

Gargrave CE (VC) Primary School

Online Safety Policy

This policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, learners, volunteers, parents and carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of school digital systems, both in and out of the school. It also applies to the use of personal digital technology on the school site.

Development / Monitoring / Review of this Policy

This Online Safety policy has been developed by a working group made up of:

- Headteacher
- Staff – including Teachers, Support Staff, Technical staff
- Governors
- Parents and carers
- Community users

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This Online Safety policy was approved by the Board of Directors / Governing Body / Governors Sub Committee on:	Autumn 2023
The implementation of this Online Safety policy will be monitored by the:	Head Teacher
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	Yearly
The Board of Governors will receive a report about this policy at regular intervals:	Yearly
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:	September 2024
Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following external persons / agencies should be informed:	Local Authority 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

Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all members of the *school* (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 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. 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. 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

The DfE guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education” states:

“Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure there are appropriate policies and procedures in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children’s welfare this includes ... online safety”

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. **A member of the Governing Body has taken on the role of Online Safety Governor.** The governing body will also support the school in encouraging parents/carers and the wider community to become engaged in online safety activities.

The role of the Online Safety Governor will include:

- regular meetings with the Online Safety Lead
- regular monitoring of online safety incident logs
- regular monitoring of filtering / change control logs
- checking that provision outlined in the Online Safety Policy (e.g. online safety education provision and staff training is taking place as intended)

Head teacher and Senior Leaders

- The Headteacher 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 Officer (SBM).

- The Headteacher and (at least) another member of the staff 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 – included in a later section – “Responding to incidents of misuse” and relevant Local Authority / other relevant body disciplinary procedures).
- The Headteacher is 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.
- The Headteacher 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.

On-line Safety Lead (School Business Manager)

- 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 the Local Authority
- liaises with school 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 control logs

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DfE guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education” states:

“The designated safeguarding lead should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (**including online safety**). This should be explicit in the role holder’s job description.” ... Training should provide designated safeguarding leads with a good understanding of their own role, ... so they ... are able to understand the unique risks associated with **online safety** and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school or college.”

The Designated Safeguarding Lead should be trained in online safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious safeguarding issues to arise from:

- sharing of personal data ¹
- access to illegal/inappropriate materials
- inappropriate online contact with adults/strangers
- potential or actual incidents of grooming
- online bullying.

Curriculum Leads

Curriculum Leads will work with the Online Safety Lead to develop a planned and coordinated online safety education programme e.g. ProjectEVOLVE .

This will be provided through:

- PHSE and SRE programmes
- assemblies and pastoral programmes
- through relevant national initiatives and opportunities e.g. [Safer Internet Day](#) and [Anti-bullying week](#).

Technician (SICT)

The Technical Staff is 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 Local Authority other relevant body Online Safety Policy / Guidance that may apply.
- that users may only access the networks and devices through a properly enforced password protection policy, in which passwords are regularly changed
- there is clear, safe, and managed control of user access to networks and devices
- the filtering policy (if it has one), 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
- the use of technology is regularly and effectively monitored in order that any misuse/attempted misuse can be reported to (insert relevant person) for investigation and action
- 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 understand that online safety is a core part of safeguarding**
- they have read, understood and signed the Staff Acceptable Use Policy
- they immediately report any suspected misuse or problem to the Headteacher; Online Safety Lead for investigation / action in line with the school safeguarding policy.
- all digital communications with students / 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
- students / pupils understand and follow the Online Safety Policy and acceptable use policies

- students / 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 students / 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 lessons take place using live-streaming or video-conferencing, staff must have full regard to national safeguarding guidance and local safeguarding policies and should take note of the guidance contained in the SWGfL Safe Remote Learning Resource
- have a zero-tolerance approach to incidents of online-bullying, sexual harassment, discrimination, hatred etc
- they model safe, responsible, and professional online behaviours in their own use of technology, including out of school and in their use of social media.

