

Hillside Primary School

Online Safety Policy

(Dec 23)



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 (where allowed).

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Scope of the Online Safety Policy

This Online Safety Policy outlines the commitment of Hillside Primary School to safeguard members of our school community online in accordance with statutory guidance and best practice.

This Online Safety Policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, learners, governors, 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 (where allowed).

Hillside Primary School will deal with such incidents within this policy and associated behaviour policies/procedures and will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online safety behaviour that take place out of school.

Policy development, monitoring and review

This Online Safety Policy has been developed by the:

- *Headteacher*
- *Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)*
- *Computing Lead*
- *Safeguarding Link Governor*

Schedule for development, monitoring and review

This Online Safety Policy was approved by the <i>school governing body</i> on:	13.12.23
The implementation of this Online Safety Policy will be monitored by:	<i>Child Protection Team + Computing Lead</i>
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	<i>Termly</i>
The <i>governing body</i> 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:	<i>Annually as part of Safeguarding Report to Governors</i>
The Online Safety Policy will be reviewed annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new technological developments, new threats to online safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be:	<i>Dec 24</i>
Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following external persons/agencies should be informed:	<i>LA safeguarding officer or police</i>

Process for monitoring the impact of the Online Safety Policy

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- *logs of reported incidents*
- *Filtering and monitoring logs*
- *internal monitoring data for network activity*
- *surveys/questionnaires of:*
 - *learners*
 - *parents and carers*
 - *staff.*

Policy and leadership

Responsibilities

To ensure the online safeguarding of members of our school community it is important that all members of that community work together to develop safe and responsible online behaviours, learning from each other and from good practice elsewhere, reporting inappropriate online behaviours, concerns, and misuse as soon as these become apparent. While this will be a team effort, the following sections outline the online safety roles and responsibilities of individuals¹ and groups within the school.

Headteacher and senior leaders

- The headteacher has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including online safety) of members of the school community and fostering a culture of safeguarding, though the day-to-day responsibility for online safety is held by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, as defined in Keeping Children Safe in Education.
- The headteacher and (at least) another member of the senior leadership team should be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious online safety allegation being made against a member of staff².
- The headteacher/senior leaders are responsible for ensuring that the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Computing Lead, IT provider/technical staff, and other relevant staff carry out their responsibilities effectively and receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their roles and train other colleagues, as relevant.
- The headteacher/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.
- The Child Protection Team (including the headteacher/DSL) will receive regular monitoring reports from the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Computing Lead.
- The headteacher/DSL will work with the responsible Governor, Computing Lead and IT service providers in all aspects of filtering and monitoring.

Governors

Governors are responsible for the approval of the Online Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy.

¹ In a small school some of the roles described may be combined, though it is important to ensure that there is sufficient 'separation of responsibility' should this be the case.

² See flow chart on dealing with online safety incidents in 'Responding to incidents of misuse' and relevant local authority/MAT/ HR/other relevant body disciplinary procedures.

This review will be carried out by the Child Protection Team whose members will receive regular information about online safety incidents and monitoring reports. A member of the governing body will take on the role of Online Safety Governor to include:

- **regular meetings with the DSL and Computing Lead**
- **regularly receiving (collated and anonymised) reports of online safety incidents**
- **checking that provision outlined in the Online Safety Policy (e.g. online safety education provision and staff training is taking place as intended)**
- **reporting to relevant *governors group/meeting***

The governing body will also support the school in encouraging parents/carers and the wider community to become engaged in online safety activities.

Designated Safety 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 ³
- access to illegal/inappropriate materials
- inappropriate online contact with adults/strangers
- potential or actual incidents of grooming
- online bullying.

The DSL will:

- hold the lead responsibility for online safety, within their safeguarding role.
- receive relevant and regularly updated training in online safety to enable them to understand the 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
- meet regularly with the online safety governor to discuss current issues, review (anonymised) incidents and filtering and monitoring logs and ensuring that annual (at least) filtering and monitoring checks are carried out
- attend relevant governing body meetings/groups
- report regularly to headteacher/senior leadership team

³ See ‘Personal data policy’ in the Appendix.

- be responsible for receiving reports of online safety incidents and handling them, and deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies, ensuring that all incidents are recorded.
- liaise with staff and IT providers on matters of safety and safeguarding and welfare (including online and digital safety)

Computing Lead

The Computing Lead will:

- work closely on a day-to-day basis with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- receive reports of online safety issues, being aware of the potential for serious child protection concerns and ensure that these are logged to inform future online safety developments
- have a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school online safety policies/documents
- promote an awareness of and commitment to online safety education / awareness raising across the school and beyond
- liaise with curriculum leaders to ensure that the online safety curriculum is planned, mapped, embedded and evaluated
- ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident taking place and the need to immediately report those incidents
- provide (or identify sources of) training and advice for staff/governors/parents/carers/learners
- liaise with (school/local authority/external provider) technical staff, pastoral staff and support staff (as relevant)
- receive regularly updated training to allow them to understand how digital technologies are used and are developing (particularly by learners) with regard to the areas defined In Keeping Children Safe in Education:
 - content
 - contact
 - conduct
 - commerce

Curriculum Leads

Curriculum Leads will work with the DSL/Computing Lead to develop a planned and coordinated online safety education programme.

