

# Fairhaven CE VA Primary School



## Online Safety Policy

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**Signed** *Ian Campbell*     **Date** 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Chair of Governors**

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## **Vision Statement**

Our Christian school community strives to provide a variety of learning experiences for all our young people. We are here to nurture the gifts God gives us and to celebrate our differences. We encourage our pupils to explore their interests, find their talents, flourish and live life to the full. We want our children to live great lives and ultimately make a difference in the world.

**Belief – Friendship – Diversity - Achieve**

**At Fairhaven we want everyone to be the very best they can be.**

## **Statement of Intent**

Fairhaven CE VA Primary understands that using online services is an important aspect of raising educational standards, promoting pupil achievement, and enhancing teaching and learning. Our school aim is to deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology, including mobile and smart technology. We also create clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate. The use of online services is embedded throughout the school; therefore, there are a number of controls in place to ensure the safety of pupils and staff.

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but they can be categorised into four areas of risk:

- **Content:** Being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material, e.g. pornography, fake news, self-harm and suicide, and discriminatory or extremist views.
- **Contact:** Being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users, e.g. peer pressure, commercial advertising, and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit children.
- **Conduct:** Personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, e.g. sending and receiving explicit messages, and cyberbullying.
- **Commerce:** Risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams.

**The measures implemented to protect pupils and staff revolve around these areas of risk. Fairhaven Primary school has created this policy with the aim of ensuring appropriate and safe use of the internet and other digital technology devices by all pupils and staff.**

## **Legal framework**

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2021) 'Harmful online challenges and online hoaxes'
- DfE (2022) 'Keeping children safe in education 2022'
- DfE (2023) 'Teaching online safety in school'
- DfE (2022) 'Searching, screening and confiscation'
- Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and UK Council for Internet Safety (2020) 'Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people'
- UK Council for Child Internet Safety (2020) 'Education for a Connected World – 2020 edition'
- National Cyber Security Centre (2018) 'Small Business Guide: Cyber Security'

This policy also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

## **1.Roles and responsibilities**

### **1.1 The governing board**

The governing body has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy is effective and complies with relevant laws and statutory guidance. They will monitor this policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation. Online safety will be discussed during governor meetings under the agenda item of safeguarding.

All governors will:

The governing board will be responsible for:

- Ensuring they have read and understood the policy.
- Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet.
- Ensure that online safety is running and interrelated theme while devising and implementing their whole school approach to safeguarding and related policies and/or procedures.
- Ensure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This is because of

the importance of recognising that a 'one size fits all' approach may not be appropriate for all children in all situations, and a more personalised or contextualised approach may often be more suitable.

## **1.2 The headteacher**

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

The headteacher will:

- Ensure that online safety is a running and interrelated theme throughout the school's policies and procedures, including in those related to the curriculum, teacher training and safeguarding.
- Ensure staff receive regular, up-to-date and appropriate online safety training and information as part of their induction and safeguarding training.
- Ensure online safety practices are audited and evaluated with the computing lead.
- Keep parents/carers up to date with current online safety issues and how the school is keeping pupils safe.
- Work with other adults within the school community, including the ICT technician and computing lead, to conduct a light-touch reviews of this policy at least termly.

## **1.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead**

At Fairhaven Primary, the headteacher is also the designated safeguarding officer (DSL).

The DSL will:

- Manage all online safety issues and incidents in line with the school child protection policy.
- Undertake training so they understand the risks associated with online safety and can recognise additional risks that pupils with SEND face online.
- Ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy.
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy.
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety.
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary.

- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the headteacher and/or governing board.
- Ensure online safety practices are audited and evaluated.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

## **1.4 ICT Management**

The school works with Net Central for ICT support.

Net Central will be responsible for:

The ICT manager is responsible for:

- Putting in place an appropriate level of security protection procedures, such as filtering and monitoring systems, which are reviewed and updated on a regular basis to assess effectiveness and ensure pupils are kept safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material.
- Ensuring that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly.
- Conducting a full security check and monitoring the school's ICT systems on a regular basis.
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files.
- Work with the headteacher to ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Work with the headteacher to ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy.
- Work with the headteacher to conduct a light-touch review of this policy at least termly.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

## **1.5 All staff and volunteers are responsible for:**

- All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:
- Maintaining an understanding of this policy.
- Implementing this policy consistently.
- Ensuring they are familiar with, and understand, the indicators that pupils may be unsafe online.
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use.

- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy.
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Responding appropriately to all reports and concerns about sexual violence and/or harassment, both online and offline and maintaining an attitude of 'it could happen here'.
- Modelling good online behaviours and maintaining a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology.
- Where relevant to their role, ensuring online safety is embedded in their teaching of the curriculum.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

## **1.6 Pupils**

Pupils will be responsible for:

- Adhering to the Acceptable Use Agreement and other relevant policies.
- Seeking help from school staff if they are concerned about something they or a peer have experienced online.
- Reporting online safety incidents and concerns in line with the procedures within this policy.