Students / Pupils:

- are responsible for using the *school* digital technology systems in accordance with the Student / 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 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
- their children's personal devices in the school
- *reinforcing the online safety messages provided to learners in school*

Policy Statements

Education – Pupils

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating 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.

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 tutorial / 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 (eg 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
- Publishing the school Online Safety Policy on the school website
- 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 www.saferinternet.org.uk/
<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

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:

- 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
- Supporting community groups e.g. Pre-school / sports / voluntary groups to enhance their Online Safety provision

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 (Last done May 2018).
- 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.
- This Online Safety Policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff meetings.
- The Online Safety Officer will provide advice / guidance / training to individuals as required.

Training – Governors

Governors should take part in online safety training sessions. This may be offered in a number of ways:

- Attendance at training provided by the Local Authority
- Participation in school information sessions for staff or parents

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 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 will be provided with a username and secure password by the school who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames. Users are responsible for the security of their username and password.
- The “master / administrator” passwords for the school ICT systems, used by the Network Manager (or other person) must also be available to the Headteacher / Principal or other nominated senior leader and kept in a secure place (eg school safe)
- Richard Freytag (technician) 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
- 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 user-level
- School technical staff regularly monitor 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, through telling staff member, 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 workstations are protected by up to date virus software.
- An agreed policy is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (eg trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems. Through a guest log-in.
- An agreed policy is in place that forbids staff from downloading executable files and installing programmes on school devices.
- Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured.

Mobile Technologies

The DfE guidance “Keeping Children Safe in Education” states:

“The school or college should have a clear policy on the use of mobile and smart technology. Amongst other things this will reflect the fact many children have unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phone networks (i.e. 3G, 4G and 5G). This access means some children, whilst at school or college, sexually harass, bully, and control others via their mobile and smart technology, share indecent images consensually and non-consensually (often via large chat groups) and view and share pornography and other harmful content. Schools and colleges should carefully consider how this is managed on their premises and reflect this in their mobile and smart technology policy and their child protection policy.”

Mobile technology devices may be school owned/provided or personally owned and might include: smartphone, tablet, notebook / laptop or other technology that usually has the capability of utilising the school’s wireless network. The device then has access to the wider internet which may include the school’s learning platform and other cloud based services such as email and data storage.

All users should understand that the primary purpose of the use mobile / personal devices in a school context is educational. The mobile technologies policy should be consistent with and interrelated to other relevant school policies including but not limited to the Safeguarding Policy, Behaviour Policy, Bullying Policy, Acceptable Use Policy, and policies around theft or malicious damage. Teaching about the safe and appropriate use of mobile technologies should be an integral part of the school’s Online Safety education programme.

- The school Acceptable Use Agreements for staff, pupils/students 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 ²	Student owned	Staff owned	Visitor owned
Allowed in school	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Full network access	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>
Internet only				<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>
No network access				<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>

Personal devices:

- Which users are allowed to use personal mobile devices in school - staff
- Restrictions on where, when and how they may be used in school – in staff area only
- Storage - in lockers
- Whether staff will be allowed to use personal devices for school business - yes
- Levels of access to networks– not allowed
- Technical support (this may be a clear statement that no technical support is available)
- The right to take, examine and search users devices in the case of misuse (England only) – n.b. this must also be included in the Behaviour Policy.
- Taking / storage / use of images – not allowed
- Liability for loss/damage or malfunction following access to the network – the school holds no responsibility
- Identification / labelling of personal devices - class label on I pads
- How visitors will be informed about school requirements – verbal instruction
- How education about the safe and responsible use of mobile devices is included in the school Online Safety education programmes.

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 students / pupils need to be aware of the risks associated with publishing

² 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.

digital images on the internet. Such images may provide avenues for cyberbullying 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 students / 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 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 students / 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 students / pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Students / pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include students / pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.
- Students' / Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs.
- Student's / Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the student / pupil and parents or carers.

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.
- It has paid the appropriate fee to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).
- It has appointed a Data Protection Officer (DPO). The school may also wish to appoint a Data Manager and systems controllers to support the DPO.

