

Greengate Lane Academy

Online Safety Policy

September 2020

Principal ___ P Cross _____

Governors _____

Review Date: September 2021

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Background / Rationale

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school.

The internet and other digital and information technologies are powerful tools, which can open up new opportunities for everyone. Electronic communication helps teachers and pupils learn from each other. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and increase awareness of context to promote effective learning. Children and young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

The requirement to ensure that children and young people are able to use the internet and related communications technologies appropriately and safely is addressed as part of the wider duty of care to which all who work in schools are bound. A school Online safeguarding policy should help to ensure safe and appropriate use by all users. The development and implementation of such a strategy should involve all the stakeholders from the Headteacher and Governors to the senior leaders, classroom teachers, non-teaching staff, parents, members of the community and the students / pupils themselves.

The use of these exciting and innovative tools in school and at home has been shown to raise educational standards and promote pupil / student achievement. However, the use of these new technologies can put users at risk. The breadth of issues within online safeguarding is considerable, but they can be categorised into three areas of risk:-

- Content:** being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- Contact:** being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users
- Conduct:** personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm.

Many of these risks reflect situations in the off-line world and it is essential that this Online

Safeguarding policy is used in conjunction with other policies (e.g. safeguarding and child protection policies / anti-bullying / behaviour etc.).

As with all other risks, it is impossible to eliminate them completely. By providing good examples / role models and by raising awareness, it is possible to build the resilience of children and young people, so that they have the confidence and skills to deal with these risks.

The school must demonstrate that it has provided the necessary safeguards to help ensure that they have done everything that could reasonably be expected of them to manage and reduce these risks. The Online Safeguarding policy that follows explains how we intend to do this, while also addressing wider educational issues in order to help young people, their parents / carers and all staff to be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational and personal use.

Development / Monitoring / Review of this Policy

This policy has been developed by a working group / committee made up of:

- School Online Safety Coordinator
- Headteacher / Senior Leadership Team
- Teachers
- Support Staff
- ICT Technical staff
- Governors

Consultation with the whole school community has taken place through the following:

- Staff meetings
- School / Student / Pupil Council
- Governors meeting / sub committee meeting
- Parents evening
- School website / newsletters

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

Title	Online Safeguarding Policy
Version	4.0
Date	12/9/20
Author	Sally McConnell
This online safeguarding policy was approved by the Governing Body on:	
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	Annually
The Governing Body will receive a report on the implementation of the policy including anonymous details of any online safeguarding incidents at regular intervals:	Once a Year
The Policy will be reviewed annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments in the use of the technologies, new threats to Online safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be:	01/09/21
Should serious online safeguarding incidents take place, the following external persons / agencies should be informed:	P.Cross/ Kara Robinson Local Police Authority

- The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:
 - Logs of reported incidents
 - Internal monitoring data for network activity
 - Surveys / questionnaires of
 - students / pupils (including Every Child Matters Survey)
 - parents / carers
 - staff

All staff and members of the School community must be informed of any relevant amendments to the policy.

Scope of the Policy

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

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers, to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of students / pupils when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is relevant to incidents of cyber-bullying, or other online safeguarding incidents covered by this policy, which may take place out of school, but is linked to membership of the school.

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 online safeguarding behaviour that take place out of school.

This policy should also be read in line with guidance from DFE
“Preventing and tackling bullying Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies. July 2017” with specific relation to Cyber Bullying

“Cyber Bullying

We realise that as technology develops at a rapid pace we endeavour to safeguard our children in a number of important areas

The rapid development of, and widespread access to, technology has provided a new medium for ‘virtual’ bullying, which can occur in or outside school. Cyber-bullying is a different form of bullying and can happen at all times of the day, with a potentially bigger audience, and more accessories as people forward on content at a click.

If any member of staff is aware that a device such as a mobile phone, has been used in a n instance of bullying then a staff member who has been formally authorised by the headteacher, member can data or files, and delete these, where there is good reason to do so.