## **1.7 Visitors and members of the community**

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's ICT systems or internet will be made aware of this policy, when relevant, and expected to read and follow it. If appropriate, they will be expected to agree to the terms on acceptable use.

## **2. Educating pupils about online safety**

Online safety is embedded throughout the curriculum; however, it is particularly addressed in the following subjects:

- Relationships and health education
- PSHE
- Computing

Online safety teaching is always appropriate to pupils' ages and development stages. At Fairhaven Primary School, Key Stage 1 pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private



- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

At Fairhaven Primary School, Key Stage 2 pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact

## **2.1 By the end of primary school, pupils will know:**

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- How information and data is shared and used online
- What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know

The online risks pupils may face online are always considered when developing the curriculum. The risks that are considered and how they are covered in the curriculum can be found in Appendix A of this policy.

The headteacher and deputy DSL will be involved with the development of the school's online safety curriculum. Pupils will be consulted on the online safety curriculum, where appropriate, due to their unique knowledge of the kinds of websites they and their peers frequent and the kinds of behaviours in which they engage online.

The headteacher in her role as SENCO and designated teacher for children in care, will ensure the curriculum is tailored so that pupils who may be more vulnerable to online harms, receive the information and support they need.

The school will also endeavour to take a more personalised or contextualised approach to teaching about online safety for more susceptible children, and in response to instances of harmful online behaviour from pupils.

Class teachers will review external resources prior to using them for the online safety curriculum, to ensure they are appropriate for the cohort of pupils.

External visitors may be invited into school to help with the delivery of certain aspects of the online safety curriculum.

Before conducting a lesson or activity on online safety, the class teacher will consider the topic that is being covered and the potential that pupils in the class have suffered or may be suffering from online abuse or harm in this way. The DSL will advise the staff member on how to best support any pupil who may be especially impacted by a lesson or activity. Lessons and activities will be planned carefully so they do not draw attention to a pupil who is being or has been abused or harmed online, to avoid publicising the abuse.

During an online safety lesson or activity, the class teacher will ensure a safe environment is maintained in which pupils feel comfortable to say what they feel and ask questions and are not worried about getting into trouble or being judged.

If a staff member is concerned about anything pupils raise during online safety lessons and activities, they will make a report in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

If a pupil makes a disclosure to a member of staff regarding online abuse following a lesson or activity, the staff member will follow the reporting procedure outlined in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

### **3. Use of technology in the classroom**

A wide range of technology will be used during lessons, including the following:

- Laptops
- Chromebooks
- Email
- Cameras

Prior to using any websites, tools, apps or other online platforms in the classroom, or recommending that pupils use these platforms at home, the class teacher will review and evaluate the resource. Class teachers will ensure that any internet-derived materials are used in line with copyright law.

Pupils will be supervised when using online materials during lesson time – this supervision is suitable to their age and ability.

#### **4. Use of smart technology**

While the school recognises that the use of smart technology can have educational benefits, there are also a variety of associated risks which the school will ensure it manages.

Whilst teaching, staff will use all smart technology and personal technology in line with the school's acceptable use policy.

Pupils will not be permitted to any personal smart devices in school.

Pupils will be taught about the appropriate use / how to keep safe whilst using smart technologies during lessons and school assemblies. The school will consider the 4Cs (content, contact, conduct and commerce) when educating pupils about the risks involved with the inappropriate use of smart technology and enforcing the appropriate disciplinary measures.

The school will seek to ensure that it is kept up to date with the latest devices, platforms, apps, trends and related threats.

#### **5. Working with parents and carers**

The school will work in partnership with parents to ensure pupils stay safe online at school and at home. Parents will be provided with information about the school's approach to online safety and their role in protecting their children. Parents will be sent a copy of the Acceptable Use Agreement at the beginning of each academic year and are encouraged to go through this with their child to ensure their child understands the document and the implications of not following it.

Parents will be made aware of the various ways in which their children may be at risk online, including, but not limited to:

- Child sexual abuse, including grooming.
- Exposure to radicalising content.
- Sharing of indecent imagery of pupils, e.g. sexting.
- Cyberbullying.
- Exposure to age-inappropriate content, e.g. pornography.
- Exposure to harmful content, e.g. content that encourages self-destructive behaviour.

Parents will be informed of the ways in which they can prevent their child from accessing harmful content at home, e.g. by implementing parental controls to block age-inappropriate content.

Parental awareness regarding how they can support their children to be safe online will be raised in the following ways:

- Parents' evenings
- In school and after school information sessions
- Newsletters
- Website links

## **6. Managing online safety**

All staff will be aware that technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues affecting young people, particularly owing to the rise of social media and the increased prevalence of children using the internet.