- It will hold 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.
- Data held must be accurate and up to date. Inaccuracies are corrected without unnecessary delay.
- The lawful basis for processing personal data (including, where relevant, consent) has been identified and documented and details provided in a Privacy Notice. (see Privacy Notice section in the appendix)
- Where special category data is processed, a lawful basis and a separate condition for processing have been identified.
- It has clear and understood arrangements for access to and the security, storage and transfer of personal data, including, where necessary, adequate contractual clauses or safeguards where personal data is passed to third parties e.g. cloud service providers.
- Procedures must be in place to deal with the individual rights of the data subject i.e. a Subject Access Requests to see all or a part of their personal data held by the data controller.
- There are clear and understood data retention policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data.
- There is a policy for reporting, logging, managing and recovering from an information risk incident which recognises the requirement to report relevant data breaches to the ICO within 72 hours of the breach, where feasible.
- Consideration has been given to the protection of personal data when accessed using any remote access solutions.
- All schools must have a Freedom of Information Policy which sets out how it will deal with FOI requests.
- All staff receive data handling awareness / data protection training and are made aware of their responsibilities.

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.
- Use personal data 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.
- Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices.

When personal data is stored on any portable computer system, memory 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 policy (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete.

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 and Other Adults				Pupils			
	Allowed	Allowed at Certain Times	Allowed for Selected Staff	Not Allowed	Allowed	Allowed at Certain Times	Allowed with Staff permission	Not Allowed
Mobile phone may be brought to the school	X							X
Use of mobile phones in lessons				X				X
Use of mobile phones/cameras				X				X
Use of other mobile devices eg 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
Use 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 students / 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 students / pupils or parents / carers (email, social media, chat, blogs, VLE etc) must be professional in tone and content. Personal email addresses, text messaging or social media must not be used for these communications.
- Whole class email addresses may be used at school.
- Students / 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 widespread use 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. Core messages should include the protection of learners, the school and the individual when publishing any material online.

Expectations for teachers' professional conduct are set out in the DfE Teachers Standards but all adults working with children and young people must understand that the nature and responsibilities of their work place them in a position of trust and that their conduct should reflect this.

All schools and local authorities have a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for learners and staff. Schools could be held responsible, indirectly for acts of their employees in the course of their employment. Staff members who harass, bully online, discriminate on the grounds of sex, race, or disability or who defame a third party may render the school 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
 - guidance for learners, parents/carers

School staff should ensure that:

- No reference should be made in social media to students / pupils, parents / carers or school
- 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
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information
- they act as positive role models in their use of social media

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 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
- when parents/carers express concerns about the school on social media we will urge them to make direct contact with the school, in private, to resolve the matter. Where this cannot be resolved, parents/carers should be informed of the school complaints procedure.

School use of social media for professional purposes will be checked regularly by a senior leader and the Online Safety Lead to ensure compliance with the social media, data protection, communications, digital image and video policies. In the event of any social media issues that the school is unable to resolve support may be sought from the Professionals Online Safety Helpline.

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	Child sexual abuse images – The making, production or distribution of indecent images of children. Contrary to the Protection of Children Act 1978					X
	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	
	Using school systems to run a private business				X	
	Using systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by the school				X	
	Infringing copyright				X	