This will be provided through:

- a discrete programme (ELIM Scheme of Work)
- PHSE and SRE programmes
- mapped cross-curricular programme
- assemblies and pastoral programmes
- through relevant national initiatives and opportunities e.g. [Safer Internet Day](#) and [Anti-bullying week](#).

Teaching and support staff

School staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- they have an awareness of current online safety matters/trends 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 agreement (AUA)
- they immediately report any suspected misuse or problem to Simon Minter (headteacher/DSL) for investigation/action, in line with the school safeguarding procedures
- all digital communications with learners and parents/carers are 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
- ensure learners understand and follow the Online Safety Policy and acceptable use agreements, have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- they supervise and monitor the use of digital technologies, mobile devices, cameras, etc., in lessons and other school activities (where allowed) and implement current policies regarding these devices
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned learners are 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, there is regard to national safeguarding guidance and local safeguarding policies ([n.b. the guidance contained in the SWGfL Safe Remote Learning Resource](#))
- there is 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.

IT Provider (Net Central)

The IT Provider is responsible for ensuring that:

- they are aware of and follow the school Online Safety Policy to carry out their work effectively in line with school policy
- the school technical infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack
- the school meets (as a minimum) the required online safety technical requirements as identified by the [DfE Meeting Digital and Technology Standards in Schools & Colleges](#) and guidance from local authority
- there is clear, safe, and managed control of user access to networks and devices
- 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 Simon Minter (DSL) for investigation and action
- the filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis and its implementation is not the sole responsibility of any single person
- *monitoring systems are implemented and regularly updated as agreed in school policies*

Learners

- are responsible for using the school digital technology systems in accordance with the learner acceptable use agreement and Online Safety Policy.
- should understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so.
- should know what to do if they or someone they know feels vulnerable when using online technology.
- 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 and carers

The school will take every opportunity to help parents and carers understand these issues through:

- publishing the school Online Safety Policy on the school website
- providing them with a copy of the learners' acceptable use agreement, which would be signed by both pupil and their parents / carers.
- publish information about appropriate use of social media relating to posts concerning the school.
- seeking their permissions concerning digital images, cloud services etc
- parents'/carers' evenings, newsletters, website, social media and information about national/local online safety campaigns and literature.

Parents and carers will be encouraged to support the school in:

- *reinforcing the online safety messages provided to learners in school.*
- *the safe and responsible use of their children's personal devices in the school (where this is allowed)*

Community users

Community users who access school systems as part of the wider school provision will be expected to sign a community user Acceptable Use Agreement before being provided with access to school systems.

The school encourages the engagement of agencies/members of the community who can provide valuable contributions to the online safety provision and actively seeks to share its knowledge and good practice with other schools and the community.

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 monitoring the Online Safety Policy including the impact of initiatives. Due to the size and structure of the school, this group is part of the Child Protection Team working with the Computing Lead.

The Online Safety Group has the following members:

- Headteacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead

- Deputy Headteacher/Deputy DSL
- Safeguarding/Online Safety Lead Governor

In consultation with...

- Computing Lead
- Technical Staff (Net Central)
- Teachers and Support Staff
- Learners
- Parents/carers
- Community representatives (e.g. Governors)

Members of the Online Safety Group will assist the DSL/Computing Lead 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 education provision – ensuring relevance, breadth and progression and coverage
- reviewing network/filtering/monitoring/incident logs, where possible
- encouraging the contribution of learners to staff awareness, emerging trends and the school online safety provision
- consulting stakeholders – including staff/parents/carers about the online safety provision
- monitoring improvement actions identified through use of the 360-degree safe self-review tool.

Professional Standards

There is an expectation that required professional standards will be applied to online safety as in other aspects of school life i.e. policies and protocols are in place for the use of online communication technology between the staff and other members of the school and wider community, using officially sanctioned school mechanisms.

Policy

Online Safety Policy

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

“**Online safety** and the school or college’s approach to it should be reflected in the child protection policy”

The school Online Safety Policy:

- sets expectations for the safe and responsible use of digital technologies for learning, administration, and communication
- allocates responsibilities for the delivery of the policy

- is regularly reviewed in a collaborative manner, taking account of online safety incidents and changes/trends in technology and related behaviours
- establishes guidance for staff in how they should use digital technologies responsibly, protecting themselves and the school and how they should use this understanding to help safeguard learners in the digital world
- describes how the school will help prepare learners to be safe and responsible users of online technologies
- establishes clear procedures to identify, report, respond to and record the misuse of digital technologies and online safety incidents, including external support mechanisms
- is supplemented by a series of related acceptable use agreements
- is made available to staff at induction and through normal communication e.g. via Knowledge Bank – Data Protection Education).
- is published on the school website.

Acceptable use

The school has defined what it regards as acceptable/unacceptable use and this is shown in the tables below.

Acceptable use agreements (AUA)

The Online Safety Policy and acceptable use agreements define acceptable use at the school. The acceptable use agreements will be communicated/re-enforced through:

- staff induction
- posters/notices around where technology is used
- communication with parents/carers
- built into education sessions
- school website
- peer support.