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the school's approach to online safety, with support from computing lead and named DSLs where appropriate and will ensure that there are strong processes in place to handle any concerns about pupils' safety online. The headteacher should liaise with the police or children's social care services for support responding to harmful online sexual behaviour.

The importance of online safety is integrated across all school operations in the following ways:

- Staff and governors receive regular training
- Staff receive regular email updates regarding online safety information and any changes to online safety guidance or legislation
- Online safety is integrated into learning throughout the curriculum
- Taught as a stand-alone topic in PSHE and Computing lessons across key stages
- Assemblies are conducted termly on the topic of remaining safe online
- Children and parents are invited to join in sessions to support online safety
- Policies are kept up to date with current legislation
- Headteacher report includes updates to online safety – half-termly

### **6.1 Handling online safety concerns**

Any disclosures made by pupils to staff members about online abuse, harassment or exploitation, whether they are the victim or disclosing on behalf of another child, will be handled in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Staff will be aware that harmful online sexual behaviour can progress on a continuum, and appropriate and early intervention can prevent abusive behaviour in the future. Staff will also acknowledge that pupils displaying this type of behaviour are often victims of abuse themselves and should be suitably supported.

The victim of online harmful sexual behaviour may ask for no one to be told about the abuse. The DSL will consider whether sharing details of the abuse would put the victim in a more harmful position, or whether it is necessary, to protect them from further harm. Ultimately the DSL will balance the victim's wishes against their duty to protect the victim and other young people. The DSL and other appropriate staff members will meet with the victim's parents to discuss the safeguarding measures that are being put in place to support their child and how the report will progress.

Confidentiality will not be promised, and information may be still shared lawfully, for example, if the DSL decides that there is a legal basis under UK GDPR such as the public task basis whereby it is in the public interest to share the information. If the decision is made to report abuse to children's social care or the police against the victim's wishes, this must be handled extremely carefully – the reasons for sharing the information should be explained to the victim and appropriate specialised support should be offered.

Concerns regarding a staff member's online behaviour are reported to the headteacher (as per our Whistleblowing Policy), who decides on the best course of action in line with the relevant policies. If the concern is about the headteacher, it is reported to the chair of governors (as per our Whistleblowing Policy).

Concerns regarding a pupil's online behaviour are reported to the DSL, who investigates concerns with relevant staff members, e.g. the teacher and ICT technicians, and manages concerns in accordance with relevant policies depending on their nature, e.g. the Behaviour Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Where there is a concern that illegal activity has taken place, the headteacher contacts the police.

The school avoids unnecessarily criminalising pupils, e.g. calling the police, where criminal behaviour is thought to be inadvertent and as a result of ignorance or normal developmental curiosity, e.g. a pupil has taken and distributed indecent imagery of themselves. The DSL will decide in which cases this response is appropriate and will manage such cases in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

All online safety incidents and the school's response are recorded by the DSL.

## **7. Cyberbullying**

### **7.1 Definition**

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

Cyberbullying can include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Threatening, intimidating or upsetting text messages
- Threatening or embarrassing pictures and video clips sent via mobile phone cameras
- Silent or abusive phone calls or using the victim's phone to harass others, to make them think the victim is responsible
- Threatening or bullying emails, possibly sent using a pseudonym or someone else's name
- Unpleasant messages sent via instant messaging
- Unpleasant or defamatory information posted to blogs, personal websites and social networking sites, e.g. Facebook
- Abuse between young people in intimate relationships online i.e. teenage relationship abuse
- Discriminatory bullying online i.e. homophobia, racism, misogyny/misandry.

### **7.2 Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying**

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate. During lessons, teachers will discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be.

All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training.

The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents so that they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

The DSL will report the incident and provide the relevant material to the police as soon as is reasonably practicable, if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that possessing that material is illegal. They will also work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

The school will be aware that certain pupils can be more at risk of abuse and/or bullying online, such as pupils with SEND.

Cyberbullying against pupils or staff is not tolerated under any circumstances. Incidents of cyberbullying are dealt with quickly and effectively wherever they occur in line with the Anti-bullying Policy.

## **8. Child-on-child sexual abuse and harassment**

Pupils may also use the internet and technology as a vehicle for sexual abuse and harassment. Staff will understand that this abuse can occur both in and outside of school, off and online, and will remain aware that pupils are less likely to report concerning online sexual behaviours, particularly if they are using websites that they know adults will consider to be inappropriate for their age.

