords.
- All users have clearly defined access rights to school/academy technical systems and devices. Details of the access rights available to groups of users will be recorded by the Network Manager (or other person) and will be reviewed, at least annually, by the online safety group (or other group).
- All users (adults and students/pupils) have responsibility for the security of their username and password, must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security.
- Passwords must not be shared with anyone.
- All users will be provided with a username and password by Blue Cube and School IT Lead (see section on password generation in technical notes) who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames.

## Password requirements:

- Passwords should be long. Good practice highlights that passwords over 12 characters in length are considerably more difficult to compromise than shorter passwords. Passwords generated by using a combination of unconnected words that are over 16 characters long are extremely difficult to crack. Password length trumps any other special requirements such as uppercase/lowercase letters, number and special characters. Passwords should be easy to remember, but difficult to guess or crack.

- Passwords should be different for different accounts, to ensure that other systems are not put at risk if one is compromised and should be different for systems used inside and outside of school/academy
- Passwords must not include names or any other personal information about the user that might be known by others
- Passwords must be changed on first login to the system
- *The school/academy may wish to recommend to staff and students/pupils (depending on age) that they make use of a 'password vault' these can store passwords in an encrypted manner and can generate very difficult to crack passwords. There may be a charge for these services.*
- *Passwords should not be set to expire as long as they comply with the above, but should be unique to each service the user logs into.*

## Learner passwords:

Primary schools will need to decide at which point they will allocate individual usernames and passwords to pupils. They may choose to use class logons for Foundation Phase (though increasingly children are using their own passwords to access programmes). Schools/colleges need to be aware of the risks associated with not being able to identify any individual who may have infringed the rules set out in the policy and the acceptable use agreement (AUA). Use by students/pupils in this way should always be supervised and members of staff should never use a class log on for their own network/internet access. Schools/colleges should also consider the implications of using whole class logons when providing access to learning environments and applications, which may be used outside school/academy.

- **Records of learner usernames and passwords for foundation phase students/pupils can be kept in an electronic or paper-based form, but they must be securely kept when not required by the user.** *Password complexity in foundation phase should be reduced (for example 6-character maximum) and should not include special characters. Where external systems have different password requirements the use of random words or sentences should be encouraged.*
- Password requirements for students/pupils at Key Stage 2 and above should increase as students'/pupils progress through school/academy.
- Users will be required to change their password if it is compromised. Some schools/colleges may choose to reset passwords at the start of each academic year to avoid large numbers of forgotten password reset requests where there is no user-controlled reset process. (Note: passwords should not be regularly changed but should be secure and unique to each account.)
- Students/pupils will be taught the importance of password security, this should include how passwords are compromised, and why these password rules are important.
- Schools/colleges may wish to add to this list for all or some students/pupils any of the relevant policy statements from the staff section above.

## Notes for technical staff/teams

- Each administrator should have an individual administrator account, as well as their own user account with access levels set at an appropriate level. Consideration should also be given to using two factor authentication for such accounts.
- An administrator account password for the school/academy systems should also be kept in a secure place e.g. school/academy safe. This account and password should only be used to recover or revoke access. Other administrator accounts should not have the ability to delete this account. (A school/academy should never allow one user to have sole administrator access)
- Any digitally stored administrator passwords should be hashed using a suitable algorithm for storing passwords (e.g. Bcrypt or Scrypt). Message Digest algorithms such as MD5, SHA1, SHA256 etc. should not be used.
- *It is good practice that where passwords are used there is a user-controlled password reset process to enable independent, but secure re-entry to the system. This ensures that only the owner has knowledge of the password.*
- *Where user-controlled reset is not possible, passwords for new users, and replacement passwords for existing users will be allocated by School Digital Lead (schools/colleges may wish to have someone other than the*

school's/college's technical staff carrying out this role e.g. an administrator who is easily accessible to users). *Good practice is that the password generated by this change process should be system generated and only known to the user. This password should be temporary and the user should be forced to change their password on first login. The generated passwords should also be long and random.*

- *Where automatically generated passwords are not possible, then a good password generator should be used by School Digital Lead to provide the user with their initial password. There should be a process for the secure transmission of this password to limit knowledge to the password creator and the user. The password should be temporary and the user should be forced to change their password on the first login.*
- *Requests for password changes should be authenticated by School Digital Lead to ensure that the new password can only be passed to the genuine user (the school/academy will need to decide how this can be managed – possibly by requests being authorised by a line manager for a request by a member of staff or by a member of staff for a request by a learner)*
- *Suitable arrangements should be in place to provide visitors with appropriate access to systems which expires after use. (For example, your technical team may provide pre-created user/password combinations that can be allocated to visitors, recorded in a log, and deleted from the system after use.)*
- *In good practice, the account is “locked out” following six successive incorrect log-on attempts.*
- *Passwords shall not be displayed on screen, and shall be securely hashed when stored (use of one-way encryption).*

## Training/Awareness:

It is essential that users should be made aware of the need for keeping passwords secure, and the risks attached to unauthorised access/data loss. This should apply to even the youngest of users. It is also essential that users be taught how passwords are compromised, so they understand why things should be done a certain way. Please see our blog for more details on this.

### Members of staff will be made aware of the school/academy's password policy:

- at induction
- through the school/academy's online safety policy and password security policy
- through the acceptable use agreement

### Students/pupils will be made aware of the school's/college's password policy:

- in lessons ([the school/academy should describe how this will take place](#))
- through the acceptable use agreement

### Audit/Monitoring/Reporting/Review:

The responsible person ([insert title](#)) will ensure that full records are kept of:

- User Ids and requests for password changes
- *User logons*
- *Security incidents related to this policy*

## Filtering

### Introduction

The filtering of internet content provides an important means of preventing users from accessing material that is illegal or is inappropriate in an educational context. The filtering system cannot, however, provide a 100% guarantee that it will do so, because the content on the web changes dynamically and new technologies are constantly being developed. It is important, therefore, to understand that filtering is only one element in a larger strategy for online safety and acceptable use. It is important that the school has a filtering policy to manage the associated risks and to provide preventative measures which are relevant to the situation in this school.

Many users are not aware of the flexibility provided by many filtering services at a local level for schools/academies. Where available, schools/academies should use this flexibility to meet their learning needs and reduce some of the frustrations occasionally felt by users who wish to maximise the use of the new technologies.

Schools/academies need to consider carefully the issues raised and decide:

- Whether they will use the provided filtering service without change or to allow flexibility for sites to be added or removed from the filtering list for their organisation
- Whether to introduce differentiated filtering for different groups/ages of users
- Whether to remove filtering controls for some internet use (e.g. social networking sites) at certain times of the day or for certain users
- Who has responsibility for such decisions and the checks and balances put in place
- What other system and user monitoring systems will be used to supplement the filtering system and how these will be used

DfE Keeping Learners Safe in Education requires schools to have “appropriate filtering”. Guidance can be found on the UK Safer Internet Centre site.

Schools may wish to test their filtering for protection against illegal materials at: SWGfL Test Filtering

## Responsibilities

The responsibility for the management of the school's filtering policy will be held by (insert title). They will manage the school filtering, in line with this policy and will keep records/logs of changes and of breaches of the filtering systems.

To ensure that there is a system of checks and balances and to protect those responsible, changes to the school filtering service must:

- be logged in change control logs
- be reported to a second responsible person SBM

All users have a responsibility to report immediately to SBM any infringements of the school's filtering policy of which they become aware or any sites that are accessed, which they believe should have been filtered.

Users must not attempt to use any programmes or software that might allow them to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.

## Policy Statements

Internet access is filtered for all users. Differentiated internet access is available for staff and customised filtering changes are managed by the school. Illegal content is filtered by the broadband or filtering provider by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation CAIC list and other illegal content lists. Filter content lists are regularly updated and internet use is logged and frequently monitored. The monitoring process alerts the school to breaches of the filtering policy, which are then acted upon. There is a clear route for reporting and managing changes to the filtering system. Where personal mobile devices are allowed internet access through the school network, filtering will be applied that is consistent with school practice.

- *Either - The school/academy maintains and supports the managed filtering service provided by the Internet Service Provider (or other filtering service provider)*
- *Or - The school/academy manages its own filtering service (N.B. If a school/academy decides to remove the external filtering and replace it with another internal filtering system, this should be clearly explained in the policy and evidence provided that the Headteacher/Principal would be able to show, in the event of any legal issue that the school was able to meet its statutory requirements to ensure the safety of staff/students/pupils)*
- *The school has provided enhanced/differentiated user-level filtering through the use of filtering programme. (allowing different filtering levels for different ages/stages and different groups of users – staff/pupils/students etc.)*
- *In the event of the technical staff needing to switch off the filtering for any reason, or for any user, this must be logged and carried out by a process that is agreed by the Headteacher/Principal (or other nominated senior leader).*



- *Mobile devices that access the school/academy internet connection (whether school/academy or personal devices) will be subject to the same filtering standards as other devices on the school systems*
- *Any filtering issues should be reported immediately to the filtering provider.*
- *Requests from staff for sites to be removed from the filtered list will be considered by the technical staff (SMB OR School Digital Lead) (N.B. an additional person should be nominated – to ensure protection for the Network Manager or any other member of staff, should any issues arise re unfiltered access). If the request is agreed, this action will be recorded and logs of such actions shall be reviewed regularly by the Online Safety Group.*

## Education/Training/Awareness

*Pupils/students* will be made aware of the importance of filtering systems through the online safety education programme (schools may wish to add details). They will also be warned of the consequences of attempting to subvert the filtering system.

Staff users will be made aware of the filtering systems through: [\(amend as relevant\)](#)

- the acceptable use agreement
- induction training
- staff meetings, briefings, Inset.

Parents will be informed of the school's filtering policy through the acceptable use agreement and through online safety awareness sessions/newsletter etc. (amend as relevant)

## Changes to the Filtering System

In this section the school should provide a detailed explanation of:

- how, and to whom, users may request changes to the filtering (whether this is carried out in school or by an external filtering provider)
- the grounds on which they may be allowed or denied (schools may choose to allow access to some sites e.g. social networking sites for some users, at some times, or for a limited period of time. There should be strong educational reasons for changes that are agreed).
- how a second responsible person will be involved to provide checks and balances (preferably this will be at the time of request, but could be retrospectively through inspection of records/audit of logs)
- any audit/reporting system

Users who gain access to, or have knowledge of others being able to access, sites which they feel should be filtered (or unfiltered) should report this in the first instance to SBM who will decide whether to make school level changes (as above).