User actions		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for nominated users	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
Users shall not access online content (including apps, games, sites) to make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:	<p>Any illegal activity for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child sexual abuse imagery* • Child sexual abuse/exploitation/grooming • Terrorism • Encouraging or assisting suicide • Offences relating to sexual images i.e., revenge and extreme pornography • Incitement to and threats of violence • Hate crime • Public order offences - harassment and stalking • Drug-related offences • Weapons / firearms offences • Fraud and financial crime including money laundering <p>N.B. Schools should refer to guidance about dealing with self-generated images sexting – UKSIC Responding to and managing sexting incidents and UKCIS – Sexting in schools and colleges</p>					X
Users shall not undertake activities that might be classed as cyber-crime under the Computer Misuse Act (1990)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using another individual's username or ID and password to access data, a program, or parts of a system that the user is not authorised to access (even if the initial access is authorised) • Gaining unauthorised access to school networks, data and files, through the use of computers/devices • Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files • Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g., financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords) • Disable/Impair/Disrupt network functionality through the use of computers/devices • Using penetration testing equipment (without relevant permission) 					X
Users shall not undertake activities that are not illegal but are classed as unacceptable in school policies:	Accessing inappropriate material/activities online in a school setting including pornography, gambling, drugs. (Informed by the school's filtering practices and/or AUAs)			X	X	
	Promotion of any kind of discrimination				X	

User actions		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for nominated users	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
	Using school systems to run a private business				X	
	Using systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering/monitoring or other safeguards employed by the school				X	
	Infringing copyright				X	
	Unfair usage (downloading/uploading large files that hinders others in their use of the internet)			X	X	
	Any other information which may be offensive to others or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute				X	

Consideration should be given for the following activities when undertaken for non-educational purposes:	Staff and other adults				Learners			
	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed for selected staff	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed with staff permission/awa
Online gaming								
Online shopping/commerce								
File sharing								
Social media								
Messaging/chat								

Entertainment streaming e.g. Netflix, Disney+								
Use of video broadcasting, e.g. YouTube, Twitch, TikTok								
Mobile phones may be brought to school								
Use of mobile phones for learning at school								
Use of mobile phones in social time at school								
Taking photos on mobile phones/cameras								
Use of other personal devices, e.g. tablets, gaming devices								
Use of personal e-mail in school, or on school network/wi-fi								
Use of school e-mail for personal e-mails								

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

- when communicating in a professional capacity, staff should ensure that the technologies they use are officially sanctioned by the school.
- any digital communication between staff and learners or parents/carers (e-mail, social media, learning platform etc.) must be professional in tone and content. Personal e-mail addresses, text messaging or social media must not be used for these communications.
- staff should be expected to follow good practice when using personal social media regarding their own professional reputation and that of the school and its community
- users should immediately report to the headteacher – 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.
- relevant policies and permissions should be followed when posting information online e.g., school website and social media. Only school e-mail addresses should be used to identify members of staff and learners.