The following are examples of online harmful sexual behaviour of which staff will be expected to be aware:

- Threatening, facilitating or encouraging sexual violence
- Up skirting, i.e. taking a picture underneath a person's clothing without consent and with the intention of viewing their genitals, breasts or buttocks
- Sexualised online bullying, e.g. sexual jokes or taunts
- Unwanted and unsolicited sexual comments and messages
- Consensual or non-consensual sharing of sexualised imagery
- Abuse between young people in intimate relationships online, i.e. teenage relationship abuse

All staff will be aware of and promote a zero-tolerance approach to sexually harassing or abusive behaviour, and any attempts to pass such behaviour off as trivial or harmless. Staff will be aware that allowing such behaviour could lead to a school culture that normalises abuse and leads to pupils becoming less likely to report such conduct.

Staff will be aware that creating, possessing, and distributing indecent imagery of other children, i.e. individuals under the age of 18, is a criminal offence, even where the imagery is created, possessed, and distributed with the permission of the child depicted, or by the child themselves.

The school will be aware that interactions between the victim of online harmful sexual behaviour and the alleged perpetrator(s) are likely to occur over social media following the initial report, as well as interactions with other pupils taking “sides”, often leading to repeat harassment. The school will respond to these incidents in an appropriate manner.

The school will respond to all concerns regarding online child-on-child sexual abuse and harassment, regardless of whether the incident took place on the school premises or using school-owned equipment. Concerns regarding online child-on-child abuse will be reported to the DSL, who will investigate the matter in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **9. Grooming and Exploitation**

Grooming is defined as the situation whereby an adult builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child with the intention of manipulating, exploiting and/or abusing them.

Staff will be aware that grooming often takes place online and that pupils who are being groomed are commonly unlikely to report this behaviour for many reasons, e.g. the pupil may have been manipulated into feeling a strong bond with their groomer and may have feelings of loyalty, admiration, or love, as well as fear, distress and confusion.

Due to the fact pupils are less likely to report grooming than other online offences, it is particularly important that staff understand the indicators of this type of abuse. The DSL will ensure that online safety training covers online abuse, the importance of looking for signs of grooming, and what the signs of online grooming are, including:

- Being secretive about how they are spending their time online.
- Having an older boyfriend or girlfriend, usually one that does not attend the school and whom their close friends have not met.
- Having money or new possessions, e.g. clothes and technological devices, that they cannot or will not explain.

## **10. Child sexual exploitation (CSE) and child criminal exploitation (CCE)**

Although CSE often involves physical sexual abuse or violence, online elements may be prevalent, e.g. sexual coercion and encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways through the internet. In some cases, a pupil may be groomed



online to become involved in a wider network of exploitation, e.g. the production of child pornography or forced child prostitution and sexual trafficking.

CCE is a form of exploitation in which children are forced or manipulated into committing crimes for the benefit of their abuser, e.g. drug transporting, shoplifting and serious violence. While these crimes often take place in person, it is increasingly common for children to be groomed and manipulated into participating through the internet.

Where staff have any concerns about pupils with relation to CSE or CCE, they will bring these concerns to the DSL without delay, who will manage the situation in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **11. Radicalisation**

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. This process can occur through direct recruitment, e.g. individuals in extremist groups identifying, targeting and contacting young people with the intention of involving them in terrorist activity, or by exposure to violent ideological propaganda. Children who are targets for radicalisation are likely to be groomed by extremists online to the extent that they believe the extremist has their best interests at heart, making them more likely to adopt the same radical ideology.

Staff members will be aware of the factors which can place certain pupils at increased vulnerability to radicalisation, as outlined in the Prevent Duty Policy. Staff will be expected to exercise vigilance towards any pupils displaying indicators that they have been, or are being, radicalised.

Where staff have a concern about a pupil relating to radicalisation, they will report this to the DSL without delay, who will handle the situation in line with the Prevent Duty Policy.

## **12. Mental health**

Staff will be aware that online activity both in and outside of school can have a substantial impact on a pupil's mental state, both positively and negatively. The headteacher will ensure that training is available to help ensure that staff members understand popular social media sites and terminology, the ways in which social media and the internet in general can impact mental health, and the indicators that a pupil is suffering from challenges in their mental health. Concerns about the mental health of a pupil will be dealt with in line with the SEND Policy.

### **13. Online hoaxes and harmful online challenges**

For the purposes of this policy, an “online hoax” is defined as a deliberate lie designed to seem truthful, normally one that is intended to scaremonger or to distress individuals who come across it, spread on online social media platforms.

For the purposes of this policy, “harmful online challenges” refers to challenges that are targeted at young people and generally involve users recording themselves participating in an online challenge, distributing the video through social media channels and daring others to do the same. Although many online challenges are harmless, an online challenge becomes harmful when it could potentially put the participant at risk of harm, either directly as a result of partaking in the challenge itself or indirectly as a result of the distribution of the video online – the latter will usually depend on the age of the pupil and the way in which they are depicted in the video.

Where staff suspect there may be a harmful online challenge or online hoax circulating amongst pupils in the school, they will report this to the DSL immediately.