## Monitoring

Some schools/academies supplement their filtering systems with additional monitoring systems. If this is the case, schools/academies should include information in this section, including – if they wish – details of internal or commercial systems that are in use. They should also ensure that users are informed that monitoring systems are in place.

No filtering system can guarantee 100% protection against access to unsuitable sites. The school will therefore monitor the activities of users on the school network and on school equipment as indicated in the school online safety policy and the acceptable use agreement.

## Audit/Reporting

Logs of filtering change controls and of filtering incidents will be made available to:

- SMB
- School Digital Lead
- the second responsible person
- Online Safety Group
- Online Safety Governor/Governors committee

- External Filtering provider/Local Authority/Police on request

The filtering policy will be reviewed in the response to the evidence provided by the audit logs of the suitability of the current provision. (The evidence might show a large number of requests to remove the filtering from sites – in which case schools might question whether their current level of filtering is too restrictive for educational purposes. Alternatively, a large number of incidents where users try to subvert the filtering system might suggest that improved monitoring/disciplinary action might be necessary).

## Further Guidance

Schools/academies may wish to seek further guidance. The following is recommended:

Schools in England (and Wales) are required “to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering” ([Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales, 2015](#)).

The Department for Education ‘[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)’ requires schools to: “ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. Children should not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material from the school or colleges IT system” however, schools will need to “be careful that “over blocking” does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.”

In response UKSIC produced guidance on – information on “[Appropriate Filtering](#)”

[Somerset Guidance for schools – questions for technical support](#) – this checklist is particularly useful where a school/academy uses external providers for its technical support/security.

SWGfL provides a site for schools to test their filtering to ensure that illegal materials cannot be accessed: [SWGfL Test Filtering](#)



# School Personal Data Advice and Guidance

## Suggestions for use

### Data Protection Law – A Legislative Context

With effect from 25th May 2018, the data protection arrangements for the UK changed following the implementation of the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This represented a significant shift in legislation and in conjunction with the Data Protection Act 2018 replaced the Data Protection Act 1998.

GDPR - As a European Regulation, the GDPR has direct effect in UK law and automatically applies in the UK until we leave the EU (or until the end of any agreed transition period, if we leave with a deal). After this date, it will form part of UK law under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, with some technical changes to make it work effectively in a UK context.

Data Protection Act 2018 – this Act sits alongside the GDPR, and tailors how the GDPR applies in the UK and provides the UK-specific details such as; how to handle education and safeguarding information.

No Deal Brexit -The Information Commissioner advises that in the event of a no- deal Brexit it is anticipated that the Government of the day will pass legislation to incorporate GDPR into UK law alongside the DPA 2018. Unless your school/academy receives personal data from contacts in the EU there will be little change save to update references to the effective legislation in privacy notices etc.

In this document the term “Data Protection Law” refers to the legislation applicable to data protection and privacy as applicable in the UK from time to time.

### Does the Data Protection Law apply to schools?

In short, yes. Any natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data is considered a ‘data controller’.

A school/academy is, for the purposes of the Data Protection Law, a “public body” and further processes the **personal data** of numerous **data subjects** on a daily basis.

Personal data is information that relates to an identified or identifiable living individual (a data subject).

Guidance for schools/academies is available on the [Information Commissioner’s Office](#) (ICO) website including information about the Data Protection Law.

The ICO’s powers are wide ranging in the event of non-compliance and schools must be aware of the huge impact that a fine or investigation will have on finances and also in the wider community for example in terms of trust.

The Data Protection Law sets out that a data controller must ensure that personal data shall be:

- a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to data subjects;
- b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;
- e) kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the

personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the Data Protection Law in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of data subjects; and

- f) processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

These principles of the Data Protection Law drive the need for the school to put in place appropriate **privacy notices** (to give a data subject information about the personal data processing activities, **legal basis of processing** and **data subject rights**) and policies (such as for reporting a breach, managing a data subject access request, training, retention etc.) to demonstrate compliance.

## Data Mapping to identify personal data, data subjects and processing activities

The school/academy and its employees will collect and/ or process a wide range of information concerning numerous data subjects and some of this information will include personal data. Further, the school/academy may need to share some personal data with third parties. To be able to demonstrate and plan compliance and it is important that the school has a **data map** of these activities; it can then make sure that the correct privacy notices are provided, put in place **security measures** to keep the personal data secure and other steps to avoid **breach** and also put in place data processing agreements with the third parties.

The data map should identify what personal data held in digital format or on paper records in a school/ academy, where it is stored, why it is processed and how long it is retained.

In a typical data map for a school the data subjects and personal data will include, but is not limited to:

- Parents, legal guardians, governors – and personal data of names, addresses, contact details
- Learners - curricular / academic data e.g. class lists, learner progress records, reports, references, contact details, health and SEN reports
- Staff and contractors - professional records e.g. employment history, taxation and national insurance records, appraisal records and references, health records

Some types of personal data are designated as '**special category**' being personal data;

"revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation"

This should be identified separately and to lawfully process special category data, you must identify both a [lawful basis](#) and a [separate condition for processing special category data](#). You should decide and document this before you start processing the data.

The school/academy will need to identify appropriate lawful process criteria for each type of personal data and if this is not possible such activities should be discontinued. The lawful processing criteria can be summarised as:

- (a) Consent: the data subject has given clear consent for you to process their personal data for a specific purpose (see below for further guidance)
- (b) Contract: the processing is necessary for a contract you have with the data subject
- (c) Legal obligation: the processing is necessary for you to comply with the law (not including contractual obligations).
- (d) Vital interests: the processing is necessary to protect someone's life.

- (e) Public task: the processing is necessary for you to perform a task in the public interest or for your official functions, and the task or function has a clear basis in law.
- (f) Legitimate interests: the processing is necessary for your legitimate interests or the legitimate interests of a third party unless there is a good reason to protect the individual's personal data which overrides those legitimate interests. (This cannot apply if you are a public authority processing data to perform your official tasks) Please also be aware that these criteria must be supported by a written legitimate interest assessment.

No single basis is 'better' or more important than the others – which basis is most appropriate to use will depend on your purpose and relationship with the data subject.

Several of the lawful purpose criteria may relate to a particular specified purpose – a legal obligation, a contract with the individual, protecting someone's vital interests, or performing your public tasks. If you are processing for these purposes then the appropriate lawful basis may well be obvious, so it is helpful to consider these first.

As a public authority, and if you can demonstrate that the processing is to perform your tasks as set down in UK law, then you are able to use the public task basis. If not, you may still be able to consider consent or legitimate interests in some cases, depending on the nature of the processing and your relationship with the data subject. There is no absolute ban on public authorities using consent or legitimate interests as their lawful basis, but the Data Protection law does restrict public authorities' use of these two criteria.

The majority of processing of personal data conducted by public authorities will fall within Article 6(1)(e) GDPR, that *"processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller"* however careful consideration must be given to any processing, especially in more novel areas. As you can see, consent is just one of several possible lawful processing criteria.

Consent has changed as a result of the GDPR and is now defined as: "in relation to the processing of personal data relating to an individual, means a freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the individual's wishes by which the individual, by a statement or by a clear affirmative action, signifies agreement to the processing of the personal data"

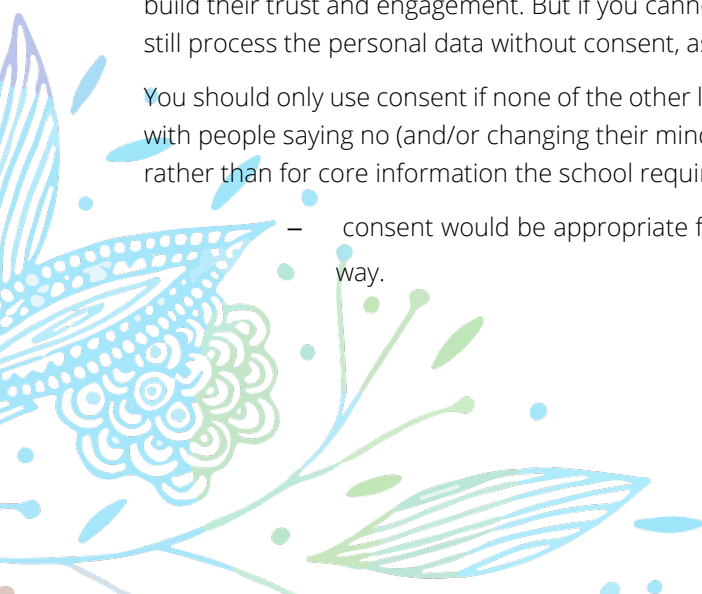
This means that where a school is relying on consent as the basis for processing personal data that consent has to be clear, meaning that pre-ticked boxes, opt-out or implied consent are no longer suitable. The GDPR does not specify an age of consent for general processing but schools/academies should consider the capacity of pupils to freely give their informed consent.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) gives clear advice on when it's appropriate to [use consent](#) as a lawful base. It states:

"Consent is appropriate if you can offer people real choice and control over how you use their data and want to build their trust and engagement. But if you cannot offer a genuine choice, consent is not appropriate. If you would still process the personal data without consent, asking for consent is misleading and inherently unfair."

You should only use consent if none of the other lawful bases is appropriate. If you do so, you must be able to cope with people saying no (and/or changing their minds), so it's important that you only use consent for optional extras, rather than for core information the school requires in order to function. Examples;

- consent would be appropriate for considering whether a child's photo could be published in any way.



- if your school requires learner details to be stored in an MIS, it would not be appropriate to rely on consent if the learner cannot opt out of this. In this case, you could apply the public task lawful base.

## Content of Privacy Notices

Privacy Notices are a key compliance requirement as they ensure that each data subject is aware of the following points when data is collected/ processed by a data controller:

- Who the controller of the personal data is
- What personal data is being processed and the lawful purpose of this processing
- where and how the personal data was sourced
- to whom the personal data may be disclosed
- how long the personal data may be retained
- data subject's rights and how to exercise them or make a complaint

In order to comply with the fair processing requirements in data protection law, the school will inform parents/carers of all learners of the data they collect, process and hold on the learners, the purposes for which the data is held and the third parties (e.g. LA etc.) to whom it may be passed. This privacy notice will be passed to parents/carers for example in the prospectus, newsletters, reports or a specific letter / communication or you could publish it on your website and keep it updated there. Parents/carers of young people who are new to the school/academy will be provided with the privacy notice through an appropriate mechanism.