There is no need to have parental consent to search through a young person’s mobile phone. If an electronic device that is prohibited by the school rules has been seized and the member of staff has reasonable ground to suspect that it contains evidence in relation to an offence, they must give the device to the police as soon as it is reasonably practicable”

NB. It should also be read in accordance with the “Prevent “ policy

Policy to Support the Prevention of Extremism and Radicalisation (PREVENT)

Communication of the Policy

- Greengate Lane's senior leadership team will be responsible for ensuring all members of school staff and pupils are aware of the existence and contents of the school Online Safeguarding policy and the use of any new technology within school.
- The Online Safeguarding policy will be provided to and discussed with all members of staff formally.
- All amendments will be published and awareness sessions will be held for all members of the school community.
- Any amendments will be discussed by the School Council to ensure the language and vocabulary is appropriate and understandable for the policy's intended audience.
- An Online Safeguarding or Online Safety module will be included in the PSHE, Citizenship and/or ICT curricula covering and detailing amendments to the Online Safeguarding policy.
- An Online Safeguarding or Online Safety training programme will be established across the school to include a regular review of the Online Safeguarding policy.
- Online Safeguarding or Online Safety training will be part of the transition programme across the Key Stages and when moving between establishments, pupils' responsibilities regarding the school Online Safeguarding policy will be reviewed.
- Pertinent points from the school Online Safeguarding policy will be reinforced across the curriculum and across all subject areas when using ICT equipment within school.
- The key messages contained within the Online Safeguarding policy will be reflected and consistent within all acceptable use policies in place within school.
- We endeavour to embed Online Safeguarding messages across the curriculum whenever the internet or related technologies are used
- The Online Safeguarding policy will be introduced to the pupils at the start of each school year

Safeguarding posters will be prominently displayed around the school from February 2016 onwards

Roles and Responsibilities

We believe that Online Safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole school community, and everyone has a responsibility to ensure that all members of the community are able to benefit from the opportunities that technology provides for learning and teaching. The following responsibilities demonstrate how each member of the community will contribute.

Responsibilities of the Senior Leadership Team:

- The Headteacher has overall responsibility for online safeguarding all members of the school community, though the day to day responsibility for online safeguarding will be delegated to the Online Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
- The headteacher and senior leadership team are responsible for ensuring that the Online Safeguarding Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their Online Safeguarding roles and to train other colleagues when necessary.
- The headteacher and senior leadership team will ensure that there is a mechanism in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in school who carry out the internal Online Safeguarding monitoring role. This provision provides a safety net and also supports those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles.
- The senior leadership team will receive monitoring reports from the Online Safeguarding Coordinator.
- The headteacher and senior leadership team should ensure that they are aware of procedures to be followed in the event of a serious Online Safeguarding incident. The headteacher and senior leadership team should receive update reports from the incident management team.

Responsibilities of the Online Safeguarding Committee

- To ensure that the school Online Safeguarding policy is current and pertinent.
- To ensure that the school Online Safeguarding policy is systematically reviewed at agreed time intervals.
- To ensure that school Acceptable Use Policies are appropriate for the intended audience.
- To promote to all members of the school community the safe use of the internet and any technologies deployed within school.

Responsibilities of the Online Safeguarding Coordinator

- To promote an awareness and commitment to Online Safeguarding throughout the school.
- To be the first point of contact in school on all Online Safeguarding matters.
- To take day-to-day responsibility for Online Safeguarding within school and to have a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school Online Safeguarding policies and procedures.
- To lead the school Online Safeguarding group or committee.
- To have regular contact with other Online Safeguarding committees, e.g. Safeguarding Children Board
- To communicate regularly with school technical staff.
- To communicate regularly with the designated Online Safeguarding governor.
- To communicate regularly with the senior leadership team.
- To create and maintain Online Safeguarding policies and procedures.
- To develop an understanding of current Online Safeguarding issues, guidance and appropriate legislation.
- To ensure that all members of staff receive an appropriate level of training in Online Safeguarding issues.
- To ensure that Online Safeguarding education is embedded across the curriculum.
- To ensure that Online Safeguarding is promoted to parents and carers.
- To liaise with the local authority, the Local Safeguarding Children Board and other relevant agencies as appropriate.
- To monitor and report on Online Safeguarding issues to the Online Safeguarding group and the senior leadership team as appropriate.
- To ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an Online Safeguarding incident.
- To ensure that an Online Safeguarding incident log is kept up to date.