The DSL will conduct a case-by-case assessment for any harmful online content brought to their attention, establishing the scale and nature of the possible risk to pupils, and whether the risk is one that is localised to the school or the local area, or whether it extends more widely across the country. Where the harmful content is prevalent mainly in the local area, the DSL will consult with the LA about whether quick local action can prevent the hoax or challenge from spreading more widely.

Prior to deciding how to respond to a harmful online challenge or hoax, the headteacher will decide whether each proposed response is:

- In line with any advice received from a known, reliable source, e.g. the UK Safer Internet Centre, when fact-checking the risk of online challenges or hoaxes.
- Careful to avoid needlessly scaring or distressing pupils.
- Not inadvertently encouraging pupils to view the hoax or challenge where they would not have otherwise come across it, e.g. where content is explained to younger pupils but is almost exclusively being shared amongst older pupils.
- Proportional to the actual or perceived risk.
- Helpful to the pupils who are, or are perceived to be, at risk.
- Appropriate for the relevant pupils’ age and developmental stage.
- Supportive.
- In line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Where the headteacher assessment finds an online challenge to be putting pupils at risk of harm, they will ensure that the challenge is directly addressed to the relevant

pupils, e.g. those within a particular age range that is directly affected or individual pupils at risk where appropriate.

The headteacher will only implement a school-wide approach to highlighting potential harms of a hoax or challenge when the risk of needlessly increasing pupils' exposure to the risk is considered and mitigated as far as possible.

## **14. Cyber-crime**

Cyber-crime is criminal activity committed using computers and/or the internet. There are two key categories of cyber-crime:

- **Cyber-enabled** – these crimes can be carried out offline; however, are made easier and can be conducted at higher scales and speeds online, e.g. fraud, purchasing and selling of illegal drugs, and sexual abuse and exploitation.
- **Cyber-dependent** – these crimes can only be carried out online or by using a computer, e.g. making, supplying or obtaining malware, illegal hacking, and 'booting', which means overwhelming a network, computer or website with internet traffic to render it unavailable.

The school will factor into its approach to online safety the risk that pupils with a particular affinity or skill in technology may become involved, whether deliberately or inadvertently, in cyber-crime. Where there are any concerns about a pupil's use of technology and their intentions with regard to using their skill and affinity towards it, the DSL will consider a referral to the Cyber Choices programme, which aims to intervene where children are at risk of committing cyber-crime and divert them to a more positive use of their skills and interests.

The headteacher will ensure that pupils are taught, throughout the curriculum, how to use technology safely, responsibly and lawfully.

## **15. Acceptable use of the internet in school**

All pupils, parents, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendices 1 to 3). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.

Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1 to 3.

## **16. Internet Access**

Pupils, staff and other members of the school community will only be granted access to the school's internet network once they have read and signed the Acceptable Use Agreement. A record will be kept of users who have been granted internet access in the school office.

All members of the school community will be encouraged to use the school's internet network, instead of 3G, 4G and 5G networks, as the network has appropriate filtering and monitoring to ensure individuals are using the internet appropriately.

## **17. Filtering and monitoring online activity**

The governing board will ensure the school's ICT network has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place. The governing board will ensure 'over blocking' does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what pupils can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.

The headteacher and ICT technicians will undertake a risk assessment to determine what filtering and monitoring systems are required. The filtering and monitoring systems the school implements will be appropriate to pupils' ages, the number of pupils using the network, how often pupils access the network, and the proportionality of costs compared to the risks. ICT technicians will undertake regular checks on the filtering and monitoring systems to ensure they are effective and appropriate.

Requests regarding making changes to the filtering system will be directed to the headteacher. Prior to making any changes to the filtering system, ICT technicians and the headteacher will conduct a risk assessment. Any changes made to the system will be recorded by ICT technicians. Reports of inappropriate websites or materials will be made to an ICT technician immediately, who will investigate the matter and make any necessary changes.

Deliberate breaches of the filtering system will be reported to the DSL and ICT technicians, who will escalate the matter appropriately (see Cyber Security Policy). If a pupil has deliberately breached the filtering system, they will be disciplined in line with the Behaviour Policy. If a member of staff has deliberately breached the filtering system, they will be disciplined in line with the Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

If material that is believed to be illegal is accessed, inadvertently or deliberately, this material will be reported to the appropriate agency immediately, e.g. the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), CEOP and/or the police.

The school's network and school-owned devices will be appropriately monitored. All users of the network and school-owned devices will be informed about how and why

they are monitored. Concerns identified through monitoring will be reported to the DSL who will manage the situation in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **18. Network Security**

Technical security features, such as anti-virus software, will be kept up-to-date and managed by ICT technicians. Firewalls will be switched on at all times. ICT technicians will review the firewalls on a regular basis to ensure they are running correctly, and to carry out any required updates.

Staff and pupils will be advised not to download unapproved software or open unfamiliar email attachments and will be expected to report all malware and virus attacks to ICT technicians.