In some circumstances you may also require privacy notices for children / learners as data subjects as children have the same rights as adults over their personal data. These include the rights to access their personal data; request rectification; object to processing and have their personal data erased. The policies that explain this should be clear and age appropriate.

## Data subject's right of access

Data subjects have a number of rights in connection with their personal data. They have the right:

- to be informed – Privacy Notices
- of access – Subject Access Requests
- to rectification – correcting errors
- to erasure – deletion of data when there is no compelling reason to keep it
- to restrict processing – blocking or suppression of processing
- to portability – unlikely to be used in a school/academy context
- to object – objection based on grounds pertaining to their situation
- related to automated decision making, including profiling

Several of these could impact schools and academies, such as the right of access. You need to put procedures in place to deal with [Subject Access Requests](#). These are written or verbal requests to see all or a part of the personal data held by the Controller in connection with the data subject. Controllers normally have 1 calendar month to provide the information, unless the case is unusually complex in which case an extension can be obtained.

A school/academy must not disclose personal data even if requested in a Subject Access Request;

- if doing so would cause serious harm to the individual
- child abuse data
- adoption records
- statements of special educational needs



Your school or academy must provide the information free of charge. However, if the request is clearly unfounded or excessive – and especially if this is a repeat request – you may charge a reasonable fee.

## Breaches and how to manage a breach

Recent publicity about data breaches suffered by organisations and individuals continues to make the area of personal data protection a current and high profile issue for schools, academies and other organisations. It is important that the school/academy has a clear and well understood personal data handling policy in order to minimise the risk of personal data breaches.

A personal data breach means a breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data. This includes breaches that are the result of both accidental and deliberate causes. It also means that a breach is more than just about losing personal data.

A breach may arise from a theft, a deliberate attack on your systems, the unauthorised or malicious use of personal data by a member of staff, accidental loss, or equipment failure. In addition:

- no school or individual would want to be the cause of a data breach, particularly as the impact of data loss on individuals can be severe, put individuals at risk and affect personal, professional or organisational reputation
- schools/academies are “data rich” and the introduction of electronic storage and transmission of data has created additional potential for the loss of data
- the school will want to avoid the criticism and negative publicity that could be generated by any personal data breach

Schools have always held personal data on the learners in their care, and increasingly this data is held digitally and accessible not just in school/academy but also from remote locations. It is important to stress that the Data Protection Laws apply to all forms of personal data, regardless of whether it is held on paper or in electronic format. However, as it is part of an overall online safety policy template, this document will place particular emphasis on data which is held or transferred digitally.

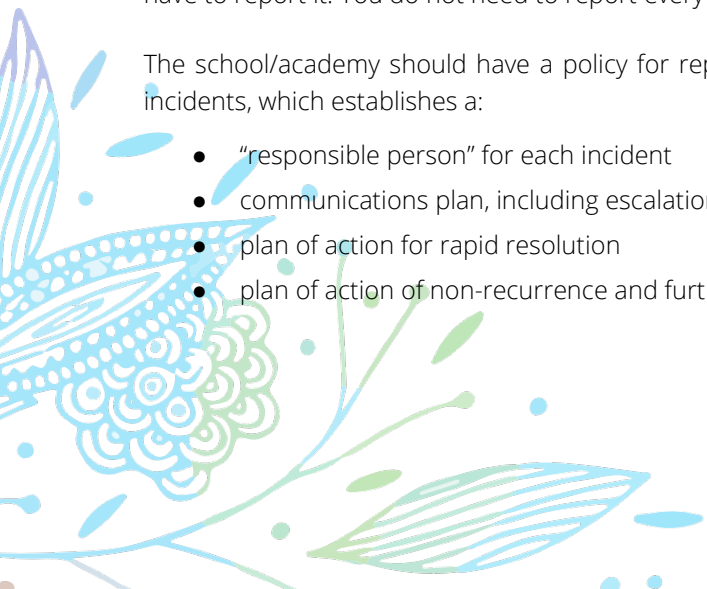
Schools will need to carefully review their policy, in the light of pertinent Local Authority regulations and guidance and changes in legislation.

All significant [data protection incidents must be reported](#) through the DPO to the Information Commissioner’s Office based upon the local incident handling policy and communication plan. The new laws require that this notification should take place within 72 hours of the breach being detected, where feasible.

If you experience a personal data breach you need to consider whether this poses a risk to people. You need to consider the likelihood and severity of any risk to people’s rights and freedoms, following the breach. When you’ve made this assessment, if it’s likely there will be a risk then you must notify the ICO; if it’s unlikely then you don’t have to report it. You do not need to report every breach to the ICO.

The school/academy should have a policy for reporting, logging, managing and recovering from information risk incidents, which establishes a:

- “responsible person” for each incident
- communications plan, including escalation procedure
- plan of action for rapid resolution
- plan of action of non-recurrence and further awareness raising



## Privacy by Design and Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA)

Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) identify and address privacy risks early on in any project so that you can mitigate them before the project goes live.

DPIAs should be carried out by Data Managers (where relevant) under the support and guidance of the DPO. Ideally you should conduct a DPIA before processing activity starts. However, some may need to be retrospective in the early stages of compliance activity.

The risk assessment will involve:

- recognising the risks that are present
- judging the level of the risks (both the likelihood and consequences)
- prioritising the risks.

According to the ICO a DPIA should contain:

- a description of the processing operations and the purpose
- an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing in relation to the purpose
- an assessment of the risks to individuals
- the measures in place to address risk, including security and to demonstrate that you comply.

Or more simply and fully:

- who did you talk to about this?
- what is going to happen with the data and how – collection, storage, usage, disposal
- how much personal data will be handled (number of subjects)
- why you need use personal data in this way
- what personal data (including if it's in a 'special category') are you using
- at what points could the data become vulnerable to a breach (loss, stolen, malicious)
- what the risks are to the rights of the individuals if the data was breached
- what are you going to do in order to reduce the risks of data loss and prove you are compliant with the law.

DPIA is an ongoing process and should be re-visited at least annually to verify that nothing has changed since the processing activity started.

## Secure storage of and access to data

The school should ensure that systems are set up so that the existence of protected files is hidden from unauthorised users and that users will be assigned a clearance that will determine which files are accessible to them. Access to protected data will be controlled according to the role of the user. Members of staff will not, as a matter of course, be granted access to the whole management information system.

[Good practice](#) suggests that all users will use strong passwords made up from a combination of simpler words. User passwords must never be shared.

Personal data may only be accessed on machines that are securely protected. Any device that can be used to access personal data must be locked if left (even for very short periods) and set to auto lock if not used for five minutes.

All storage media must be stored in an appropriately secure and safe environment that avoids physical risk, loss or electronic degradation.

Personal data should only be stored on school/academy equipment. Private equipment (i.e. owned by the users) must not be used for the storage of school/academy personal data.

When personal data is stored on any portable computer system, USB stick or any other removable media:



- The data must be encrypted and password protected
- The device must be password protected
- The device must offer approved virus and malware checking software
- The data must be securely deleted from the device, in line with school/academy policy once it has been transferred or its use is complete.

The school will need to set its own policy as to whether data storage on removal media is allowed, even if encrypted. Some organisations do not allow storage of personal data on removable devices.

The school should have a clear policy and procedures for the automatic backing up, accessing and restoring of all data held on school/academy systems, including off-site backups.

The school should have clear policy and procedures for the use of “Cloud Based Storage Systems” (for example Dropbox, Microsoft 365, Google Drive) and is aware that data held in remote and cloud storage is still required to be protected in line with the Data Protection Act. The school will ensure that it is satisfied with controls put in place by remote / cloud based data services providers to protect the data.

As a Data Controller, the school is responsible for the security of any data passed to a “third party”. Specific data processing clauses must be included in all contracts where personal data is likely to be passed to a third party.

All paper based personal data must be held in lockable storage, whether on or off site.

## Secure transfer of data and access out of school

The school recognises that personal data may be accessed by users out of school or transferred to the local authority or other agencies. In these circumstances:

- Users may not remove or copy sensitive or restricted or protected personal data from the school or authorised premises without permission and unless the media is encrypted and password protected and is transported securely for storage in a secure location
- Users must take particular care that computers or removable devices which contain personal data must not be accessed by other users (e.g. family members) when out of school
- When restricted or protected personal data is required by an authorised user from outside the organisation’s premises (for example, by a member of staff to work from their home), they should preferably have secure remote access to the management information system or learning platform
- If secure remote access is not possible, users must only remove or copy personal or sensitive data from the organisation or authorised premises if the storage media, portable or mobile device is encrypted and is transported securely for storage in a secure location
- Users must protect all portable and mobile devices, including media, used to store and transmit personal information using approved encryption software
- Particular care should be taken if data is taken or transferred to another country, particularly outside Europe, and advice should be taken from the local authority (if relevant) in this event.

## Disposal of personal data

The school should implement a document retention schedule that defines the length of time personal data is held before secure destruction. The Information and Records Management Society [Toolkit for schools](#) provides support for this process. The school must ensure the safe destruction of personal data when it is no longer required.

The disposal of personal data, in either paper or electronic form, must be conducted in a way that makes reconstruction highly unlikely. Electronic files must be securely disposed of, and other media must be shredded, incinerated or otherwise disintegrated.

A Destruction Log should be kept of all data that is disposed of. The log should include the document ID, classification, date of destruction, method and authorisation.

## Demonstrating Compliance - Audit Logging / Reporting / Incident Handling

Organisations are required to keep records of processing activity. The data map referred to above will assist here.

Records must include:

- the name and contact details of the data controller
- where applicable, the name and contact details of the joint controller and data protection officer
- the purpose of the processing
- to whom the data has been/will be disclosed
- description of data subject and personal data
- where relevant the countries it has been transferred to
- under which condition for processing the personal data has been collected
- under what lawful basis processing is being carried out
- where necessary, how it is retained and destroyed
- a general description of the technical and organisational security measures.

Clearly, in order to maintain these records good auditing processes must be followed, both at the start of the exercise and on-going throughout the lifetime of the requirement. Therefore, audit logs will need to be kept to:

- provide evidence of the processing activity and the DPIA
- record where, why, how and to whom personal data has been shared
- log the disposal and destruction of the personal data
- enable the school/academy to target training at the most at-risk data
- record any breaches that impact on the personal data

## Fee

The school should pay the relevant annual fee to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Failure to renew may render the school to a penalty in addition to other fines possible under the Data Protection Law.