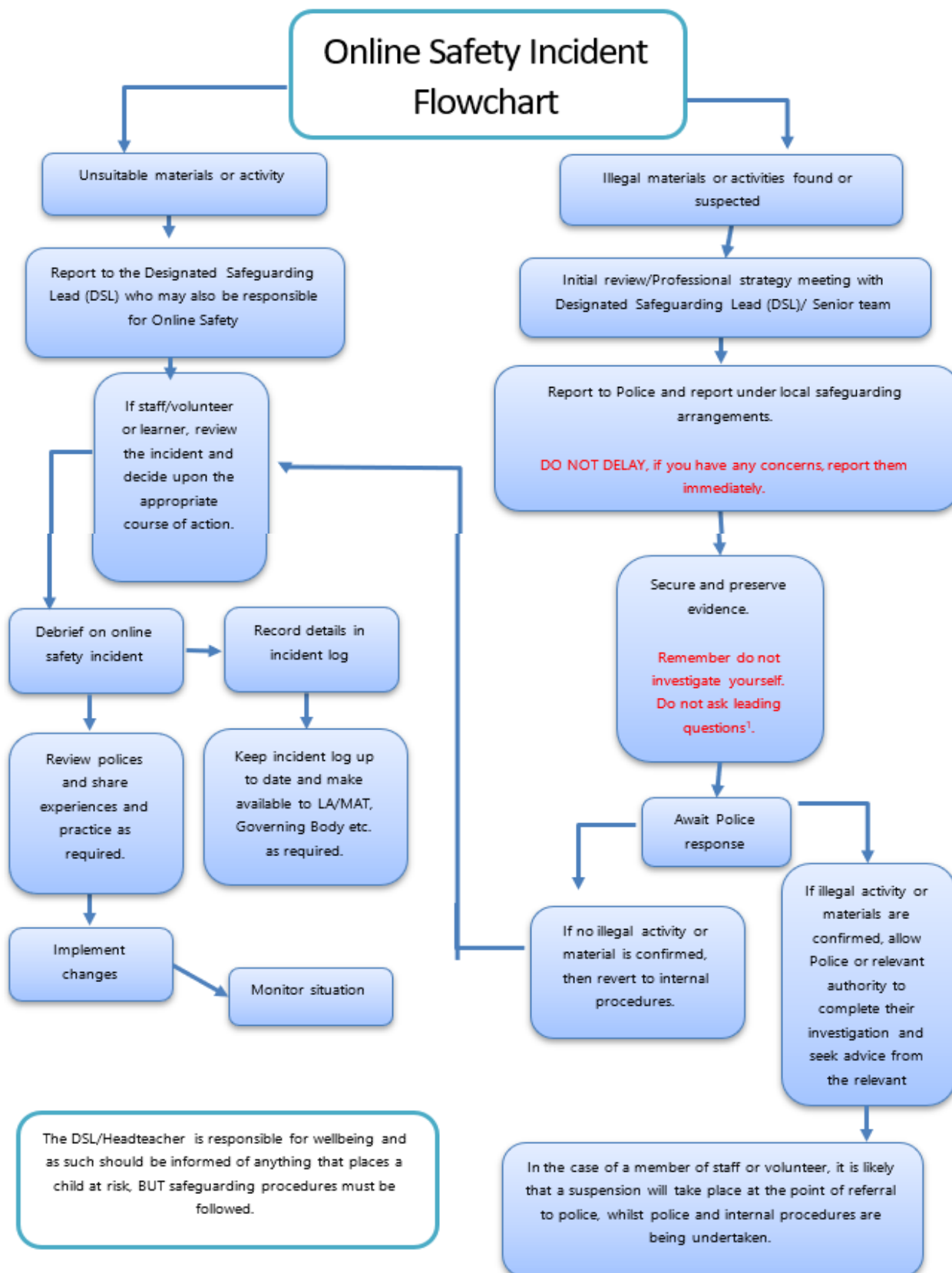
	Revealing or publicising confidential or propriety information (eg financial/personal information, databases, computer/network access codes and password)				X	
	Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files				X	
	Unfair usage (downloading/uploading large files that hinders others in their use of the internet)				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 eg Youtube					

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 Local Authority / Academy Group or national / local organisation (as relevant).
 - 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
 - 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/Pupil Incidents

	Refer to Class Teacher	Refer to Head of Department	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to Police	Inform parents/cares	Removal of network/internet access rights	Warning	Further Sanctions/exclusions
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable/inappropriate activities)		X	X	X				
Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons					X	X	X	
Unauthorised/inappropriate use of mobile phone/digital camera/other mobile device					X	X	X	
Unauthorised/inappropriate use of social media/messaging apps/personal email					X	X	X	
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files							X	
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords					X			
Attempting to access or accessing the school network using another pupil's account					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
Continued infringement of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions					X		X	X
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school					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
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material					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

