

# E Safety Policy

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Version	Date	Reviewed by	Date of next review	Comments
1.0	Autumn 2016		Autumn 2019	
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1.2	Autumn 2023		Autumn 2026	

## Introduction

This policy sets out how we strive to keep children safe with technology while they are in school. We recognise that children are often more at risk when using technology at home (where we have no control over the technical structures we put in place to keep them safe) and so this policy also sets out how we educate children of the potential risks. We also explain how we attempt to inform those people who work with our children beyond the school environment (parents, friends and the wider community) to be aware and to assist in this process.

Due to the ever changing nature of digital technologies, it is best practice that Kingslea Primary School reviews the E-Safety Policy at least every two years and, if necessary, more frequently in response to any significant new developments in the use of the technologies, new threats to e-safety or incidents that have taken place.

### Development / Monitoring / Review of this Policy

This e-safety policy has been developed by a working group made up of the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team and Computing Coordinator. The roles and responsibilities are:

- *Headteacher / Senior Leaders*
- *Computing Coordinator*
- *Staff – including Teachers, Support Staff, Technical staff*
- *Governors*
- *Parents and Carers*
- *Community users*

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- *Logs of reported incidents*
- *Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited)*
- *Discussion with staff and children regarding their safety*

### Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all members of our *school* community (including staff, students / pupils, volunteers, parents / carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of school ICT systems, both in and out of the *school*.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of pupils when they are off the *school* site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is pertinent to incidents of cyber-bullying, or other e-safety incidents covered by this policy, which may take place outside of the school, but is linked to membership of the school. The 2011 Education Act increased these powers with regard to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data. In the case of both acts, action can only be taken over issues covered by the school's Behaviour Policy.

The *school* will deal with such incidents within this policy and associated behaviour and anti-bullying policies and will, where known, inform parents / carers of incidents of inappropriate e-safety behaviour that take place out of school.

## Roles and Responsibilities

*Governors* are responsible for the approval of the E-Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. This will be carried out by the *Governors upon* receiving information about e-safety incidents and monitoring reports annually.

## **Headteacher and Senior Leaders:**

The Headteacher has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including e-safety) of members of the school community, though the day to day responsibility for e-safety will be delegated to the E-Safety Co-ordinator

- 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 e-safety allegation being made against a member of staff.
- The Headteacher / Senior Leaders are responsible for ensuring that the Computing Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their e-safety roles and to 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 e-safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also support to those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles (This includes annual courses/training on e-safety)
- The Senior Leadership Team will receive monitoring reports from the E-Safety Co-ordinator

## **Computing Coordinator:**

- takes day to day responsibility for e-safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school e-safety policies
- ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an e-safety incident taking place
- provides training and advice for staff
- liaises with school technical staff
- receives reports of e-safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future e-safety developments
- reports regularly to/with Senior Leadership Team

## **IT Technician:**

The IT Technician is responsible for ensuring:

- that the school's technical infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack
- that the school meets required e-safety technical requirements and any Local Authority E-Safety Policy / Guidance that may apply.
- that users may only access the networks and devices through a properly enforced password protection policy, in which passwords are regularly changed
- the filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis and that its implementation is not the sole responsibility of any single person
- that they keep up to date with e-safety technical information in order to effectively carry out their e-safety role and to inform and update others as relevant
- that the use of the network / internet / Virtual Learning Environment / remote access / email is regularly monitored in order that any misuse / attempted misuse can be reported to the Headteacher / Senior Leader for investigation / action / sanction
- that monitoring software / systems are implemented and updated as agreed in school policies

## **Teaching and Support Staff:**

The teaching staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- they have an up to date awareness of e-safety matters and of the current school / e-safety policy and practices
- they have read, understood and signed the Staff Acceptable Use Policy / Agreement (AUP)
- they report any suspected misuse or problem to the Headteacher / Senior Leader for investigation / action / sanction
- all digital communications with students / pupils / parents / carers should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems
- e-safety issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum and other activities
- pupils understand and follow the e-safety and acceptable use policies

- pupils have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- they monitor the use of digital technologies, mobile devices, tablets, cameras etc in lessons and other school activities (where allowed) and implement current policies with regard to these devices
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned, pupils should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):**

The DSL should be trained in e-safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection / safeguarding issues to arise from:

- sharing of personal data
- access to illegal / inappropriate materials
- inappropriate on-line contact with adults / strangers
- potential or actual incidents of grooming
- cyber-bullying

### **Pupils:**

Pupils are responsible for using the school digital technology systems in accordance with the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy.

- have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations
- need to understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so
- will be expected to know and understand policies on the use of mobile devices, tablets and digital cameras. They should also know and understand policies on the taking / use of images and on cyber-bullying.
- should understand the importance of adopting good e-safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's E-Safety Policy covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school

### **Parents / Carers:**

Parents / Carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the internet / mobile devices in an appropriate way. The school will take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, website / VLE and information about national / local e-safety campaigns / literature. Parents and carers will be encouraged to support the school in promoting good e-safety practice and to follow guidelines on the appropriate use of:

- digital and video images taken at school events
- access to parents' sections of the website / VLE and on-line student / pupil records
- their children's personal devices in the school (where this is allowed)

<b>Policy Statement</b>
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### **Education – pupils**

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating pupils to take a responsible approach. The education of pupils in e-safety is therefore an essential part of the school's e-safety provision. Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid e-safety risks and build their resilience.