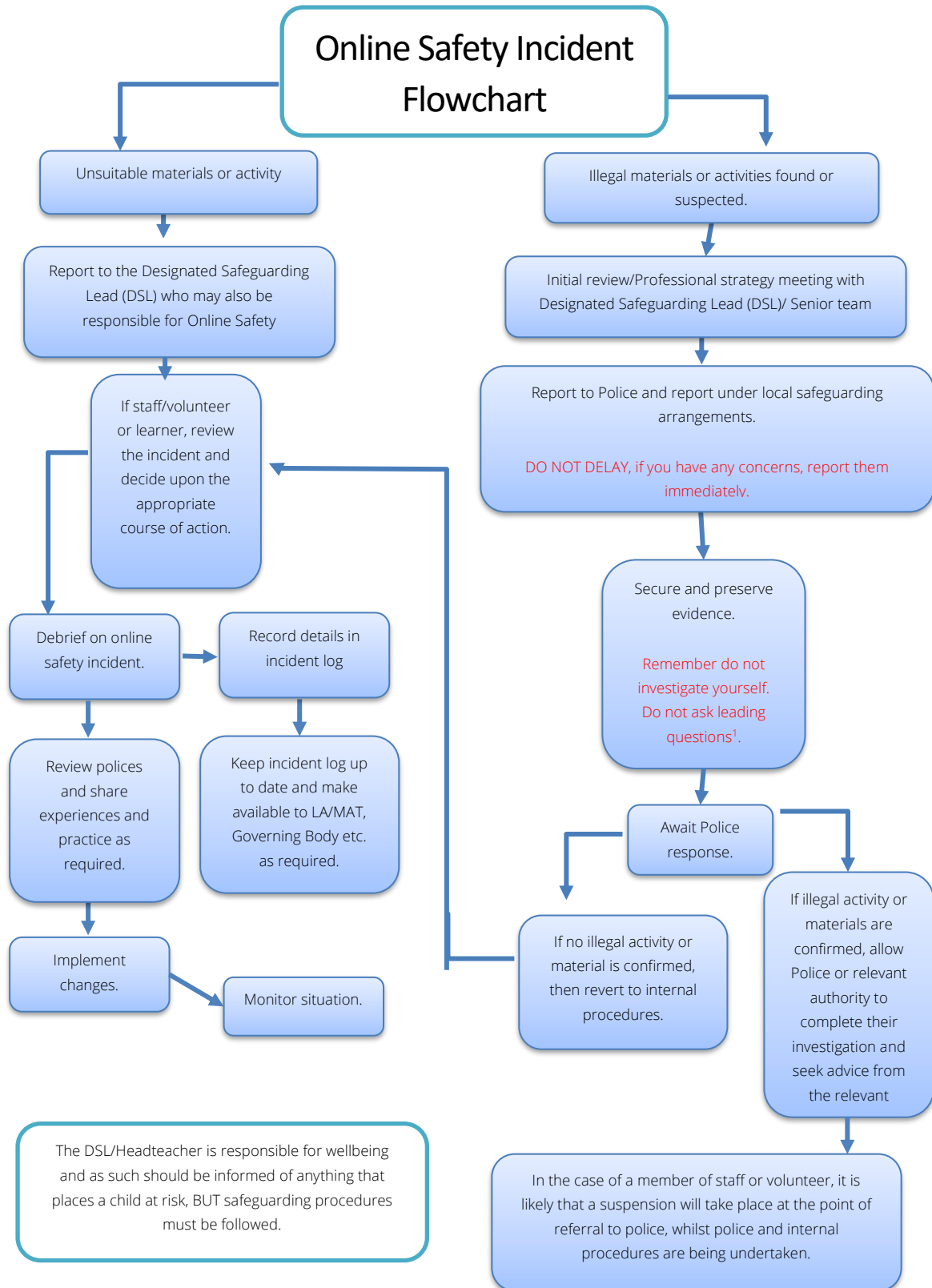
Reporting and responding

The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure online safety for all school users but recognises that incidents may occur inside and outside of the school (with impact on the school) which will need intervention. The school will ensure:

- **there are clear reporting routes which are understood and followed by all members of the school community which are consistent with the school safeguarding procedures, and with the whistleblowing, complaints and managing allegations policies.**
- **all members of the school community will be made aware of the need to report online safety issues/incidents**
- **reports will be dealt with as soon as is practically possible once they are received**
- **the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Computing Lead and other responsible staff have appropriate skills and training to deal with online safety risks.**
- **if there is any suspicion that the incident involves any illegal activity or the potential for serious harm the incident must be escalated through the agreed school safeguarding procedures. These may include:**
 - Non-consensual images
 - Self-generated images
 - Terrorism/extremism
 - Hate crime/ Abuse
 - Fraud and extortion
 - Harassment/stalking
 - Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)
 - Child Sexual Exploitation Grooming
 - Extreme Pornography
 - Sale of illegal materials/substances
 - Cyber or hacking [offences under the Computer Misuse Act](#)
 - Copyright theft or piracy
- any concern about staff misuse will be reported to the headteacher, unless the concern involves the headteacher, in which case the complaint is referred to the Chair of Governors and the local authority
- where there is no suspected illegal activity, devices may be checked using the following procedures:
 - one or more senior members of staff should be involved in this process. This is vital to protect individuals if accusations are subsequently reported.
 - conduct the procedure using a designated device that will not be used by learners and, if necessary, can be taken off site by the police should the need arise (should illegal activity be subsequently suspected). Use the same device for the duration of the procedure.
 - ensure that the relevant staff 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

- 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
 - police involvement and/or action
- it is important that those reporting an online safety incident have confidence that the report will be treated seriously and dealt with effectively
- there are support strategies in place e.g. peer support for those reporting or affected by an online safety incident
- incidents should be logged on CPOMS (Child Protection Online Management System)
- relevant staff are aware of external sources of support and guidance in dealing with online safety issues, e.g. local authority; police; [Professionals Online Safety Helpline](#); [Reporting Harmful Content](#); [CEOP](#).
- those involved in the incident will be provided with feedback about the outcome of the investigation and follow up actions
- learning from the incident (or pattern of incidents) will be provided to:
 - the Online Safety Group for consideration of updates to policies or education programmes and to review how effectively the report was dealt with
 - staff, through regular briefings
 - learners, through assemblies/lessons
 - parents/carers, through newsletters, school social media, website
 - governors, through regular safeguarding updates
 - local authority/external agencies, as relevant

The school will make the flowchart below available to staff to support the decision-making process for dealing with online safety incidents.



School actions

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:

Responding to Learner Actions

Incidents	Refer to class teacher	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to Police/Social Work	Refer to local authority technical support for advice/action	Inform parents/carers	Remove device/network/internet access rights	Issue a warning	Further sanction, in line with behaviour policy
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on User Actions on unsuitable/inappropriate activities).	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another user's account (staff or learner) or allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users.	X	X			X		X	X
Sending an e-mail, text or message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	X	X			X		X	X
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files or use of file sharing.	X	X			X		X	X
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system.	X	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	X
Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the Data Protection Act.	X	X			X		X	X
Unauthorised use of digital devices (including taking images)	X	X			X		X	X
Unauthorised use of online services	X	X			X		X	X
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity or the ethos of the school.	X	X			X		X	X
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions.	X	X			X	X		X