Responsibilities of the Teaching and Support Staff

- To read, understand and help promote the school's Online Safeguarding policies and guidance.
- To read, understand and adhere to the school staff Acceptable Use Policy.
- To report any suspected misuse or problem to the Online Safeguarding coordinator.
- To develop and maintain an awareness of current Online Safeguarding issues and guidance.
- To model safe and responsible behaviours in their own use of technology.
- To ensure that any digital communications with pupils should be on a professional level and only through school based systems, NEVER through personal mechanisms, e.g. email, text, mobile phones etc.
- To embed Online Safeguarding messages in learning activities across all areas of the curriculum.
- To supervise and guide pupils carefully when engaged in learning activities involving technology.
- To ensure that pupils are fully aware of research skills and are fully aware of legal issues relating to electronic content such as copyright laws.
- To be aware of Online Safeguarding issues related to the use of mobile phones, cameras and handheld devices.
- To understand and be aware of incident-reporting mechanisms that exist within the school.
- To maintain a professional level of conduct in personal use of technology at all times.
- Ensure that sensitive and personal data is kept secure at all times by using encrypted data storage and by transferring data through secure communication systems.

Responsibilities of Technical Staff

- To read, understand, contribute to and help promote the school's Online Safeguarding policies and guidance.
- To read, understand and adhere to the school staff Acceptable Use Policy.
- To report any Online Safeguarding related issues that come to your attention to the Online Safeguarding coordinator.
- To develop and maintain an awareness of current Online Safeguarding issues, legislation and guidance relevant to their work.
- To maintain a professional level of conduct in your personal use of technology at all times.
- To support the school in providing a safe technical infrastructure to support learning and teaching.
- To ensure that access to the school network is only through an authorised, restricted mechanism.
- To ensure that provision exists for misuse detection and malicious attack.
- To take responsibility for the security of the school ICT system.
- To liaise with the local authority and other appropriate people and organisations on technical issues.
- To document all technical procedures and review them for accuracy at appropriate intervals.
- To restrict all administrator level accounts appropriately.
- To ensure that access controls exist to protect personal and sensitive information held on school-owned devices.
- To ensure that appropriate physical access controls exist to control access to information systems and telecommunications equipment situated within school.
- To ensure that appropriate backup procedures exist so that critical information and systems can be recovered in the event of a disaster.
- To ensure that controls and procedures exist so that access to school-owned software assets is restricted.

Protecting the professional identity of all staff, work placement students and volunteers

Communication between adults and between children / young people and adults, by whatever method, should be transparent and take place within clear and explicit boundaries. This includes the wider use of technology such as mobile phones, text messaging, social networks, e-mails, digital cameras, videos, web-cams, websites, forums and blogs.

When using digital communications, staff and volunteers should:

- only make contact with children and young people for professional reasons and in accordance with the policies and professional guidance of the school.
- not share any personal information with a child or young person eg should not give their personal contact details to children and young people including e-mail, home or mobile telephone numbers.
- not request, or respond to, any personal information from the child/young person, other than that which might be appropriate as part of their professional role, or if the child is at immediate risk of harm.
- not send or accept a friend request from the child/young person on social networks.
- be aware of and use the appropriate reporting routes available to them if they suspect any of their personal details have been compromised.
- ensure that all communications are transparent and open to scrutiny.
- be careful in their communications with children so as to avoid any possible misinterpretation.
- ensure that if they have a personal social networking profile, details are not shared with children and young people in their care (making every effort to keep personal and professional online lives separate).
- not post information online that could bring the school into disrepute.
- be aware of the sanctions that may be applied for breaches of policy related to professional conduct.