All members of staff will have their own unique usernames and private passwords to access the school's systems. Pupils will be provided with their own unique username and private passwords. Staff members and pupils will be responsible for keeping their passwords private. Passwords will have a minimum and maximum length and require a mixture of letters, numbers and symbols to ensure they are as secure as possible.

Users will inform ICT technicians if they forget their login details, who will arrange for the user to access the systems under different login details. Users will not be permitted to share their login details with others and will not be allowed to log in as another user at any time. If a user is found to be sharing their login details or otherwise mistreating the password system, the headteacher will be informed and will decide the necessary action to take.

Users will be required to lock access to devices and systems when they are not in use.

Full details of the school's network security measures can be found in the Cyber-security Policy.

## **19. Work Emails**

Access to and the use of emails will be managed in line with the Data Protection Policy, Acceptable Use Agreement, and the Pupil Confidentiality Policy and Staff and Volunteer Confidentiality Policy.

Staff and pupils will be given approved school email accounts and will only be able to use these accounts at school and when doing school-related work outside of school hours. Prior to being authorised to use the email system, staff and pupils must agree to and sign the Acceptable Use Agreement. Personal email accounts will not be

permitted to be used on the school site. Any email that contains sensitive or personal information will only be sent using secure and encrypted email.

Staff members and pupils will be required to block spam and junk mail and report the matter to ICT technicians. The school's monitoring system can detect inappropriate links, malware and profanity within emails – staff and pupils will be made aware of this. Chain letters, spam and all other emails from unknown sources will be deleted without being opened.

Any cyber-attacks initiated through emails will be managed in line with the Cyber Response and Recovery Plan.

Email accounts will be de-activated when a staff members leave the employment of the school.

## **20. Social networking**

The use of social media by staff will be managed in line with the school's Staff Code of Conduct.

## **21. The School Website**

The headteacher will be responsible for the overall content of the school website and will ensure the content is appropriate, accurate, up-to-date and meets government requirements.

## **22. Use of staff personal devices**

Staff members will be issued with school-owned devices to assist with their work, where necessary. Requirements around the use of school-owned devices can be found in the school's Device User Agreement.

The Staff Code of Conduct sets out the expectable use of personal devices at school.

## **23. Remote learning**

All remote learning will be delivered in line with the school's Remote Education Policy. This policy specifically sets out how online safety will be considered when delivering remote education.

## **24. Pupils using mobile devices in school**

Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school. If pupils are known to have a mobile phone in school this will be confiscated and held in the school office until the end of the day. Parents/carers will be informed of the school's policy.

In exceptional circumstances, pupils may need access to a mobile phone. Under these circumstances, the headteacher will discuss with parents/carers the reason and make an appropriate plan for storage and use of the phone during the day. Any use of the mobile phone in school must be in line with the acceptable use agreement.

## **25. Staff using work devices outside school**

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected – strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Ensuring their hard drive is encrypted – this means if the device is lost or stolen, no one can access the files stored on the hard drive by attaching it to a new device
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Keeping operating systems up to date by always installing the latest updates

Staff members must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the headteacher and Net Central

## **26. How the school will respond to issues of misuse**

Where a pupil misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our policies on behaviour and internet acceptable use policy. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff disciplinary procedures/staff. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident.

The school will consider whether incidents which involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

## 27. Training

The headteacher ensures that all safeguarding training given to staff includes elements of online safety, including how the internet can facilitate abuse and exploitation. All staff will be made aware that pupils are at risk of abuse, by their peers and by adults, online as well as in person, and that, often, abuse will take place concurrently via online channels and in daily life.

All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation.

All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required by email and staff meetings.

By way of this training, all staff will be made aware that:

- Technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues, and that children are at risk of online abuse
- Children can abuse their peers online through:
  - Abusive, harassing, and misogynistic messages
  - Non-consensual sharing of indecent nude and semi-nude images and/or videos, especially around chat groups
  - Sharing of abusive images and pornography, to those who don't want to receive such content

Physical abuse, sexual violence and initiation/hazing type violence can all contain an online element

Training will also help staff:

- Develop better awareness to assist in spotting the signs and symptoms of online abuse
- Develop the ability to ensure pupils can recognise dangers and risks in online activity and can weigh up the risks
- Develop the ability to influence pupils to make the healthiest long-term choices and keep them safe from harm in the short term

The DSL and deputy DSL will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety. They will also update their knowledge and skills on the subject of online safety at regular intervals, and at least annually.

Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.



Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

## **28. Monitoring arrangements**

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety.

This policy will be reviewed annually. The review will consider and reflects the risks pupils face online. This is important because technology, and the risks and harms related to it, evolve and change rapidly.

