

Fourlanesend County Primary School

Online Safety Policy

Content

Background / Rationale

Development, monitoring and review of the Policy

Schedule for development, monitoring and review

Roles and Responsibilities

- Governors
- Headteacher
- Online safety coordinator
- Teaching and Support Staff
- Pupils
- Parents / Carers

Policy Statements

- Education -Pupils
- Education - Parents / Carers
- Education and training - Staff
- Training - Governors
- Technical - infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring
- Communications
- Unsuitable / inappropriate activities
- Responding to incidents of misuse

Appendices:

- Pupil Acceptable Use Policy
- Staff Acceptable Use Policy

Background / Rationale

The use of ICT in school and at home has been shown to raise educational standards and promote pupil / student achievement.

However, the use of these new technologies can put young people at risk within and outside the school. Some of the dangers they may face include:

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate images or other content
- Unauthorised access to / loss of / sharing of personal information
- The risk of being subject to grooming by those with whom they make contact on the internet.
- The sharing / distribution of personal images without an individual's consent or knowledge
- Inappropriate communication / contact with others, including strangers
- Cyber-bullying
- Access to unsuitable video / internet games

- An inability to evaluate the quality, accuracy and relevance of information on the internet
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement
- Illegal downloading of music or video files
- The potential for excessive use which may impact on the social and emotional development and learning of the young person.

As with all other risks, it is impossible to eliminate those risks completely. It is therefore essential, through good educational provision to build students' / pupils' resilience to the risks to which they may be exposed, so that they have the understanding, confidence and skills to face and deal with these risks.

Development / Monitoring / Review of this Policy

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

- School Online Safety Coordinator
- Headteacher
- Teachers
- Governors

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This online safety policy was approved by the Governing Body on:	
The implementation of this online safety policy will be monitored by the:	Online Safety Coordinator, Headteacher, Governing Body, Online Safety committee
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:	6 month initial review and then annually
Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following external persons / agencies should be informed:	LA ICT Manager LA Safeguarding Officer Police Commissioner's Office

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- Logs of reported incidents
- SWGfL monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited)
- Surveys / questionnaires of
 - Pupils (e.g. Ofsted "Tell-us" survey / CEOP ThinkUknow survey)
 - Parents / carers
 - Staff

Roles and Responsibilities

Governors:

Governors are responsible for the approval of the Online Safety Policy (on the recommendation of the online safety committee) 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
- reporting to Governors

Headteacher

- The Headteacher is responsible 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 Co-ordinator
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that the Online Safety Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable CPD to enable them to carry out their online safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant

Online Safety Coordinator:

- 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 when necessary
- liaises with the school's ICT support providers to ensure that the school's ICT infrastructure is secure
- receives reports of online safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future online safety developments
- keeps up to date with relevant online safety information in order to effectively carry out their online safety role and to inform and update others as relevant
- Reports to the headteacher

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 school Staff Acceptable Use Policy / Agreement (AUP)
- They report any suspected misuse or problem to the Online Safety Co-ordinator and Headteacher for investigation / action / sanction
- Digital communications with students / pupils (email / Virtual Learning Environment) should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems
- E-safety issues are embedded in many aspects of the curriculum and other school activities

- Pupils understand and follow the school online safety and acceptable use policy
- Pupils have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- They monitor ICT activity in lessons, extra curricular and extended school activities

Pupils:

- are responsible for using the school ICT systems in accordance with the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy, which they will be expected to sign before being given access to school systems. At KS1 it would be expected that parents / carers would sign on behalf of the pupils and that at key stage 2, pupils and parents read and sign the document together
- 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 and carers will be responsible for:

- endorsing (by signature) the Student / Pupil Acceptable Use Policy

Policy Statements

Education – Pupils

Online Safety education will be provided in the following ways:

- A planned online safety programme is provided as part of Computing / PHSE / other lessons and is regularly revisited – this will cover both the use of ICT and new technologies in school and outside school
- Key online safety messages should be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies and pastoral activities
- Pupils should be taught to be critically aware of the materials / content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information
- Pupils should be helped to understand the need for the pupil AUP and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use of ICT, the internet and mobile devices both within and outside school
- Pupils should be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Staff should act as good role models in their use of ICT, the internet and mobile devices

Education – parents / carers

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

- Letters, newsletters, web site,
- Parents evenings
- Reference to the appropriate websites

Education & Training - Staff

Staff training will be offered as follows:

- Regular Online Safety training will be made available to staff.
- 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 Policies
- This Online Safety policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff meetings / INSET days.
- The Online Safety Coordinator will provide advice / guidance / training as required to individuals as required

Training - Governors

Governors will be invited to take part in online safety training sessions, with particular importance for those who are members the Online Safety committee and child protection.