E-safety is a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff reinforce e-safety messages across the curriculum. The e-safety curriculum is broad, relevant and provides progression, with opportunities for creative activities and is provided in the following ways:

- A planned e-safety curriculum is provided as part of the Computing and PHSE curriculum and is regularly revisited

- Key e-safety messages will be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies
- Pupils are taught in all lessons to be aware of the materials / content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information
- Pupils are taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Pupils are helped to understand the need for the pupil Acceptable Use Agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside school
- Staff act as good role models in their use of digital technologies the internet and mobile devices
- In lessons where internet use is pre-planned, it is best practice that pupils 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 pupils are allowed to freely search the internet, staff are be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit.
- It is accepted that from time to time, for good educational reasons, students may need to research topics (e.g. racism, drugs, discrimination) that would normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the IT Technician can temporarily remove those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so, should be auditable, with clear reasons for the need.

### **Education – parents / carers**

Parents and carers can have a limited understanding of e-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 on-line behaviours. Parents may underestimate how often children and young people come across potentially harmful and inappropriate material on the internet and may be unsure about how to respond.

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

- Curriculum activities
- Letters, newsletters, web sites,
- Parents' / Carers' workshops
- High profile campaigns e.g. Safer Internet Day
- Reference to the relevant web sites / publications - specifically [internitmatters.org](http://internitmatters.org)

### **Training – Governors**

Governors will be invited to all e-safety sessions provided for parents and staff to ensure they are up-to-date.

### **Infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring**

The school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure / network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that policies and procedures approved within this policy are implemented. It will also need to ensure that the relevant people named in the above sections will be effective in carrying out their e-safety responsibilities:

- School technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school meets recommended technical requirements
- There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school technical systems
- Servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted
- All users will have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices
- All users (pupils and staff) will be provided with a username and secure password by our service provider who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames. Users are reminded that they are responsible for the security of their username and password
- The "administrator" passwords for the school ICT system, used by the Network Manager must also be available to the Headteacher
- The Technical Support Team (JSPC), in partnership with the IT Technician, is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date
- Internet access is filtered for all users. Illegal content is filtered by the broadband or filtering provider in partnership with the school technician and computing co-coordinator by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation CAIC list.
- An appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual / potential technical incident / security breach to the Headteacher / Senior Leadership Team, involving recording in a log

- Appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, routers, wireless systems, work stations, mobile devices etc from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school systems and data. These are tested regularly. The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up to date virus software.
- An agreed policy is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (e.g. trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems. A ‘guest’ log in is available so that teaching staff do not require supply to use their teacher log in details
- An agreed policy is in place that allows staff to / forbids staff from downloading executable files and installing programmes on school devices which are not appropriate
- An agreed policy is in place regarding the use of removable media (eg memory sticks / CDs / DVDs) by users on school devices. Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured.

## **Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity**

All schools and local authorities have a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for pupils and staff. Schools and local authorities could be held responsible, indirectly for acts of their employees in the course of their employment. Staff members who harass, cyberbully, discriminate on the grounds of sex, race or disability or who defame a third party may render the school or local authority liable to the injured party. Reasonable steps to prevent predictable harm must be in place.

The school provides the following measures to ensure reasonable steps are in place to minimise risk of harm to pupils, staff and the school through limiting access to personal information:

- Training to include: acceptable use; social media risks; checking of settings; data protection; reporting issues.
- Clear reporting guidance, including responsibilities, procedures and sanctions
- Risk assessment, including legal risk

School staff should ensure that:

- No reference should be made in social media to pupils, 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 or local authority
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information.

*Staff are encouraged to check their social media privacy settings regularly.*

## **Online Incidents**

It is hoped that all members of the school community will be responsible users of digital technologies, who understand and follow school policy. However, there may be times when infringements of the policy could take place, through careless or irresponsible or, very rarely, through deliberate misuse.

In the event of suspicion, all steps in this procedure should be followed:

- Have more than one senior member of staff / volunteer involved in this process. This is vital to protect individuals if accusations are subsequently reported.
- Conduct the procedure using a designated computer that will not be used by young people and if necessary can be taken off site by the police should the need arise. Use the same computer for the duration of the procedure.
- It is important to ensure that the relevant staff should have appropriate internet access to conduct the procedure, but also that the sites and content visited are closely monitored and recorded (to provide further protection).
- Record the URL of any site containing the alleged misuse and describe the nature of the content causing concern. It may also be necessary to record and store screenshots of the content on the machine being used for investigation. These may be printed, signed and attached to the form (except in the case of images of child sexual abuse – see below)

- Once this has been completed and fully investigated the group will need to judge whether this concern has substance or not. If it does then appropriate action will be required and could include the following:
  - Internal response or discipline procedures
  - Involvement by Local Authority or national / local organisation (as relevant).
  - Police involvement and/or action
- If content being reviewed includes images of child abuse then the monitoring should be halted and referred to the Police immediately. Other instances to report to the police would include:
  - incidents of 'grooming' behaviour
  - the sending of obscene materials to a child
  - adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
  - criminally racist material
  - other criminal conduct, activity or materials
- Isolate the computer in question as best you can. Any change to its state may hinder a later police investigation.

It is important that all of the above steps are taken as they will provide an evidence trail for the school and possibly the police and demonstrate that visits to these sites were carried out for child protection purposes. The completed form should be retained by the group for evidence and reference purposes.

### **School Actions & Sanctions**

It is more likely that the school will need to deal with incidents that involve inappropriate rather than illegal misuse. It is important that any incidents are dealt with as soon as possible in a proportionate manner, and that members of the school community are aware that incidents have been dealt with. It is intended that incidents of misuse will be dealt with through normal behaviour / disciplinary procedures in line with school management policy.