Responding to Staff Actions

Incidents	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to local authority/MAT/HR	Refer to Police	Refer to LA / Technical Support Staff for action re filtering, etc.	Issue a warning	Disciplinary action e.g. Suspension
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
Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules.	X	X				X
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material	X	X	X			X
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software	X	X	X			X
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system.	X	X				X
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files or file sharing	X	X				X
Breaching copyright or licensing regulations.	X	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
Sending an e-mail, text or message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	X	X				X
Using personal e-mail/social networking/messaging to carry out digital	X				X	

communications with learners and parents/carers						
Inappropriate personal use of the digital technologies e.g. social media / personal e-mail	X	X			X	
Careless use of personal data, e.g. displaying, holding or transferring data in an insecure manner	X				X	
Actions which could compromise the staff member's professional standing	X				X	
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity or the ethos of the school.	X				X	
Failing to report incidents whether caused by deliberate or accidental actions	X	X			X	X
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions.	X	X				X

Online Safety Education Programme

The 2021 Ofsted “Review of Sexual Abuse in Schools and Colleges” highlighted the need for:

“a carefully sequenced RSHE (Relationships Sex and Health Education) curriculum, based on the Department for Education’s (DfE’s) statutory guidance, that specifically includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online. This should include time for open discussion of topics that children and young people tell us they find particularly difficult, such as consent and the sending of ‘nudes’.”

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 for all year groups matched against a nationally agreed framework e.g. Elim scheme of work
- Lessons are matched to need; are age-related and build on prior learning
- Lessons are context-relevant with agreed objectives leading to clear and evidenced outcomes
- Learner need and progress are addressed through effective planning and assessment
- Digital competency is planned and effectively threaded through the appropriate digital pillars in other curriculum areas e.g. PHSE, RSE, Literacy etc
- it incorporates/makes use of relevant national initiatives and opportunities e.g. Safer Internet Day
- the programme will be accessible to learners at different ages and abilities such as those with additional learning needs or those with English as an additional language

- learners should be helped to understand the need for the learner 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 learners 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 learners are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should be vigilant in supervising the learners and monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit
- the online safety education programme should be relevant and up to date to ensure the quality of learning and outcomes.

Contribution of Learners

The school acknowledges, learns from, and uses the skills and knowledge of learners in the use of digital technologies. We recognise the potential for this to shape the online safety strategy for the school community and how this contributes positively to the personal development of young people. Their contribution is recognised through:

- pupil survey
- learners designing/updating acceptable use agreements and school rules (through the School Council)
- contributing to online safety events with the wider school community e.g. parents' evenings, parent workshops/training etc.

Staff/volunteers

All staff will 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 and data protection training will be made available to all staff. This will be regularly updated and reinforced. An audit of the online safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly.
- the training will be an integral part of the school's annual safeguarding and data protection training for all staff
- all new staff will receive online safety training/information as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school online safety policy and acceptable use agreements. It includes explicit reference to classroom management, professional conduct, online reputation and the need to model positive online behaviours
- the Designated Safeguarding Lead will receive regular updates through attendance at external training events (e.g. UKSIC / 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 meetings/INSET days/emails etc
- the Designated Safeguarding Lead will provide advice/guidance/training to individuals as required.

Governors

Governors should take part in online safety training/awareness sessions, with particular importance for those who are members of any sub-committee/group involved in technology/online safety/health and safety/safeguarding. This may be offered in several ways such as:

- attendance at training provided by the local authority or other relevant organisation e.g., South West Grid for Learning Trust (SWGfL)
- participation in school training / information sessions for staff or parents ([this may include attendance at assemblies/lessons](#)).

A higher level of training will be made available to (at least) the Online Safety Governor. This will include:

- Cyber-security training (at least at a basic level)
- Training to allow the governor to understand the school's filtering and monitoring provision, in order that they can participate in the required checks and review.

Families

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 seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through:

- regular communication, awareness-raising and engagement on online safety issues, curriculum activities and reporting routes
- regular opportunities for engagement with parents/carers on online safety issues through awareness workshops / parent/carers evenings etc
- the learners – who are encouraged to pass on to parents the online safety messages they have learned in lessons and by learners leading sessions at parent/carers evenings.
- letters/emails, newsletters, website, learning platform,
- high profile events / campaigns e.g. Safer Internet Day
- reference to the relevant web sites/publications, e.g. SWGfL; www.saferinternet.org.uk/; www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers (see Appendix for further links/resources).
- sharing good practice with other schools e.g. Cluster DSL Meetings, Broader Horizons Meetings etc.

Adults and Agencies

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

- online safety messages targeted towards families and relatives.
- providing family learning sessions in use of digital technologies and online safety
- providing online safety information via their website and social media for the wider community
- supporting community groups, e.g. early years settings, childminders, youth/sports/voluntary groups to enhance their online safety provision

Technology

The school is 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. The school should ensure that all staff are made aware of policies and procedures in place on a regular basis and explain that everyone is responsible for online safety and data protection.

Filtering & Monitoring

The school filtering and monitoring provision is agreed by senior leaders, governors and the IT Service Provider and is regularly reviewed (at least annually) and updated in response to changes in technology and patterns of online safety incidents/behaviours

Day to day management of filtering and monitoring systems requires the specialist knowledge of both safeguarding and IT staff to be effective. The DSL will have lead responsibility for safeguarding and online safety and the IT service provider will have technical responsibility

The filtering and monitoring provision is reviewed (at least annually) by The Child Protection Team with the involvement of the Computing Lead and IT Service Provider.