Technical - infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring

The school is responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure / network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible.

- Pupils and visitors will access computers via the pupil login. Teachers should never use the pupil login for their own network access.

Trainee teachers will be given the same access to the schools systems as teachers with their own user name and password. They will read this policy and its appendix before using school ICT systems and sign the acceptable use agreement.

- The "master / administrator" passwords for the school ICT system, used by the ICT coordinator must also be available to the Headteacher.
- The school maintains and supports the managed filtering service provided by SWGfL and only the ICT coordinator, the Headteacher and the school's NCI technician have the username and password to access the school's web filtering domain.
- In the event of the Network Manager (or other person) needing to switch off the filtering for any reason, or for any user, this must be agreed to by the Headteacher.
- Any filtering issues should be reported immediately to SWGfL.
- Requests for sites to be removed from the filtered list will be considered by the ICT Coordinator and Headteacher, if the request is agreed, this action will be recorded and logs of such actions shall be reviewed regularly by the Online Safety Committee
- Staff will monitor the activity of users on the school ICT systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Policy.
- Any actual, or potential, online safety incident must be reported to the Online Safety Coordinator
- Staff use the network and ICT systems in line with the staff AUP
- The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up to date virus software.

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:

	Staff & other adults				Students / Pupils			
Communication Technologies	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 school	x					x		
Use of mobile phones in lessons		x						x
Taking photos of children on mobile phones				x				x
Use of hand held devices e.g. iPads, iPods	x				x			
Use of personal email addresses in school, or on school network	X Though not recommended							x
Use of school email for personal emails	x							x
Use of chat rooms / facilities				x				x
Use of instant messaging				x				x
Use of social networking sites, eg, Twitter	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. Staff are recommended to use the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or on school systems. Pupils will always do so in school and are encouraged to do so out of school.
- Users must immediately report, to the nominated person - in accordance with the school policy, the receipt of any email that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such email.
- Any digital communication between staff and students / pupils or parents / carers (email, chat, etc) must be professional in tone and content. It is recommended that these communications should only take place on official (monitored) school systems. Personal email addresses, text messaging or public chat / social networking programmes should not be used for these communications.
- Pupils should be taught about email safety issues, such as the risks attached to the use of personal details. They should also be taught strategies to deal with inappropriate emails and be reminded of the need to write emails clearly and correctly and not include any unsuitable or abusive material.
- Personal information should not be posted on the school website and only official email addresses should be used to identify members of staff.

Unsuitable / inappropriate 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 school or outside school when using school equipment or systems.

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					x
	promotion or conduct of illegal acts, e.g. under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation					x
	adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK					x
	criminally racist material in UK					x
	pornography				x	
	promotion of any kind of discrimination				x	
	promotion of racial or religious hatred				x	
	threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm				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	
Use systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by SWGfL and / or the school					x	
Uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions					x	
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)					x	
Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files					x	
Carrying out sustained or instantaneous high volume network traffic (downloading / uploading files) that causes network congestion and 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 networking sites			x			
Use of video broadcasting e.g. You tube, Vimeo			x			

If members of staff suspect that misuse might have taken place, but that the misuse is not illegal (as above) it is essential that correct procedures are used to investigate, preserve evidence and protect those carrying out the investigation. In such event the SWGfL "Procedure for Reviewing Internet Sites for Suspected Harassment and Distress" should be followed. This can be found on the SWGfL Safe website within the "Safety and Security booklet". This guidance recommends that more than one member of staff is involved in the investigation.

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:

Students / Pupils

Incidents:	Refer to class teacher / tutor	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to Police	Refer to technical support staff for action re filtering / security	Inform parents / carers	Removal of network / internet access rights	Warning	Further sanction eg 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		
Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons	x	x						
Unauthorised use of mobile phone / digital camera / other handheld device		x			x			
Unauthorised use of social networking / instant messaging / personal email		x			x			
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files		x						
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords		x				x		
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using the account of a member of staff		x				x		
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users		x				x		
Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature		x			x		x	
Continued infringements 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	x
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system in order to provide educational material only		x			x	x		
Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident		x		x				
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material		x	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	

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