### **Links with other policies**

- Cyber-Security Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Photograph and Images Policy
- Remote Education Policy
- Device User Agreement

### **Other related policies**

- Whistleblowing Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Behaviour Policy
- Disciplinary Policy and Procedures
- Computing Curriculum Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

## Appendix A: Online harms and risks – curriculum coverage

[The table below contains information from the DfE's 'Teaching online safety in schools' guidance about what areas of online risk schools should teach pupils about. You can use this to assist your school in developing its own online safety curriculum; however, you must develop your curriculum in line with your local needs and the needs of your pupils.]

Subject area	Description and teaching content	Curriculum area the harm or risk is covered in
<b>How to navigate the internet and manage information</b>		
Age restrictions	<p>Some online activities have age restrictions because they include content which is not appropriate for children under a specific age. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That age verification exists and why some online platforms ask users to verify their age</li> <li>• Why age restrictions exist</li> <li>• That content that requires age verification can be damaging to under-age consumers</li> <li>• What the age of digital consent is (13 for most platforms) and why it is important</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
How content can be used and shared	<p>Knowing what happens to information, comments or images that are put online. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What a digital footprint is, how it develops and how it can affect pupils' futures</li> <li>• How cookies work</li> <li>• How content can be shared, tagged and traced</li> <li>• How difficult it is to remove something once it has been shared online</li> <li>• What is illegal online, e.g. youth-produced sexual imagery (sexting)</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Disinformation, misinformation	Some information shared online is accidentally or intentionally wrong, misleading or exaggerated.	This risk or harm will be covered in

and hoaxes	<p>Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disinformation and why individuals or groups choose to share false information in order to deliberately deceive</li> <li>• Misinformation and being aware that false and misleading information can be shared inadvertently</li> <li>• Mal-information and understanding that some genuine information can be published with the deliberate intent to harm, e.g. releasing private information or photographs</li> <li>• Online hoaxes, which can be deliberately and inadvertently spread for a variety of reasons</li> <li>• That the widespread nature of this sort of content can often appear to be a stamp of authenticity, making it important to evaluate what is seen online</li> <li>• How to measure and check authenticity online</li> <li>• The potential consequences of sharing information that may not be true</li> </ul>	<p>the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships and health education</li> <li>• <b>[KS2 and above]</b> Computing</li> </ul>
Fake websites and scam emails	<p>Fake websites and scam emails are used to extort data, money, images and other things that can either be used by the scammer to harm the person targeted or sold on for financial, or other, gain.</p> <p>Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to recognise fake URLs and websites</li> <li>• What secure markings on websites are and how to assess the sources of emails</li> <li>• The risks of entering information to a website which is not secure</li> <li>• What pupils should do if they are harmed, targeted, or groomed as a result of interacting with a fake website or scam email</li> <li>• Who pupils should go to for support</li> <li>• The risk of 'too good to be true' online offers,</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>

	advertising and fake product sales designed to persuade people to part with money for products and services that do not exist	
Online fraud	<p>Fraud can take place online and can have serious consequences for individuals and organisations. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What identity fraud, scams and phishing are</li> <li>• That online fraud can be highly sophisticated and that anyone can be a victim</li> <li>• How to protect yourself and others against different types of online fraud</li> <li>• How to identify 'money mule' schemes and recruiters</li> <li>• The risk of online social engineering to facilitate authorised push payment fraud, where a victim is tricked into sending a payment to the criminal</li> <li>• The risk of sharing personal information that could be used by fraudsters</li> <li>• That children are sometimes targeted to access adults' data</li> <li>• What 'good' companies will and will not do when it comes to personal details</li> <li>• How to report fraud, phishing attempts, suspicious websites and adverts</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Password phishing	<p>Password phishing is the process by which people try to find out individuals' passwords so they can access protected content. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why passwords are important, how to keep them safe and that others might try to get people to reveal them</li> <li>• How to recognise phishing scams</li> <li>• The importance of online security to protect against viruses that are designed to gain access</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>