## Responsibilities

Every maintained school is required to appoint a Data Protection Officer as a core function of 'the business'

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) can be internally or externally appointed.

**They must have:**

- expert knowledge
- timely and proper involvement in all issues relating to data protection
- the necessary resources to fulfil the role
- access to the necessary personal data processing operations
- a direct reporting route to the highest management level

**The data controller must:**

- not give the DPO instructions regarding the performance of tasks
- ensure that the DPO does not perform a duty or role that would lead to a conflict of interests
- not dismiss or penalise the DPO for performing the tasks required of them

#### **As a minimum a Data Protection Officer must:**

- inform, as necessary, the controller, a processor or an employee of their obligations under the data protection laws
- provide advice on a data protection impact assessment
- co-operate with the Information Commissioner
- act as the contact point for the Information Commissioner
- monitor compliance with policies of the controller in relation to the protection of personal data
- monitor compliance by the controller with Data Protection Law

The school/academy may also wish to appoint a Data Manager. Schools are encouraged to separate this role from that of Data Protection Officer, where possible. This person will keep up to date with current legislation and guidance and will:

- determine and take responsibility for the school's information risk policy and risk assessment
- oversee the System Controllers

The school may also wish to appoint System Controllers for the various types of data being held (e.g. learner information / staff information / assessment data etc.). System Controllers will manage and address risks to the information and will understand:

- what information is held, for how long and for what purpose
- how information has been amended or added to over time, and
- who has access to the data and why.

Everyone in the school has the responsibility of handling protected or sensitive data in a safe and secure manner.

Governors are required to comply fully with this policy in the event that they have access to personal data, when engaged in their role as a Governor (either in the school or elsewhere if on school business).

### **Training & awareness**

All staff must receive data handling awareness / data protection training and will be made aware of their responsibilities. This should be undertaken regularly. You can do this through:

- Induction training for new staff
- Staff meetings / briefings / INSET
- Day to day support and guidance from System Controllers

### **Freedom of Information Act**

All schools must have a Freedom of Information Policy which sets out how it will deal with FOI requests. FOI aims to increase transparency and accountability in public sector organisations as part of a healthy democratic process. Whilst FOI requests are submitted by an individual, the issue is for the school to consider whether the requested information should be released into the public domain. FOI links to Data Protection Law whenever a request includes personal data. Good advice would encourage the school to:

- delegate to the Principal day-to-day responsibility for FOI policy and the provision of advice, guidance, publicity and interpretation of the school's policy
- consider designating an individual with responsibility for FOI, to provide a single point of reference, coordinate FOI and related policies and procedures, take a view on possibly sensitive areas and consider what information and training staff may need

- consider arrangements for overseeing access to information and delegation to the appropriate governing body
- proactively publish information with details of how it can be accessed through a Publication Scheme (see Model Publication Scheme below) and review this annually
- ensure that a well-managed records management and information system exists in order to comply with requests
- ensure a record of refusals and reasons for refusals is kept, allowing the school/academy to review its access policy on an annual basis

## Model Publication Scheme

The Information Commissioner's Office provides schools and organisations with a [model publication scheme](#) which they should complete. The school's publication scheme should be reviewed annually.

The ICO produce [guidance on the model publication scheme](#) for schools. This is designed to support schools complete the [Guide to Information for Schools](#).

## Parental permission for use of cloud hosted services

Schools that use cloud hosting services are advised to seek appropriate consent to set up an account for learners.

## Use of Biometric Information

Biometric information is special category data. The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, included measures that affect schools that use biometric recognition systems, such as fingerprint identification and facial scanning:

- For all pupils in schools under 18, they must obtain the written consent of a parent before they take and process their child's biometric data
- They must treat the data with appropriate care and must comply with data protection principles as set out in the Data Protection Law
- They must provide alternative means for accessing services where a parent or pupil has refused consent

[New advice](#) to schools makes it clear that they are not able to use pupils' biometric data without parental consent. Schools may wish to incorporate the parental permission procedures into revised consent processes.

## Privacy and Electronic Communications

Schools should be aware that they are subject to the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations in the operation of their websites.



# School policy: Electronic Devices - Searching & Deletion

## Introduction

The changing face of information technologies and ever increasing pupil use of these technologies has meant that the Education Acts have had to change in an attempt to keep pace. Within Part 2 of the Education Act 2011 (Discipline) there have been changes to the powers afforded to schools by statute to search pupils in order to maintain discipline and ensure safety. Schools are required to ensure they have updated policies which take these changes into account. No such policy can on its own guarantee that the school will not face legal challenge, but having a robust policy which takes account of the Act and applying it in practice will however help to provide the school with justification for what it does.

The particular changes we deal with here are the added power to search for items 'banned under the school rules' and the power to 'delete data' stored on seized electronic devices.

Items banned under the school rules are determined and publicised by the Headteacher (section 89 Education and Inspections Act 1996).

An item banned by the school rules may only be searched for under these new powers if it has been identified in the school rules as an item that can be searched for. It is therefore important that there is a school policy which sets out clearly and unambiguously the items which:

- are banned under the school rules; and
- are banned AND can be searched for by authorised school staff

The act allows authorised persons to examine data on electronic devices if they think there is a good reason to do so. In determining a 'good reason' to examine or erase the data or files the authorised staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or could break the school rules.

Following an examination, if the person has decided to return the device to the owner, or to retain or dispose of it, they may erase any data or files, if they think there is a good reason to do so.

The Principal must publicise the school behaviour policy, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and pupils at least once a year. (There should therefore be clear links between the search etc. policy and the behaviour policy).

DfE advice on these sections of the Education Act 2011 can be found in the document: "Screening, searching and confiscation – Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies" (2014 and updated January 2018)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0076897/screening-searching-and-confiscation>

## Relevant legislation:

- Education Act 1996
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011 Part 2 (Discipline)
- The School Behaviour (Determination and Publicising of Measures in Academies) Regulations 2012
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Obscene Publications Act 1959
- Children Act 1989
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Computer Misuse Act 1990

This is not a full list of Acts involved in the formation of this advice. Further information about relevant legislation can be found via the above link to the DfE advice document.

## Responsibilities

The Principal is responsible for ensuring that the school policies reflect the requirements contained within the relevant legislation. The formulation of these policies may be delegated to other individuals or groups. The policies

will normally be taken to Governors for approval. The Principal will need to authorise those staff who are allowed to carry out searches.

This policy has been written by and will be reviewed by: The Education Team

The Principal has authorised the following members of staff to carry out searches for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data/files on those devices.

The Principal may authorise other staff members in writing in advance of any search they may undertake, subject to appropriate training.

## Training/Awareness

Members of staff should be made aware of the school's policy on "Electronic devices – searching and deletion":

- at induction
- at regular updating sessions on the school's online safety policy

Members of staff authorised by the Principal to carry out searches for and of electronic devices and to access and delete data/files from those devices should receive training that is specific and relevant to this role.

Specific training is required for those staff who may need to judge whether material that is accessed is inappropriate or illegal.

## Policy Statements

### Search:

The school Behaviour Policy refers to the policy regarding searches with and without consent for the wide range of items covered within the Education Act 2011 and lists those items. This policy refers only to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data/files on those devices.

Pupils are allowed to bring mobile phones or other personal electronic devices to school and use them only within the rules laid down by the school in the mobile devices Policy.

If pupils/students breach these roles:

The sanctions for breaking these rules can be found in the mobile devices Policy.

Authorised staff (defined in the responsibilities section above) have the right to search for such electronic devices where they reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules.

- Searching with consent - Authorised staff may search with the pupil's consent for any item
- Searching without consent - Authorised staff may only search without the pupil's consent for anything which is either 'prohibited' (as defined in Section 550AA of the Education Act 1996) or appears in the school rules as an item which is banned and may be searched for

### In carrying out the search:

The authorised member of staff must have reasonable grounds for suspecting that a pupil is in possession of a prohibited item i.e. an item banned by the school rules and which can be searched for. (Whether there are 'reasonable grounds' is a matter decided on by reference to the circumstances witnessed by, or reported to, someone who is authorised and who exercises properly informed professional judgment and has received appropriate training).

The authorised member of staff should take reasonable steps to check the ownership of the mobile phone/personal electronic device before carrying out a search. (The powers included in the Education Act do not extend to devices owned (or mislaid) by other parties e.g. a visiting parent or contractor, only to devices in the possession of pupils.)



The authorised member of staff should take care that, where possible, searches should not take place in public places e.g. an occupied classroom, which might be considered as exploiting the student/pupil being searched.

The authorised member of staff carrying out the search must be the same gender as the pupil being searched; and there must be a witness (also a staff member) and, if at all possible, they too should be the same gender as the pupil being searched.

There is a limited exception to this rule: Authorised staff can carry out a search of a pupil of the opposite gender including without a witness present, but **only where you reasonably believe that there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if you do not conduct the search immediately and where it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff.**

#### **Extent of the search:**

**The person conducting the search may not require the pupil to remove any clothing other than outer clothing.**

Outer clothing means clothing that is not worn next to the skin or immediately over a garment that is being worn as underwear (outer clothing includes hats; shoes; boots; coat; blazer; jacket; gloves and scarves).

'Possessions' means any goods over which the pupil has or appears to have control – this includes desks, lockers and bags.

A pupil's possessions can only be searched in the presence of the pupil and another member of staff, except where there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not conducted immediately and where it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff.

**The power to search without consent enables a personal search, involving removal of outer clothing and searching of pockets; but not an intimate search going further than that, which only a person with more extensive powers (e.g. a police officer) can do.**

**Use of Force – force cannot be used to search without consent for items banned under the school rules regardless of whether the rules say an item can be searched for.**

## **Electronic devices**

An authorised member of staff finding an electronic device may access and examine any data or files on the device if they think there is a good reason to do so (i.e. the staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules).

The examination of the data/files on the device should go only as far as is reasonably necessary to establish the facts of the incident. Any further intrusive examination of personal data may leave the school open to legal challenge. It is important that authorised staff should have training and sufficient knowledge of electronic devices and data storage.

**If inappropriate material is found on the device it is up to the authorised member of staff to decide whether they should delete that material, retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline) or whether the material is of such seriousness that it requires the involvement of the police. Examples of illegal activity would include:**

- child sexual abuse images (including images of one child held by another child)
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials

Members of staff may require support in judging whether the material is inappropriate or illegal. One or more Senior Leaders should receive additional training to assist with these decisions. Care should be taken not to delete material that might be required in a potential criminal investigation.