- **checks on the filtering and monitoring system are carried out by the IT Service Provider with the involvement of the headteacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Safeguarding/Online Safety Governor, in particular when a safeguarding risk is identified, there is a change in working practice, e.g. remote access or BYOD (bring your own device) or new technology is introduced e.g. using [SWGfL Test Filtering](#)**

Filtering

- the school manages access to content across its systems for all users and on all devices using the school's internet provision. The filtering provided meets the standards defined in the DfE [Filtering standards for schools and colleges](#) and the guidance provided in the UK Safer Internet Centre [Appropriate filtering](#).
- illegal content (e.g. child sexual abuse images) is filtered by the broadband or filtering provider by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation URL list and the police assessed list of unlawful terrorist content, produced on behalf of the Home Office. Content lists are regularly updated
- there are established and effective routes for users to report inappropriate content, recognising that no system can be 100% effective
- there is a clear process in place to deal with, and log, requests/approvals for filtering changes
- filtering logs are regularly reviewed and alert the Designated Safeguarding Lead to breaches of the filtering policy, which are then acted upon

If necessary, the school will seek advice from, and report issues to, the SWGfL [Report Harmful Content](#) site.

Monitoring

The school has monitoring systems in place to protect the school, systems and users:

- The school monitors all network use across all its devices and services
- Monitoring reports are urgently picked up, acted on and outcomes are recorded by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, all users are aware that the network (and devices) are monitored
- There are effective protocols in place to report abuse/misuse. There is a clear process for prioritising response to alerts that require rapid safeguarding intervention
- Management of serious safeguarding alerts is consistent with safeguarding policy and practice

The school follows the UK Safer Internet Centre [Appropriate Monitoring](#) guidance and protects users and school systems through the use of the appropriate blend of strategies informed by the school's risk assessment. These may include:

- physical monitoring (adult supervision in the classroom)
- internet use is logged, regularly monitored and reviewed
- filtering logs are regularly analysed and breaches are reported to senior leaders

Technical Security

The school technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school meets recommended technical requirements:

- **responsibility for technical security resides with SLT who may delegate activities to identified roles.**
- **all users have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices. Details of the access rights available to groups of users will be recorded by the IT service provider and will be reviewed, at least annually, by the SLT/Online Safety Group**
- **password policy and procedures are implemented.**
- **the security of their username and password and must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details.**
- **all users have responsibility for the security of their username and password and must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details.**
- **all school networks and system will be protected by secure passwords. Passwords must not be shared with anyone.**
- **the administrator passwords for school systems are kept in a secure place.**
- **there is a risk-based approach to the allocation of learner usernames and passwords.**
- **there will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school technical systems**
- **servers, wireless systems and cabling are securely located and physical access restricted**
- **appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, routers, wireless systems and devices 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 endpoint software.**
- **there are rigorous and verified back-up routines, including the keeping of network-separated (air-gapped) copies off-site or in the cloud,**
- **Jonathan Lee (Net Central) is responsible for ensuring that all software purchased by and used by the school is adequately licenced and that the latest software updates (patches) are applied.**
- **an appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual/potential technical incident/security breach to the relevant person, as agreed)**
- **use of school devices out of school and by family members is regulated by an acceptable use statement that a user consents to when the device is allocated to them**
- **personal use of any device on the school network is regulated by acceptable use statements that a user consents to when using the network**
- **staff members are not permitted to install software on a school-owned devices without the consent of the SLT/IT service provider**
- **removable media is not permitted unless approved by the SLT/IT service provider**
- **systems are in place to control and protect personal data and data is encrypted at rest and in transit.**
- **mobile device security and management procedures are in place**

- **guest users, (e.g., trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) are provided with appropriate access to school systems based on an identified risk profile.**

Mobile technologies

Mobile technology devices may be school owned/provided or personally owned and might include smartphone, tablet, wearable devices, 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 learning platform and other cloud-based services such as e-mail and data storage.

All users should understand that the primary purpose of the use of mobile/personal devices in a school context is educational. The mobile technologies policy should be consistent with and inter-related to other relevant school policies including but not limited to those for safeguarding, behaviour, anti-bullying, acceptable use, 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.

In preparing a mobile technologies policy the school should consider possible issues and risks. These may include:

- security risks in allowing connections to your school network
- filtering of personal devices
- breakages and insurance
- access to devices for all learners
- avoiding potential classroom distraction
- network connection speeds, types of devices
- charging facilities
- total cost of ownership.

The school acceptable use agreements for staff, learners, parents, and carers outline the expectations around the use of mobile technologies.

The school allows:

	School devices			Personal devices		
	School owned for individual use	School owned for multiple users	Authorised device ⁴	Student owned	Staff owned	Visitor owned
Allowed in school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	Yes**	Yes**
Full network access	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Internet only	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No

⁴ Authorised device – purchased by the learner/family through a school-organised scheme. This device may be given full access to the network as if it were owned by the school.

*Only Y5/6 pupils with parental permission and to be kept in the School Office all day.

**These must remain on their person and only be used in an emergency and/or with permission.

School owned/provided devices:

- all school devices are managed through the use of Mobile Device Management software
- there is an asset log that clearly states whom a device has been allocated to. There is clear guidance on where, when and how use is allowed
- any designated mobile-free zone is clearly signposted
- personal use (e.g. online banking, shopping, images etc.) is clearly defined and expectations are well-communicated.
- the use of devices on trips/events away from school is clearly defined and expectation are well-communicated.
- staff should not use personal data storage devices (e.g. memory sticks, flash drives etc) on the premises or in school devices
- liability for damage aligns with current school policy for the replacement of equipment.
- education is in place to support responsible use.