Actions / Sanctions

Staff Incidents

	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to Local Authority/HR	Refer to Police	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			
Inappropriate personal use of the internet/social media/personal email	X					
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files	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					
Careless use of personal data eg holding or transferring data in an insecure manner	X					
Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules	X	X				
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software	X	X				
Sending an email, text or message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	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
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
Breaching copyright or licensing regulations	X	X				
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions	X	X		X	X	X

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Pupil Acceptable Use Policy Agreement for Younger Pupils (Foundation/KS1)

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 the computer 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): _____

Pupil Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

for KS2 Pupils

This document is a guide to young people to be responsible and stay safe while using the Internet and other communication technologies. It clearly states what use of computer resources is acceptable and what is not. Irresponsible use may result in the loss of Internet or computer access, contact with parents or in the event of illegal activities contact with the police.

- I will only access the school network through my authorised username and password. I will not
 - use the passwords of others.
- I will not use the school IT systems / devices for personal or recreational use, for accessing
 - social media sites, on-line gaming, gambling, internet shopping, file sharing or video
 - broadcasting.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal, inappropriate or
 - which may cause harm and distress to others.
- I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering and
 - security systems in place.
- I will not try to install programmes on any school computer or try to alter computer settings.
- ~~• I will only use my personal hand held devices (e.g. mobile phone/ipod) in school at times that~~
- ~~• are permitted. When using my own devices I understand that I have to follow the rules set out~~
- ~~• in this document.~~
- I will carefully write email and other on-line messages making sure the language I use is not
 - strong, aggressive or inappropriate and shows respect for others. I am responsible for the
 - emails I send and the contacts I make.
- I will not open emails unless I know and trust the person/organisation who has sent them.
- For my own safety and that of others, I will not disclose personal information about myself or
 - others when on-line. I will not arrange to meet 'on-line friends'.
- I will not take, or distribute, images of anyone else without their permission.
- ~~• I will not take, or distribute, images of myself or anyone else semi-naked or naked.~~
- ~~• I will only use chat and social networking sites with permission and at the times that are~~
- ~~• allowed.~~
- I will report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me
 - feel uncomfortable when I see it on-line.
- Where the material I research on the Internet is protected by copyright, I will not try to
 - download copies, including music and video. I will only use the work of others found on the
 - Internet in my own work with their permission.
- I will take care to check that information I find on the Internet is accurate and understand that
 - some work found on the Internet can be untruthful or misleading.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving IT equipment, however this may have
 - happened.

Pupil Signed

Date

Parent / Carer Signed

Date.....

Parent / Carer Acceptable Use Agreement Template

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 Policy 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 / carer of the above *pupils*, I give permission for my son / daughter to have access to the internet and to ICT systems at 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 Policy. 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.

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 publically shared by any means, only your child's first name.

The school will comply with the Data Protection Act and request parents / 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.

Parents / carers are requested to sign the permission form below to allow the school to take and use images of their children and for the parents / carers to agree.

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.

I agree to these images being used:

Yes / No

to support learning activities.

Yes / No

in publicity that reasonably celebrates success and promotes the work of the school.

Yes / No

Insert statements here that explicitly detail where images are published by the school

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 Yes / No images.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Staff (and Volunteer) Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

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 students / 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 ICT systems:

- 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, unless I have permission to do so. Where these images are published (eg on the school website / VLE) it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured.
- I will only use social networking sites in school in accordance with the school's policies.
- 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:

- When I use my mobile devices (laptops / tablets / mobile phones / USB devices etc) in school, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using school equipment. I will also follow any additional rules set by the school about such use. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date antivirus software and are free from viruses.
- 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 not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist 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 only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the School Personal Data Policy. Where digital personal data is transferred outside the secure local network, it must be encrypted. Paper based Protected and Restricted data must be held in lockable storage.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or student / 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.

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 Policy Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors or the Local Authority 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: _____