The school should also consider their duty of care responsibility in relation to those staff who may access disturbing images or other inappropriate material whilst undertaking a search. Seeing such material can be most upsetting.

There should be arrangements in place to support such staff. The school may wish to add further detail about these arrangements.

### **Deletion of Data**

Following an examination of an electronic device, if the authorised member of staff has decided to return the device to the owner, or to retain or dispose of it, they may erase any data or files, if they think there is a good reason to do so. (i.e. the staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules).

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the authorised member of staff to decide whether they should delete that material, retain it as evidence (of a possible criminal offence or a breach of school discipline) or whether the material is of such seriousness that it requires the involvement of the police. (It is recommended that members of staff should know who to contact, within school, for further guidance before taking action and that the person or persons is or are named within this policy).

A record should be kept of the reasons for the deletion of data/files. (DfE guidance states and other legal advice recommends that there is no legal reason to do this, best practice suggests that the school can refer to relevant documentation created at the time of any search or data deletion in the event of a pupil, parental or other interested party complaint or legal challenge. Records will also help the school to review online safety incidents, learn from what has happened and adapt and report on application of policies as necessary).

### **Care of Confiscated Devices**

School staff are reminded of the need to ensure the safe keeping of confiscated devices, to avoid the risk of compensation claims for damage/loss of such devices (particularly given the possible high value of some of these devices).

### **Audit/Monitoring/Reporting/Review**

The responsible person SBM will ensure that full records are kept of incidents involving the searching for and of mobile phones and electronic devices and the deletion of data/files.

These records will be reviewed by the Online Safety Officer and Online Safety Governor at regular intervals - annually

This policy will be reviewed by the Principal and governors annually and in response to changes in guidance and evidence gained from the records.





## Personal Phone and Portable Device policy

"The Internet and related technologies are powerful tools, which open up new prospects for communication and collaboration. Education is embracing these new technologies as they bring with them fresh opportunities for both teachers and learners.

The Children Act 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) and Keeping Children Safe in Education (2020) sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This policy aims to:

\* Explain the rules and expectations for safe and responsible use of personal phones and portable technology devices for pupils, staff and visitors including but not limited to cameras, online enabled devices (tablets, iPad, iPod etc.) gaming devices (DS/PSP/Switch etc.), and mobile phones.

It should be read in conjunction with the Networking Policy 1.16, and the Online Safety Acceptable use Policy 2.22 and the Staff Code of Conduct 1.12

New staff and pupils should be taken through the Personal Phone and Portable device Policy during their induction periods

\* This Policy document is drawn up to protect all parties – the pupils, the staff and the school and aims to provide clear advice and guidance on how to minimise risks and how to deal with any infringements.

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure that it complies with current advice and to include any new developments as appropriate to the schools needs and circumstances.

The School's Behaviour for Learning Team are responsible for online safety all reporting to the Principal. However, in all issues involving Child Protection the nominated Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed – Jenny McConnell and/or Kathy Horton, and Philip Chandler.

### KS1-4 Pupils

Dawn House School Discourage pupils from bringing Personal Phones and portable devices into school. Whilst recognising some pupils find use of these devices helpful on the journey to school we would encourage the use of non-internet enabled device e.g. an MP3 player that do not have cellular data. Parents are advised that Dawn House School accept no liability for the loss or damage of any device brought onto the school grounds. Parents must ensure that any such items are insured on their personal insurance.

Whilst on site, for safeguarding reasons, phones are not accessible. This includes break times, dinnertimes and other social times. KS1-4 should put their devices in their bags during breakfast or ICT club, pupils should switch off their devices and hand them in to their form tutor as they enter the tutor base where they will be locked away. They will be handed back to pupils when they are called for their taxi at the end of the school day.

Where a pupil is found to have a mobile phone during the school day it will be confiscated until the end of the day. If the pupil refuses to hand in their phone a parent may be required by a senior leader to come in and collect the phone from their child at school. If this is repeated behaviour the child will not be able bring their phone into school at all for a given period.

If a pupil is found taking, distributing or receiving photos or video footage with a phone or portable device this will be regarded as a serious matter, and the principal will decide on an appropriate response. In certain circumstances this may lead to a referral to external safeguarding agencies or to the Police. If images have been taken of pupils or teachers the mobile phone or device will not be returned until they have been removed by an appropriate person.

Where a pupil has not followed the rules around the use of personal phones and portable devices they must engage with a further discussion and training to support their understanding of the benefits, risks and responsibilities involved in the use of such items.

If a child needs to contact their parents or carers they will be allowed to use the school phone. If a parent needs to contact children urgently they should use the school office so that a message can be relayed. This method of communication means that pupils can be supported to communicate effectively if necessary and reduces anxiety.

Pupils at Dawn House School receive information about safe use of personal phones, mobile devices and the internet through the Computing and PHSE curriculums. However, it is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that they monitor the privacy, security settings and use of their children's personal phones and mobile devices. Children and young people with communication difficulties are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and need support in using social media even if they are old enough to join such sites. The school's filtering systems will not work for devices that use 4G.

### **KS5 Pupils**

All of the above also applies to Sixth form pupils, except in the case of pupils travelling independently offsite to work experience/placements, on independent travel training activities or to partner colleges. In these cases pupils may take their own phones if their number is recorded in school and this has been approved by the Head of Sixth Form.

### **School Trips**

#### **Pre 16:**

Pupils are not allowed to take personal phones or mobile devices on residential trips. In this case a website blog or parent cascade system for sharing the day's events will be established by the school before the trip takes place. Pupils will be supported to make a call home using a school mobile phone or landline if necessary.

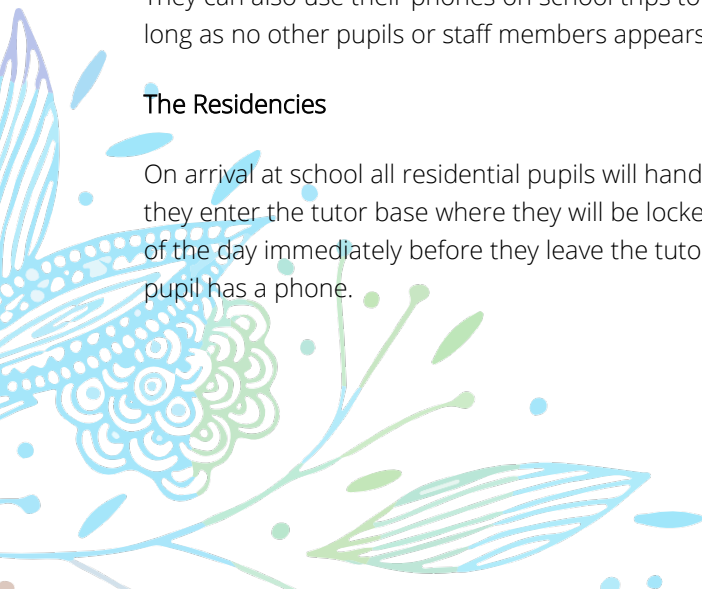
#### **16+:**

16+ pupils will be allowed to have their mobile phones at a designated time i.e. in the evening in a social area, but will still be required to hand their phones to staff at bed time for safekeeping.

They can also use their phones on school trips to take scenic photographs or 'selfies' at the designated time – so long as no other pupils or staff members appear in the image.

### **The Residencies**

On arrival at school all residential pupils will hand their personal phones and mobile devices to their form tutor as they enter the tutor base where they will be locked away. They will be handed back to residential pupils at the end of the day immediately before they leave the tutor room. The core team will inform residential staff if a residential pupil has a phone.



After the school day a pupil may be given their phone should they ask for it and will hand it back to staff before going to bed. Staff will then lock the phone in the office safe.

Because the residential setting is their home environment Sixth form pupils may keep their phones throughout the night, but should there be any inappropriate use the staff will ask for the phone and lock it in the office safe. The issue will then be discussed with/or parents/staff before the phone is returned to the pupil.

There are two I pad's the pupils have access to if they wish to facetime or skype their parents during the evening. Residential staff will unlock the devices and ensure that they can see the pupil at all times, (checking that they are in contact with the person they should be in contact with).

### **Staff and Visitors**

Staff at Dawn House School are not allowed to use their own personal phones and mobile devices in the school day. They must be left in a locked office or non-child facing area. This includes supply members of staff.

Members of Staff who regularly take children offsite or engage in lone working will be provided with a non-internet enabled personal phone without a camera facility.

Visitors are asked not to use personal phones or mobile devices on the school premises.

Please sign a copy of this policy and return it to school to confirm that you have read and understand its contents.

Parent/Carer

Sign name:

Print Name:

Date:

Sign name:

Print Name:

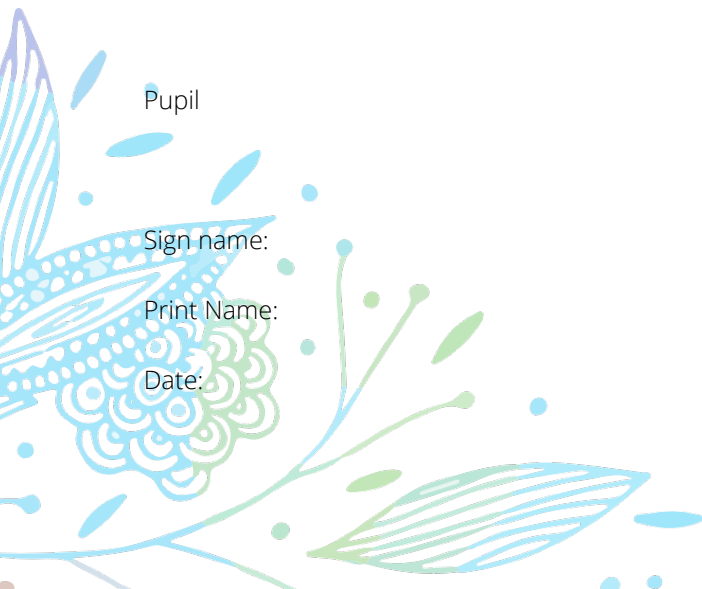
Date:

Pupil

Sign name:

Print Name:

Date:



# Staff Social Media Policy

Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) is a broad term for any kind of online platform which enables people to directly interact with each other. However some games, for example Minecraft or World of Warcraft and video sharing platforms such as You Tube have social media elements to them.