Personal devices:

- only Y5+6 children are able to bring a mobile phone to school. But they are not allowed to use these on the premises and they are kept in the school office all day
- staff are allowed to bring mobile phones into school and keep them on their person, but they must not be visible or used in front of the children, unless for emergencies or agreed by the Headteacher (e.g. school trip)
- staff are encouraged to use school WIFI to enable us to monitor internet usage

⁴ Authorised device – purchased by the learner/family through a school-organised scheme. This device may be given full access to the network as if it were owned by the school.

- staff should not take/store photos of the children on their own device unless agreed by the Headteacher. For example, staff may take photos on a school trip, but these must be downloaded and deleted promptly afterwards
- visitors are allowed to bring mobile phones on to the site, but these should not be visible to the children and can only use them to take photos/videos with permission. They must not share (social media) images or videos of anyone else's children without their permission
- staff may use personal laptops iPads/tablets in school when their allocated equipment does not work and they have had agreement by the Headteacher
- staff must make their own arrangements for insuring their property, as they may not be covered on School Insurance Policies if damaged on site or when being used for school purposes (e.g. on a trip)
- staff should not use personal data storage devices (e.g. memory sticks, flash drives etc) on the premises or in school devices
- staff are trained and regularly reminded about their responsibilities towards GDPR
- misuse or failure to follow school policy (e.g. Online Safety, Staff Code of Conduct, Acceptable User Agreements etc) will result in disciplinary procedures

Social media

The school provides the following measures to ensure reasonable steps are in place to minimise risk of harm to learners through:

- ensuring that personal information is not published.
- education/training being provided including acceptable use, age restrictions, social media risks, digital and video images policy, checking of settings, data protection and 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 learners, 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.
- 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, moderation, and monitoring of these accounts – involving at least two members of staff
- a code of behaviour for users of the accounts
- 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 personal social media accounts. In all cases, where a personal account is used which associates itself with, 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 personal social media sites during school hours, although not during lesson times or in front of the children

Monitoring of public social media

- As part of active social media engagement, the school may 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.

Digital and video images

The development of digital imaging technologies has created significant benefits to learning, allowing staff and learners instant use of images that they have recorded themselves or downloaded from the internet. However, staff, parents/carers and learners 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 normal 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:

- **the school may use live-streaming or video-conferencing services in line with national and local safeguarding guidance / policies.**
- **when using digital images, staff will inform and educate learners about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images.**
- **staff/volunteers must be aware of those learners whose images must not be taken/published. Those images should only be taken on school devices. The personal devices of staff should not be used for such purposes**
- 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 *learners* 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, storage, distribution and publication of those images
- care should be taken when sharing digital/video images that learners are appropriately dressed
- learners must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission
- photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include learners will be selected carefully and will comply with Online Safety Policy
- **learners' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs**
- **written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of learners are taken for use in school or published on the school website/social media.** (see parents and carers acceptable use agreement in the Appendix). Permission is not required for images taken solely for internal purposes
- **parents/carers will be informed of the purposes for the use of images, how they will be stored and for how long – in line with the school data protection policy**
- **images will be securely stored in line with the school retention policy**

Online Publishing

The school communicates with parents/carers and the wider community and promotes the school through:

- Public-facing website
- Social media
- Online newsletters
- *Other: Tapestry (EYFS) & Seesaw (KS1 & KS2)*

The school website is managed/hosted by Creative Corner. The school ensures that online safety policy has been followed in the use of online publishing e.g., use of digital and video images, copyright, identification of young people, publication of school calendars and personal information – ensuring that there is least risk to members of the school community, through such publications.

Where learner work, images or videos are published, their identities are protected, and full names are not published.

The school public online publishing provides information about online safety e.g., publishing the schools Online Safety Policy and acceptable use agreements; curating latest advice and guidance; news articles etc, creating an online safety page on the school website.

The website includes an online reporting process for parents and the wider community to register issues and concerns to complement the internal reporting process.

Data Protection

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

The school:

- has a Data Protection Policy.
- implements the data protection principles and can demonstrate that it does so
- has paid the appropriate fee to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)
- has appointed an appropriate Data Protection Officer (DPO) who has effective understanding of data protection law and is free from any conflict of interest.
- has a 'Record of Processing Activities' in place and knows exactly what personal data is held, where, why and which member of staff has responsibility for managing it
- the Record of Processing Activities lists the lawful basis for processing personal data (including, where relevant, consent). Where special category data is processed, an additional lawful basis is listed
- has an 'information asset register' in place and knows exactly [what personal data is held](#), where, why and which member of staff has responsibility for managing it
- information asset register lists the lawful basis for processing personal data (including, where relevant, consent). Where special category data is processed, an additional lawful basis will have also been listed
- will hold the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for. The school 'retention schedule' supports this
- data held is accurate and up to date and is held only for the purpose it was held for. Systems are in place to identify inaccuracies, such as asking parents to check emergency contact details at suitable intervals
- 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
- has procedures in place to deal with the individual rights of the data subject,
- carries out Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) where necessary e.g. to ensure protection of personal data when accessed using any remote access solutions, or entering into a relationship with a new supplier
- has undertaken appropriate due diligence and has data protection compliant contracts in place with any data processors
- understands how to share data lawfully and safely with other relevant data controllers.
- has clear and understood policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data