	<p>to password information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What to do when a password is compromised or thought to be compromised</li> </ul>	
Personal data	<p>Online platforms and search engines gather personal data – this is often referred to as ‘harvesting’ or ‘farming’. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How cookies work</li> <li>• How data is farmed from sources which look neutral</li> <li>• How and why personal data is shared by online companies</li> <li>• How pupils can protect themselves and that acting quickly is essential when something happens</li> <li>• The rights children have with regards to their data</li> <li>• How to limit the data companies can gather</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Persuasive design	<p>Many devices, apps and games are designed to keep users online for longer than they might have planned or desired. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the majority of games and platforms are designed to make money, and that their primary driver is to encourage people to stay online for as long as possible to encourage them to spend money or generate advertising revenue</li> <li>• How notifications are used to pull users back online</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Privacy settings	<p>Almost all devices, websites, apps and other online services come with privacy settings that can be used to control what is shared. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to find information about privacy settings on various sites, apps, devices and platforms</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That privacy settings have limitations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Targeting of online content	<p>Much of the information seen online is a result of some form of targeting. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How adverts seen at the top of online searches and social media have often come from companies paying to be on there and different people will see different adverts</li> <li>• How the targeting is done</li> <li>• The concept of clickbait and how companies can use it to draw people to their sites and services</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
<b>How to stay safe online</b>		
Online abuse	<p>Some online behaviours are abusive. They are negative in nature, potentially harmful and, in some cases, can be illegal. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The types of online abuse, including sexual harassment, bullying, trolling and intimidation</li> <li>• When online abuse can become illegal</li> <li>• How to respond to online abuse and how to access support</li> <li>• How to respond when the abuse is anonymous</li> <li>• The potential implications of online abuse</li> <li>• What acceptable and unacceptable online behaviours look like</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Radicalisation	<p>Pupils are at risk of accessing inappropriate and harmful extremist content online, including terrorist material. Extremist and terrorist groups use social media to identify and target vulnerable individuals. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to recognise extremist behaviour and content online</li> </ul>	All areas of the curriculum

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which actions could be identified as criminal activity</li> <li>• Techniques used for persuasion</li> <li>• How to access support from trusted individuals and organisations</li> </ul>	
Challenges	<p>Online challenges acquire mass followings and encourage others to take part in what they suggest. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What an online challenge is and that, while some will be fun and harmless, others may be dangerous and even illegal</li> <li>• How to assess if the challenge is safe or potentially harmful, including considering who has generated the challenge and why</li> <li>• That it is okay to say no and to not take part in a challenge</li> <li>• How and where to go for help</li> <li>• The importance of telling an adult about challenges which include threats or secrecy, such as 'chain letter' style challenges</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> </ul>
Content which incites violence	<p>Knowing that violence can be incited online and escalate very quickly into offline violence. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That online content (sometimes gang related) can glamorise the possession of weapons and drugs</li> <li>• That to intentionally encourage or assist in an offence is also a criminal offence</li> <li>• How and where to get help if they are worried about involvement in violence</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> </ul>
Fake profiles	<p>Not everyone online is who they say they are. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That, in some cases, profiles may be people posing as someone they are not or may be</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p>

	<p>'bots'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to look out for fake profiles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>
Grooming	<p>Knowing about the different types of grooming and motivations for it, e.g. radicalisation, child sexual abuse and exploitation, gangs and financial exploitation. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boundaries in friendships with peers, in families, and with others</li> <li>• Key indicators of grooming behaviour</li> <li>• The importance of disengaging from contact with suspected grooming and telling a trusted adult</li> <li>• How and where to report grooming both in school and to the police</li> </ul> <p>At all stages, it is important to balance teaching pupils about making sensible decisions to stay safe whilst being clear it is never the fault of the child who is abused and why victim blaming is always wrong.</p>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> </ul>
Unsafe communication	<p>Knowing different strategies for staying safe when communicating with others, especially people they do not know or have not met. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That communicating safely online and protecting your privacy and data is important, regardless of who you are communicating with</li> <li>• How to identify indicators of risk and unsafe communications</li> <li>• The risks associated with giving out addresses, phone numbers or email addresses to people pupils do not know, or arranging to meet someone they have not met before</li> <li>• What online consent is and how to develop strategies to confidently say no to both friends and strangers online</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> <li>• Computing</li> </ul>



Wellbeing		
Impact on quality of life, physical and mental health and relationships	<p>Knowing how to identify when online behaviours stop being fun and begin to create anxiety, including that there needs to be a balance between time spent online and offline. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to evaluate critically what pupils are doing online, why they are doing it and for how long (screen time)</li> <li>• How to consider quality vs. quantity of online activity</li> <li>• The need for pupils to consider if they are actually enjoying being online or just doing it out of habit, due to peer pressure or due to the fear or missing out</li> <li>• That time spent online gives users less time to do other activities, which can lead some users to become physically inactive</li> <li>• The impact that excessive social media usage can have on levels of anxiety, depression and other mental health issues</li> <li>• That isolation and loneliness can affect pupils and that it is very important for them to discuss their feelings with an adult and seek support</li> <li>• Where to get help</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health education</li> </ul>
Online vs. offline behaviours	<p>People can often behave differently online to how they would act face to face. Teaching will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How and why people can often portray an exaggerated picture of their lives (especially online) and how that can lead to pressure How and why people are unkind or hurtful online when they would not necessarily be unkind to someone face to face</li> </ul>	<p>This risk or harm will be covered in the following curriculum areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships education</li> </ul>
Suicide, self-harm and	Pupils may raise topics including eating disorders, self-harm and suicide. Teachers must be aware of	

eating disorders	the risks of encouraging or making these seem a more viable option for pupils and should take care to avoid giving instructions or methods and avoid using language, videos and images.	
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