The school recognises the numerous benefits and opportunities which a social media presence offers. Staff, parents/carers and pupils/students are actively encouraged to find creative ways to use social media. However, there are some risks associated with social media use, especially around the issues of safeguarding, bullying and personal reputation. This policy aims to encourage the safe use of social media by *the school*, its staff, parents, carers and children.

## Scope

This policy is subject to the school's Codes of Conduct and Acceptable Use Agreements.

This policy:

- Applies to all staff and to all online communications which directly or indirectly, represent the school.
- Applies to such online communications posted at any time and from anywhere.
- Encourages the safe and responsible use of social media through training and education

The school respects privacy and understands that staff and pupils may use social media forums in their private lives. However, personal communications likely to have a negative impact on professional standards and/or the school's reputation are within the scope of this policy.

Professional communications are those made through official channels, posted on a school account or using the school name. All professional communications are within the scope of this policy.

Personal communications are those made via a personal social media accounts. In all cases, where a personal account is used which associates itself with the school or impacts on the school, it must be made clear that the member of staff is not communicating on behalf of the school with an appropriate disclaimer. Such personal communications are within the scope of this policy.

Personal communications which do not refer to or impact upon the school are outside the scope of this policy.

Digital communications with pupils are also considered. Staff may use social media to communicate with learners via a school social media account for teaching and learning purposes but must consider whether this is appropriate and consider the potential implications.

## Organisational control

### Roles & Responsibilities

- SLG
  - Facilitating training and guidance on Social Media use.
  - Developing and implementing the Social Media policy
  - Taking a lead role in investigating any reported incidents.
  - Making an initial assessment when an incident is reported and involving appropriate staff and external agencies as required.
  - Receive completed applications for Social Media accounts
  - Approve account creation
- Administrator / Moderator
  - Create the account following SLG approval



- Store account details, including passwords securely
- Be involved in monitoring and contributing to the account
- Control the process for managing an account after the lead staff member has left the organisation (closing or transferring)
- **Staff**
  - Know the contents of and ensure that any use of social media is carried out in line with this and other relevant policies
  - Attending appropriate training
  - Regularly monitoring, updating and managing content he/she has posted via school accounts
  - Adding an appropriate disclaimer to personal accounts when naming the school

## Process for creating new accounts

The school community is encouraged to consider if a social media account will help them in their work, e.g. a history department Twitter account, or a “Friends of the school” Facebook page. Anyone wishing to create such an account must present a business case to the School Leadership Group which covers the following points:-

- The aim of the account
- The intended audience
- How the account will be promoted
- Who will run the account (at least two staff members should be named)
- Will the account be open or private/closed

Following consideration by the SLG an application will be approved or rejected. In all cases, the SLG must be satisfied that anyone running a social media account on behalf of the school has read and understood this policy and received appropriate training. This also applies to anyone who is not directly employed by the school, including volunteers or parents.

## Monitoring

School accounts must be monitored regularly and frequently (preferably 7 days a week, including during holidays). Any comments, queries or complaints made through those accounts must be responded to within 24 hours (or on the next working day if received at a weekend) even if the response is only to acknowledge receipt. Regular monitoring and intervention is essential in case a situation arises where bullying or any other inappropriate behaviour arises on a school social media account.

## Behaviour

- The school requires that all users using social media adhere to the standard of behaviour as set out in this policy and other relevant policies.
- Digital communications by staff must be professional and respectful at all times and in accordance with this policy.
- Staff will not use social media to infringe on the rights and privacy of others or make ill-considered comments or judgments about staff. School social media accounts must not be used for personal gain. Staff must ensure that confidentiality is maintained on social media even after they leave the employment of the school.
- Users must declare who they are in social media posts or accounts. Anonymous posts are discouraged in relation to school activity.
- If a journalist makes contact about posts made using social media staff must follow the school media policy before responding.

- Unacceptable conduct, (e.g. defamatory, discriminatory, offensive, harassing content or a breach of data protection, confidentiality, copyright) will be considered extremely seriously by the school and will be reported as soon as possible to a relevant senior member of staff, and escalated where appropriate.
- The use of social media by staff while at work may be monitored, in line with school policies. The school permits reasonable and appropriate access to private social media sites. However, where excessive use is suspected, and considered to be interfering with relevant duties, disciplinary action may be taken
- The school will take appropriate action in the event of breaches of the social media policy. Where conduct is found to be unacceptable, the school will deal with the matter internally. Where conduct is considered illegal, the school will report the matter to the police and other relevant external agencies, and may take action according to the disciplinary policy.

## Legal considerations

- Users of social media should consider the copyright of the content they are sharing and, where necessary, should seek permission from the copyright holder before sharing.
- Users must ensure that their use of social media does not infringe upon relevant data protection laws, or breach confidentiality.

## Handling abuse

- When acting on behalf of the school, handle offensive comments swiftly and with sensitivity.
- If a conversation turns and becomes offensive or unacceptable, school users should block, report or delete other users or their comments/posts and should inform the audience exactly why the action was taken
- If you feel that you or someone else is subject to abuse by colleagues through use of a social networking site, then this action must be reported using the agreed school protocols.

## Tone

The tone of content published on social media should be appropriate to the audience, whilst retaining appropriate levels of professional standards. Key words to consider when composing messages are:

- Engaging
- Conversational
- Informative
- Friendly (on certain platforms, e.g. Facebook)

## Use of images

School use of images can be assumed to be acceptable, providing the following guidelines are strictly adhered to.

- Permission to use any photos or video recordings should be sought in line with the school's digital and video images policy. If anyone, for any reason, asks not to be filmed or photographed then their wishes should be respected.
- Under no circumstances should staff share or upload student pictures online other than via school owned social media accounts
- Staff should exercise their professional judgement about whether an image is appropriate to share on school social media accounts. Students should be appropriately dressed, not be subject to ridicule and must not be on any school list of children whose images must not be published.
- If a member of staff inadvertently takes a compromising picture which could be misconstrued or misused, they must delete it immediately.

## Personal use

- **Staff**
  - Personal communications are those made via a personal social media accounts. In all cases, where a personal account is used which associates itself with the school or impacts on the school, it must be made clear that the member of staff is not communicating on behalf of the school with an appropriate disclaimer. Such personal communications are within the scope of this policy.
  - Personal communications which do not refer to or impact upon the school are outside the scope of this policy.
  - Where excessive personal use of social media in school is suspected, and considered to be interfering with relevant duties, disciplinary action may be taken
  - The school permits reasonable and appropriate access to private social media sites.
- **Pupils**
  - Staff are not permitted to follow or engage with current or prior pupils of the school on any personal social media network account.
  - The school's education programme should enable the pupils to be safe and responsible users of social media.
  - Pupils are encouraged to comment or post appropriately about the school. Any offensive or inappropriate comments will be resolved by the use of the school's behaviour policy
- **Parents/Carers**
  - If parents/carers have access to a school learning platform where posting or commenting is enabled, parents/carers will be informed about acceptable use.
  - The school has an active parent/carer education programme which supports the safe and positive use of social media. This includes information on the website.
  - Parents/Carers are encouraged to comment or post appropriately about the school. In the event of any offensive or inappropriate comments being made, the school will ask the parent/carer to remove the post and invite them to discuss the issues in person. If necessary, refer parents to the school's complaints procedures.

## Monitoring posts about the school

- As part of active social media engagement, it is considered good practice to pro-actively monitor the Internet for public postings about the school.
- The school should effectively respond to social media comments made by others according to a defined policy or process.

## Appendix

### Managing your personal use of Social Media:

- "Nothing" on social media is truly private
- Social media can blur the lines between your professional and private life. Don't use the school logo, name and/or branding on personal accounts
- Check your settings regularly and test your privacy
- Keep an eye on your digital footprint
- Keep your personal information private



- Regularly review your connections – keep them to those you want to be connected to
- When posting online consider; Scale, Audience and Permanency of what you post
- If you want to criticise, do it politely.
- Take control of your images – do you want to be tagged in an image? What would children or parents say about you if they could see your images?
- Know how to report a problem

## Managing school social media accounts

### The Do's

- Check with a senior leader before publishing content that may have controversial implications for the school
- Use a disclaimer when expressing personal views
- Make it clear who is posting content
- Use an appropriate and professional tone
- Be respectful to all parties
- Ensure you have permission to 'share' other peoples' materials and acknowledge the author
- Express opinions but do so in a balanced and measured manner
- Think before responding to comments and, when in doubt, get a second opinion
- Seek advice and report any mistakes using the school's reporting process
- Consider turning off tagging people in images where possible

### The Don'ts

- **Do not** make comments, post content or link to materials that will bring the school into disrepute
- **Do not** publish confidential or commercially sensitive material
- **Do not** breach copyright, data protection or other relevant legislation
- Consider the appropriateness of content for any audience of school accounts, and don't link to, embed or add potentially inappropriate content
- **Do not** post derogatory, defamatory, offensive, harassing or discriminatory content
- **Do not** use social media to air internal grievances





# Pupil Social Media Policy

Note: Social Media websites are blocked during school hours. Pupils are unable to access this site at school.

Aims:

- To ensure that all Dawn House School staff are aware of the school's expectations regarding their use of Social Media and other social networking sites.
- To ensure that all pupils and staff are aware of the school's expectations regarding their use of Social Media and other social networking sites.
- To have clear and consistent consequences in place for the use of social networking sites as a means of cyber bullying.

Issues addressed in this policy:

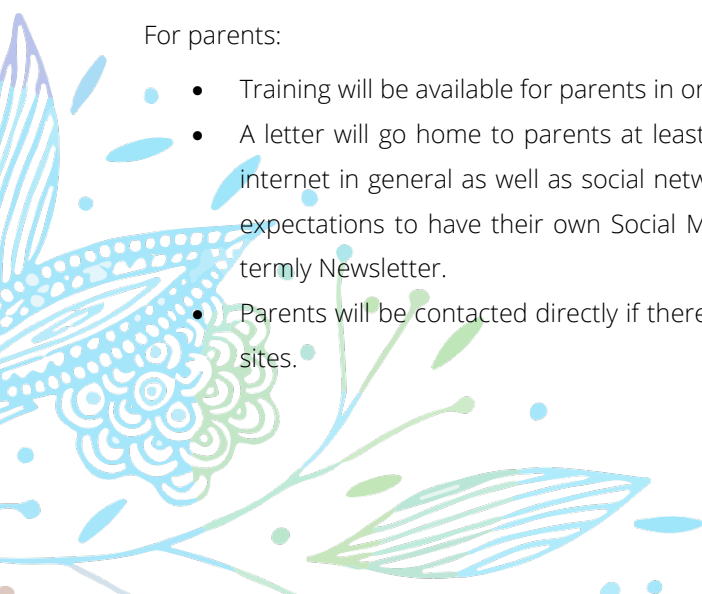
- All of our pupils have speech, language and communication difficulties and therefore may not recognise the potential pitfalls and danger associated with social networking sites.
- Previous or current pupils contacting staff using these sites.
- Pupils uploading photographs of members of staff to their Social Media page, without the person's knowledge.
- Staff ensuring their social networking accounts have the highest security settings. Including Supply Staff.
- Staff ensuring that their profile picture is appropriate. Including Supply Staff.
- Pupils use of social networking for inappropriate or cyber bullying intentions towards another pupil or pupils.