- **reports any relevant breaches to the Information Commissioner within 72hrs of becoming aware of the breach as required by 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**
- **has a Freedom of Information Policy which sets out how it will deal with FOI requests**
- **provides data protection training for all staff 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 will be encrypted, and password protected.**
- **device will be password protected.**
- **device will be protected by up-to-date endpoint (anti-virus) software**
- **data will 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 and know who to pass it to in the school**
- **only use encrypted data storage for personal data**
- **will not transfer any school personal data to personal devices.**
- **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, a secure email account (where appropriate), and secure password protected devices.**

Outcomes

The impact of the Online Safety Policy and practice is regularly evaluated through the review/audit of online safety incident logs; behaviour/bullying reports; surveys of staff, learners; parents/carers and is reported to relevant groups:

- **there is balanced professional debate about the evidence taken from the reviews/audits and the impact of preventative work e.g., online safety education, awareness, and training**

- there are well-established routes to regularly report patterns of online safety incidents and outcomes to school leadership and Governors
- parents/carers are informed of patterns of online safety incidents as part of the school's online safety awareness raising
- online safety (and related) policies and procedures are regularly updated in response to the evidence gathered from these reviews/audits/professional debate
- the evidence of impact is shared with other schools, agencies and LAs to help ensure the development of a consistent and effective local online safety strategy.

Appendix

Copies of the more detailed template policies and agreements, contained in the appendix, can be found in the links and resources section of the relevant aspects in the 360safe self-review tool and online on the [SWGfL website](#).

The appendices are as follows:

Appendix 1 - Learner Acceptable Use Agreement – KS2

Appendix 2 - Learner Acceptable Use Agreement – EYFS / KS1

Appendix 3 - Staff (and Volunteer) Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

Appendix 1: Pupil Acceptable User Agreement (KS2)



Hillside Primary School Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement – KS2



When I use devices, I must behave responsibly to help keep me and other users safe online and to look after the devices.

For my own personal safety:

- I understand that what I do online will be supervised and monitored and that I may not be allowed to use devices in school unless I follow these rules and use them responsibly
- I will only visit internet sites that adults have told me are safe to visit
- I will keep my username and password safe and secure and not share it with anyone else
- I will be aware of “stranger danger” when I am online
- I will not share personal information about myself or others when online
- If I arrange to meet people off-line that I have communicated with online, I will do so in a public place and take a trusted adult with me
- I will immediately tell an adult if I see anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it online.

I will look after the devices I use, so that the school and everyone there can be safe:

- I will handle all the devices carefully and only use them if I have permission.
- I will not try to alter the settings on any devices or try to install any software or programmes.
- I will tell an adult if a device is damaged or if anything else goes wrong.
- I will only use the devices to do things that I am allowed to do.

I will think about how my behaviour online might affect other people:

- When online, I will act as I expect others to act toward me.
- I will not copy anyone else’s work or files without their permission.
- I will be polite and responsible when I communicate with others and I appreciate that others may have different opinions to me.
- I will not take or share images of anyone without their permission.

I know that there are other rules that I need to follow:

- I will only bring my mobile phone into school, when I am in Year 5 or 6 and have written permission from my parent/s. I must not use it in school (or on school property) and must always hand it in, so it can be kept in the school office throughout the day.

- 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 is accurate, as I understand that the work of others may not be truthful and may be a deliberate attempt to mislead me.
- I should have permission if I use the original work of others in my own work.

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

- I know that I am expected to follow these rules in school and that I should behave in the same way when out of school as well.
- I understand that if I do not follow these rules, I may be subject to disciplinary action. This could include loss of access to the school network/internet, suspensions, parents/carers contacted and in the event of illegal activities involvement of the police.

Learner Acceptable Use Agreement Form

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 bring my mobile phone into school (when allowed).
- I am out of school and involved in any online behaviour that might affect the school or other members of the school.

Name of Learner: Group/Class:.....

Signed: Date:

Appendix 2: Pupil Acceptable User Agreement (EYFS / KS1)



Hillside Primary School

Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement – 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 / iPads.
- I will only use activities that a teacher or suitable adult has told 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 think I have done something wrong.
- I will tell a teacher or suitable adult if I see something upsets me on the screen, as part of our 'SMART' rules e.g. Safe, Meet, Acceptable, Reliable and Tell.
- I know that if I break the rules, I might not be allowed to use a computer / iPad.

Signed (child): _____

Signed (parent): _____

Date: _____

Appendix 3: Staff & Volunteer Acceptable Use Agreement



Hillside Primary School Staff and Volunteer Acceptable Use Agreement



New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools 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 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 learners 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, Virtual Learning Environment 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, unless I have permission to do so. Where these images are published (e.g. 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 learners 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 has the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the school:

- When I use my mobile devices 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 anti-virus software and are free from viruses. I will not use personal email addresses on the school's ICT systems, unless I have permission e.g. haven't yet been allocated a school email address.
- 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, unless this is allowed in school policies.
- 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 learner 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 online systems 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's 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 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: