

Online safety policy

Widewell Primary Academy



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1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education’s (DfE) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

- [Teaching online safety in schools](#)
- [Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for Headteachers and school staff](#)
- [Relationships and sex education](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

It also refers to the Department’s guidance on [protecting children from radicalisation](#).

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended), the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) and the [Equality Act 2010](#). In addition, it reflects the [Education Act 2011](#), which has

given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The governing board

The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

The governing board will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety and monitor online safety logs as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

All governors will:

- › Ensure that they have read and understand this policy
- › Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's IT systems and the internet (appendix 3)

3.2 The Headteacher

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

3.3 The designated safeguarding lead

Details of the school's DSL and deputy are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy as well relevant job descriptions.

The DSL takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

- › In ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- › Working with all staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- › Ensuring 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 governing board
- › Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

3.4 The IT manager

The IT manager is responsible for:

- › Putting in place appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material
- › Ensuring that the school's IT 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 IT systems on a regular basis

- › Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files
- › Ensuring that any online safety incidents are reported to senior leaders, logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

3.5 All staff and volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- › Maintaining an understanding of this policy
- › Implementing this policy consistently
- › Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's IT 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

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

3.6 Parents

Parents are expected to:

- › Notify a member of staff or the Headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding this policy
- › Ensure their child understands the terms on acceptable use of the school's IT systems and internet

Parents can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the following organisations and websites:

- › What are the issues? - [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- › Hot topics - [Childnet International](#)
- › Parent factsheet - [Childnet International](#)

3.7 Visitors and members of the community

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's IT 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.

4. Educating pupils about online safety

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum:

The text below is taken from the [National Curriculum computing programmes of study](#).

Since September 2020 **all** schools teach:

- › [Relationships education and health education](#) in primary schools

This requirement includes aspects about online safety.

In **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

Pupils in **Key Stage 2** 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

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*
- › *How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know*

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant.

The school will use lessons and assemblies to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite speakers to talk to pupils about this.

5. Educating parents about online safety

The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website. This policy will also be shared with parents.

If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the class teacher or Headteacher.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the Headteacher.

6. Cyber-bullying

6.1 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.)

6.2 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.

The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be. Class teachers will discuss cyber-bullying with their classes, and the issue will be addressed in assemblies.

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.

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 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 consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material and will work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

6.3 Examining electronic devices

School staff have the specific power under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (which has been increased by the Education Act 2011) to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices, including mobile phones, iPads and other tablet devices, where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

When deciding whether there is a good reason to examine or erase data or files on an electronic device, staff must reasonably suspect that the data or file in question has been, or could be, used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Disrupt teaching, and/or
- Break any of the school rules

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the staff member in conjunction with the DSL or other member of the senior leadership team to decide whether they should:

- Delete that material, or
- Retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline), and/or
- Report it to the police

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with the DfE's latest guidance on [screening, searching and confiscation](#).

Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

7. Acceptable use of the internet in school

All pupils, parents, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to read our agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's IT systems and the internet. 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.

8. Pupils using mobile devices in school

Pupils who walk to and from school alone may bring mobile phones into school, but are not permitted to use them and have to hand them in to the class teacher or the school office:

Any use of mobile devices in school by pupils must be in line with the acceptable use agreement (see appendices 1 and 2).

Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy when parents will be informed.

9. Staff using work devices outside school

Staff members using a work device outside school must not install any unauthorised software on the device and must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use.

Staff must ensure that their work device is secure and password-protected, and that they do not share their password with others. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure the security of their work device when using it outside school. USB devices should not be used.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the IT manager.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

10. How the school will respond to issues of misuse

Where a pupil misuses the school's IT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our policies on behaviour and acceptable use. 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 IT 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 code of conduct. 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.

11. Training

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 (for example through emails and staff meetings).

The DSL and deputy will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety, at least every 2 years. 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.

12. Monitoring arrangements

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety on our CPOMS safeguarding system.

This policy will be reviewed every year by the Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

13. Links with other policies

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy
- Staff disciplinary procedures
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure
- IT and internet acceptable use policy

Appendix 1: EYFS and KS1 acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents/carers)

ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S IT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

When I use the school's IT systems (like computers and iPads) and get onto the internet in school I will:

- Ask a teacher or adult if I can do so before using them
- Only use websites that a teacher or adult has told me or allowed me to use
- Tell my teacher immediately if:
 - I click on a website by mistake
 - I receive messages from people I don't know
 - I find anything that may upset or harm me or my friends
- Use school computers for school work only
- be kind to others and not upset or be rude to them
- Look after the school IT equipment and tell a teacher straight away if something is broken or not working properly
- Only use the username and password I have been given
- Try my hardest to remember my username and password
- Never share my password with anyone, including my friends.
- Never give my personal information (my name, address or telephone numbers) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Save my work on the school network
- Check with my teacher before I print anything
- Log off or shut down a computer when I have finished using it

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.

Parent/carer agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's IT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's IT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

Appendix 2: KS2 acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents/carers)

ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S IT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

I will read and follow the rules in the acceptable use agreement policy

When I use the school's IT systems (like computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:

- Always use the school's IT systems and the internet responsibly and for educational purposes only
- Only use them when a teacher is present, or with a teacher's permission
- Keep my username and passwords safe and not share these with others
- Keep my private information safe at all times and not give my name, address or telephone number to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Tell a teacher (or sensible adult) immediately if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others
- Always log off or shut down a computer when I'm finished working on it

I will not:

- Access any inappropriate websites including: social networking sites, chat rooms and gaming sites unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity
- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher
- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails
- Log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carer, or without adult supervision

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.

Parent/carer's agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's IT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's IT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

Digiduck says...

'Be a good friend online,'

'Say kind things to others,'

'and make sensible choices,'

Childnet International UK Safer Internet Centre
Co-financed by the European Union Connecting Europe Facility

Smartie the Penguin

If anything happens online that makes **Smartie the Penguin** feel worried, upset or confused, he doesn't try to fix things by himself ...

Always ask an adult for help!

- He stops ...
- Thinks about what to do ...
- And always asks an adult for help!

Childnet International UK Safer Internet Centre Co-financed by the European Union Connecting Europe Facility
www.childnet.com/smartie

BE SMART ONLINE

S SAFE Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M MEET Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend or a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk.

A ACCEPTING Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, games) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T TELL Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline - 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

BE SMART WITH A HEART
Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