For staff:

- All staff have been and will be annually during Safeguarding training, reminded that their social networking accounts must have the highest security settings and that their profile picture must be appropriate.
- Staff have been and will be annually during Safeguarding training, reminded not to accept any previous or current pupils as 'friends' on their accounts. It is strongly recommended that staff do not accept any individual with whom they are not familiar, as there have been incidents of pupils setting up false accounts in order to gain access to a member of staff's social networking pages.
- This policy will be included in the Induction Information so that all new staff and Supply staff are aware of the expectations regarding social networking.

For parents:

- Training will be available for parents in order to address the issues of cyber bullying and e-safety
- A letter will go home to parents at least once a year to remind them to oversee their child's use of the internet in general as well as social networking. They will be reminded that a child should be within age expectations to have their own Social Media accounts and reminders will be sent out to parents in the termly Newsletter.
- Parents will be contacted directly if there are issues related to their child's use of the internet and on line sites.



This policy will be made available to parents via the school's website.

Secondary pupils access internet safety and cyber bullying issues as part of their ICT curriculum.

Pupils and their parents will be advised to report any inappropriate use of on line facilities to a member of staff. Confidentiality will be respected as far as possible.

Rules:

The school recognises that due to the nature of our pupil's speech, language and social communication difficulties, the rules and consequences regarding their e safety need to be explicit, clear and consistent. Consequences may also need to take into account the individual's intentions and possible social misunderstandings between pupils, according to the given situation.

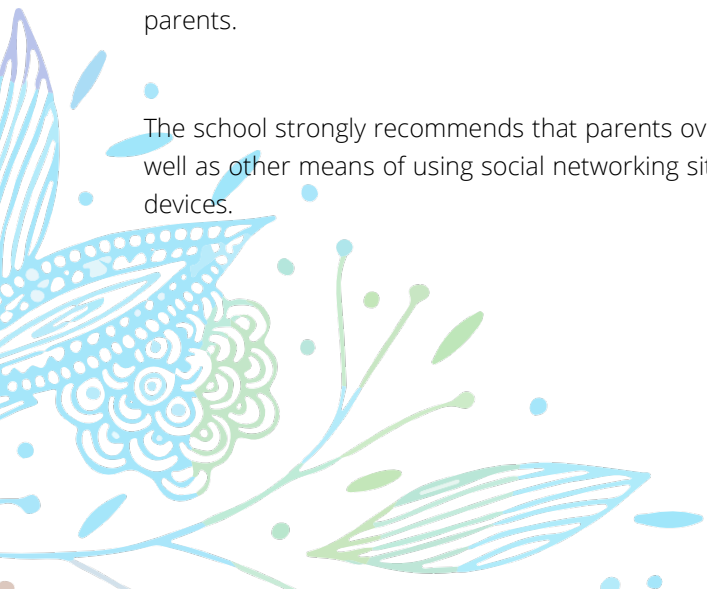
Rules:

- Pupils must not attempt to make any contact with staff using Social Media, or any other internet site.
- Use their friends' on line accounts to try to contact staff.
- Make false accounts in order to try to contact staff using social networking.
- Upload or write any material which includes a member of staff, taken on the school's site or during school hours.
- Write or upload any material which is offensive or disrespectful to school staff.
- Use Social Media, or any other internet sites, to encourage unkind or inappropriate comments about another pupil, to write derogatory or unkind comments about another pupil, or to use it to arrange or encourage bullying type actions or behaviours.
- Join in with the type of cyber bullying related communication as stated above.
- Set up groups which are inappropriate or offensive about the school.

Facebook has a page entitled 'Advice for Educators' which may also be of help to staff. CEOP is also a useful organisation for parents and staff to be aware of.

Whilst the school will support staff and pupils as much as is possible, there is a limit to the school's ability to control the pupils access to and usage of the internet and social networking sites out of school hours. The school cannot be held responsible for issues that arise out of school hours, however, if a pupil reports an incident and has evidence such a print out of the web page, the relevant members of staff will speak to the pupils involved and contact their parents.

The school strongly recommends that parents oversee their child's access to the home computer and internet, as well as other means of using social networking sites such as through Xbox or Play Station, at all times and mobile devices.



# School Policy – Online Safety Group Terms of Reference

## 1. Purpose

To provide a consultative group that has wide representation from the Dawn House School community, with responsibility for issues regarding online safety and the monitoring the online safety policy including the impact of initiatives.

## 2. Membership

2.1. The online safety group will seek to include representation from all stakeholders.

The composition of the group should include:

- SLG member/s
- Safeguarding officer
- Teaching staff member
- Support staff member
- Online safety coordinator (not ICT coordinator by default)
- Governor
- Parent/Carer
- ICT Technical Support staff (where possible)
- Community users (where appropriate)
- Pupil representation – for advice and feedback. pupil voice is essential in the make-up of the online safety group, but pupils would only be expected to take part in committee meetings where deemed relevant.

2.2. Other people may be invited to attend the meetings at the request of the Chairperson on behalf of the committee to provide advice and assistance where necessary.

2.3. Committee members must declare a conflict of interest if any incidents being discussed directly involve themselves or members of their families.

2.4. Committee members must be aware that many issues discussed by this group could be of a sensitive or confidential nature

2.5. When individual members feel uncomfortable about what is being discussed they should be allowed to leave the meeting with steps being made by the other members to allow for these sensitivities

## 3. Chairperson

The Committee should select a suitable Chairperson from within the group. Their responsibilities include:

- Scheduling meetings and notifying committee members;
- Inviting other people to attend meetings when required by the committee;
- Guiding the meeting according to the agenda and time available;
- Ensuring all discussion items end with a decision, action or definite outcome;
- Making sure that notes are taken at the meetings and that these with any action points are distributed as necessary

## 4. Duration of Meetings

Meetings shall be held Annually for a period of 1 hours. A special or extraordinary meeting may be called when and if deemed necessary.

## 5. Functions

These are to assist the Online Safety Lead (or other relevant person) with the following:

- To keep up to date with new developments in the area of online safety
- To (at least) annually review and develop the online safety policy in line with new technologies and incidents
- To monitor the delivery and impact of the online safety policy

- To monitor the log of reported online safety incidents (anonymous) to inform future areas of teaching/learning/training.
- To co-ordinate consultation with the whole school community to ensure stakeholders are up to date with information, training and/or developments in the area of online safety. This could be carried out through:
  - Staff meetings
  - Pupil forums (for advice and feedback)
  - Governors meetings
  - Surveys/questionnaires for pupils, parents/carers and staff
  - Parents evenings
  - Website and Newsletters
  - Online safety events
  - Internet Safety Day (annually held on the second Tuesday in February)
  - Other methods
- To ensure that monitoring is carried out of Internet sites used across the school/academy
- To monitor filtering/change control logs (e.g. requests for blocking/uN.B.locking sites).
- To monitor the safe use of data across the school/academy
- To monitor incidents involving cyberbullying for staff and pupils

## 6. Amendments

The terms of reference shall be reviewed annually from the date of approval. They may be altered to meet the current needs of all committee members, by agreement of the majority

The above Terms of Reference for Dawn House School have been agreed

Signed by (SLG): .....

Date: .....

Date for review: .....

## Acknowledgement

This template terms of reference document is based on one provided to schools by Somerset County Council



## Legislation

Schools should be aware of the legislative framework under which this online safety policy template and guidance has been produced. It is important to note that in general terms an action that is illegal if committed offline is also illegal if committed online.

It is recommended that legal advice is sought in the advent of an online safety issue or situation.

### Computer Misuse Act 1990

This Act makes it an offence to:

- Erase or amend data or programs without authority;
- Obtain unauthorised access to a computer;
- “Eavesdrop” on a computer;
- Make unauthorised use of computer time or facilities;
- Maliciously corrupt or erase data or programs;
- Deny access to authorised users.

School/academies may wish to view the National Crime Agency website which includes information about [“Cyber crime – preventing young people from getting involved”](#). Each region in England (& Wales) has a Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) Cyber-Prevent team that works with schools to encourage young people to make positive use of their cyber skills. There is a useful [summary of the Act on the NCA site](#).

### Data Protection Act 1998

This protects the rights and privacy of individual’s data. To comply with the law, information about individuals must be collected and used fairly, stored safely and securely and not disclosed to any third party unlawfully. The Act states that person data must be:

- Fairly and lawfully processed.
- Processed for limited purposes.
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive.
- Accurate.
- Not kept longer than necessary.
- Processed in accordance with the data subject’s rights.
- Secure.
- Not transferred to other countries without adequate protection.

### The Data Protection Act 2018:

**Updates the 1998 Act, incorporates the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and aims to:**

- Facilitate the secure transfer of information within the European Union.
- Prevent people or organisations from holding and using inaccurate information on individuals. This applies to information regarding both private lives or business.
- Give the public confidence about how businesses can use their personal information.
- Provide data subjects with the legal right to check the information businesses hold about them. They can also request for the data controller to destroy it.
- Give data subjects greater control over how data controllers handle their data.
- Place emphasis on accountability. This requires businesses to have processes in place that demonstrate how they’re securely handling data.
- Require firms to keep people’s personal data safe and secure. Data controllers must ensure that it is not misused.
- Require the data user or holder to register with the Information Commissioner.

**All data subjects have the right to:**

- Receive clear information about what you will use their data for.

- Access their own personal information.
- Request for their data to be revised if out of date or erased. These are known as the right to rectification and the right to erasure
- Request information about the reasoning behind any automated decisions, such as if computer software denies them access to a loan.
- Prevent or query about the automated processing of their personal data.

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

The Freedom of Information Act gives individuals the right to request information held by public authorities. All public authorities and companies wholly owned by public authorities have obligations under the Freedom of Information Act. When responding to requests, they have to follow a number of set procedures.

## **Communications Act 2003**

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.

## **Malicious Communications Act 1988**

It is an offence to send an indecent, offensive, or threatening letter, electronic communication or other article to another person.

## **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000**

It is an offence for any person to intentionally and without lawful authority intercept any communication. Monitoring or keeping a record of any form of electronic communications is permitted, in order to:

- Establish the facts;
- Ascertain compliance with regulatory or self-regulatory practices or procedures;
- Demonstrate standards, which are or ought to be achieved by persons using the system;
- Investigate or detect unauthorised use of the communications system;
- Prevent or detect crime or in the interests of national security;
- Ensure the effective operation of the system.
- Monitoring but not recording is also permissible in order to:
  - Ascertain whether the communication is business or personal;
  - Protect or support help line staff.
- The school reserves the right to monitor its systems and communications in line with its rights under this act.

## **Trade Marks Act 1994**

This provides protection for Registered Trade Marks, which can be any symbol (words, shapes or images) that are associated with a particular set of goods or services. Registered Trade Marks must not be used without permission. This can also arise from using a Mark that is confusingly similar to an existing Mark.

## **Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988**

It is an offence to copy all, or a substantial part of a copyright work. There are, however, certain limited user permissions, such as fair dealing, which means under certain circumstances permission is not needed to copy small amounts for non-commercial research or private study. The Act also provides for Moral Rights, whereby authors can sue if their name is not included in a work they wrote, or if the work has been amended in such a way as to impugn their reputation. Copyright covers materials in print and electronic form, and includes words, images, and sounds, moving images, TV broadcasts and other media (e.g. YouTube).



## Telecommunications Act 1984

It is an offence to send a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character. It is also an offence to send a message that is intended to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another that the sender knows to be false.

## Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994

This defines a criminal offence of intentional harassment, which covers all forms of harassment, including sexual. A person is guilty of an offence if, with intent to cause a person harassment, alarm or distress, they:

- Use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour, or disorderly behaviour; or
- Display any writing, sign or other visible representation, which is threatening, abusive or insulting, thereby causing that or another person harassment, alarm or distress.

## Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006

This Act makes 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.

## 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.

## Protection of Children Act 1978

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

## Sexual Offences Act 2003

A 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. (Typically, teachers, social workers, health professionals, connexions staff fall in this category of trust). Any sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 13 commits the offence of rape.

## Public Order Act 1986

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. Children, Families and Education Directorate page 38 April 2007.

## Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964

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

## Human Rights Act 1998

This does not deal with any particular issue specifically or any discrete subject area within the law. It is a type of "higher law", affecting all other laws. In the school context, human rights to be aware of include:

- The right to a fair trial



- The right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence
- Freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of assembly
- Prohibition of discrimination
- The right to education

These rights are not absolute. The school is obliged to respect these rights and freedoms, balancing them against those rights, duties and obligations, which arise from other relevant legislation.

### **The Education and Inspections Act 2006**

Empowers Headteachers, to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of students/pupils when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour.

### **The Education and Inspections Act 2011**

Extended the powers included in the 2006 Act and gave permission for Headteachers (and nominated staff) to search for electronic devices. It also provides powers to search for data on those devices and to delete data.

(see template policy in these appendices and for DfE guidance -

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0076897/screening-searching-and-confiscation>)

### **The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012**

Requires schools to seek permission from a parent/carer to use Biometric systems

### **The School Information Regulations 2012**

Requires schools to publish certain information on its website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online>

### **Serious Crime Act 2015**

Introduced new offence of sexual communication with a child. Also created new offences and orders around gang crime (including CSE)

### **Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015**

Revenge porn – as it is now commonly known – involves the distribution of private and personal explicit images or video footage of an individual without their consent, with the intention of causing them embarrassment and distress. Often revenge porn is used maliciously to shame ex-partners. Revenge porn was made a specific offence in the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015. The Act specifies that if you are accused of revenge porn and found guilty of the criminal offence, you could be prosecuted and face a sentence of up to two years in prison.

For further guidance or support please contact the [Revenge Porn Helpline](#)





## Links to other organisations or documents

The following links may help those who are developing or reviewing a school online safety policy and creating their online safety provision:

### UK Safer Internet Centre

Safer Internet Centre – <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

South West Grid for Learning – <https://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/>

Childnet – <http://www.childnet-int.org/>

Professionals Online Safety Helpline – <http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/about/helpline>

Revenge Porn Helpline – <https://revengepornhelpline.org.uk/>

Internet Watch Foundation – <https://www.iwf.org.uk/>

Report Harmful Content – <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>

### CEOP

CEOP – <http://ceop.police.uk/>

ThinkUKnow – <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

### Others

LGfL – [Online Safety Resources](#)

Kent – [Online Safety Resources page](#)

INSAFE/Better Internet for Kids – <https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/>

UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) – <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-council-for-internet-safety>

Netsmartz – <http://www.netsmartz.org/>

### Tools for Schools

Online Safety BOOST – <https://boost.swgfl.org.uk/>

360 Degree Safe – Online Safety self-review tool – <https://360safe.org.uk/>

360Data – online data protection self-review tool: [www.360data.org.uk](http://www.360data.org.uk)

SWGfL Test filtering – <http://testfiltering.com/>

UKCIS Digital Resilience Framework – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/digital-resilience-framework>

### Bullying/Online-bullying/Sexting/Sexual Harassment

Enable – European Anti Bullying programme and resources (UK coordination/participation through SWGfL & Diana Awards) – <http://enable.eun.org/>

SELMA – Hacking Hate – <https://selma.swgfl.co.uk>

Scottish Anti-Bullying Service, Respectme – <http://www.respectme.org.uk/>

Scottish Government – Better relationships, better learning, better behaviour – <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/03/7388>

DfE – Cyberbullying guidance –

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/374850/Cyberbullying\\_Advice\\_for\\_Headteachers\\_and\\_School\\_Staff\\_121114.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/374850/Cyberbullying_Advice_for_Headteachers_and_School_Staff_121114.pdf)

Childnet – Cyberbullying guidance and practical PSHE toolkit:

<http://www.childnet.com/our-projects/cyberbullying-guidance-and-practical-toolkit>  
[Childnet – Project deSHAME – Online Sexual Harrassment](#)  
[UKSIC – Sexting Resources](#)  
Anti-Bullying Network – <http://www.antibullying.net/cyberbullying1.htm>  
[Ditch the Label – Online Bullying Charity](#)  
[Diana Award – Anti-Bullying Campaign](#)

## **Social Networking**

Digizen – [Social Networking](#)  
UKSIC - [Safety Features on Social Networks](#)  
[Children’s Commissioner, TES and Schillings – Young peoples’ rights on social media](#)

## **Curriculum**

SWGfL Evolve - <https://projectevolve.co.uk>  
[UKCCIS – Education for a connected world framework](#)  
Teach Today – [www.teachtoday.eu/](http://www.teachtoday.eu/)  
Insafe - [Education Resources](#)

## **Data Protection**

[360data - free questionnaire and data protection self review tool](#)  
[ICO Guides for Education \(wide range of sector specific guides\)](#)  
[DfE advice on Cloud software services and the Data Protection Act](#)  
[IRMS - Records Management Toolkit for Schools](#)  
[NHS - Caldicott Principles \(information that must be released\)](#)  
[ICO Guidance on taking photos in schools](#)  
[Dotkumo - Best practice guide to using photos](#)

## **Professional Standards/Staff Training**

[DfE – Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)  
DfE - [Safer Working Practice for Adults who Work with Children and Young People](#)  
[Childnet – School Pack for Online Safety Awareness](#)  
[UK Safer Internet Centre Professionals Online Safety Helpline](#)

## **Infrastructure/Technical Support**

[UKSIC – Appropriate Filtering and Monitoring](#)  
[SWGfL Safety & Security Resources](#)  
Somerset - [Questions for Technical Support](#)  
NCA – [Guide to the Computer Misuse Act](#)  
NEN – [Advice and Guidance Notes](#)

## **Working with parents and carers**

[Online Safety BOOST Presentations - parent’s presentation](#)  
[Vodafone Digital Parents Magazine](#)  
[Childnet Webpages for Parents & Carers](#)

[Get Safe Online - resources for parents](#)

[Teach Today - resources for parents workshops/education](#)

[Internet Matters](#)

## **Prevent**

[Prevent Duty Guidance](#)

[Prevent for schools – teaching resources](#)

[NCA – Cyber Prevent](#)

Childnet – [Trust Me](#)

## **Research**

[Ofcom –Media Literacy Research](#)

Further links can be found at the end of the UKCIS [Education for a Connected World Framework](#)



## Glossary of Terms

<b>AUP/AUA</b>	Acceptable Use Policy/Agreement – see templates earlier in this document
<b>CEOP</b>	Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (part of National Crime Agency, UK Police, dedicated to protecting children from sexual abuse, providers of the Think U Know programmes.
<b>CPD</b>	Continuous Professional Development
<b>FOSI</b>	Family Online Safety Institute
<b>ICO</b>	Information Commissioners Office
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology
<b>INSET</b>	In Service Education and Training
<b>IP address</b>	The label that identifies each computer to other computers using the IP (internet protocol)
<b>ISP</b>	Internet Service Provider
<b>ISPA</b>	Internet Service Providers' Association
<b>IWF</b>	Internet Watch Foundation
<b>LA</b>	Local Authority
<b>LAN</b>	Local Area Network
<b>MAT</b>	Multi Academy Trust
<b>MIS</b>	Management Information System
<b>NEN</b>	National Education Network – works with the Regional Broadband Consortia (e.g. SWGfL) to provide the safe broadband provision to schools across Britain.
<b>Ofcom</b>	Office of Communications (Independent communications sector regulator)
<b>SWGfL</b>	South West Grid for Learning Trust – the Regional Broadband Consortium of SW Local Authorities – is the provider of broadband and other services for schools and other organisations in the SW
<b>TUK</b>	Think U Know – educational online safety programmes for schools, young people and parents.
<b>UKSIC</b>	UK Safer Internet Centre – EU funded centre. Main partners are SWGfL, Childnet and Internet Watch Foundation.
<b>UKCIS</b>	UK Council for Internet Safety
<b>VLE</b>	Virtual Learning Environment (a software system designed to support teaching and learning in an educational setting,
<b>WAP</b>	Wireless Application Protocol

A more comprehensive glossary can be found at the end of the UKCIS [Education for a Connected World Framework](#)

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