Responsibilities of the Child Protection Officer

- To understand the issues surrounding the sharing of personal or sensitive information.
- To understand the dangers regarding access to inappropriate online contact with adults and strangers.
- To be aware of potential or actual incidents involving grooming of young children.
- To be aware of and understand cyberbullying and the use of social media for this purpose.

Responsibilities of Students / pupils

- To read, understand and adhere to the school pupil Acceptable Use Policy.
- To help and support the school in the creation of Online Safeguarding policies and practices and to adhere to any policies and practices the school creates.
- To know and understand school policies on the use of mobile phones, digital cameras and handheld devices.
- To know and understand school policies on the taking and use of mobile phones.
- To know and understand school policies regarding cyberbullying.
- To take responsibility for learning about the benefits and risks of using the internet and other technologies safely both in school and at home.
- To be fully aware of research skills and of legal issues relating to electronic content such as copyright laws.
- To take responsibility for each other's safe and responsible use of technology in school and at home, including judging the risks posed by the personal technology owned and used outside school.
- To ensure they respect the feelings, rights, values and intellectual property of others in their use of technology in school and at home.
- To understand what action they should take if they feel worried, uncomfortable, vulnerable or at risk while using technology in school and at home, or if they know of someone who this is happening to.
- To understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and to be fully aware of the incident-reporting mechanisms that exists within school.
- To discuss Online Safeguarding issues with family and friends in an open and honest way.

Responsibilities of Parents / Carers

- To help and support the school in promoting Online Safeguarding.
- To read, understand and promote the school pupil Acceptable Use Policy with their children.
- To take responsibility for learning about the benefits and risks of using the internet and other technologies that their children use in school and at home.
- To take responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.
- To discuss Online Safeguarding concerns with their children, show an interest in how they are using technology and encourage them to behave safely and responsibly when using technology.
- To model safe and responsible behaviours in their own use of technology
- To consult with the school if they have any concerns about their children's use of technology.
- To agree to and sign the home-school agreement which clearly sets out the use of photographic and video images outside of school.

To sign a home-school agreement containing the following statements

We will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community

- We will support the school's stance on the use of ICT and ICT equipment
- Images taken of pupils at school events will be for personal use only and not uploaded or shared via the internet
- Parents may take photographs at school events: however, they must ensure that any images or videos taken involving children other than their own are for personal use and will not be published on the internet including social networking sites
- Parents and carers are asked to read through and sign acceptable use agreements on behalf of their children on admission to school
- Parents and carers are required to give written consent for the use of any images of their children in a variety of different circumstances.

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

- To read, understand, contribute to and help promote the school's Online Safeguarding policies and guidance.
- To develop an overview of the benefits and risks of the internet and common technologies used by pupils.
- To develop an overview of how the school ICT infrastructure provides safe access to the internet.
- To develop an overview of how the school encourages pupils to adopt safe and responsible behaviours in their use of technology in and out of school.
- To support the work of the Online Safeguarding group in promoting and ensuring safe and responsible use of technology in and out of school, including encouraging parents to become engaged in Online Safeguarding activities.
- To ensure appropriate funding and resources are available for the school to implement its Online Safeguarding strategy.

The role of the Online Safety Governor includes:

- regular meetings with the Online Safety Co-ordinator
- regular monitoring of online safety incident logs
- reporting to Governors meeting

Responsibilities of Other Community/ External Users

Community Users who access school ICT systems / website / VLE as part of the Extended School provision will be expected to sign a Community User AUP before being provided with access to school systems.

- The school will liaise with local organisations to establish a common approach to Online Safeguarding and the safe use of technologies.
- The school will be sensitive and show empathy to internet-related issues experienced by pupils out of school, e.g. social networking sites, and offer appropriate advice where appropriate.
- Any external organisations will sign an Acceptable Use Policy prior to using any equipment or the internet within school.
- The school will provide an Acceptable Use Policy for any guest who needs to access the school computer system or internet on school grounds.

Education

Students / pupils

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

Online Safety education will be provided in the following ways:

- We will provide a series of specific Online Safeguarding-related lessons in every year group/specific year groups as part of the ICT curriculum / PSHE curriculum / other lessons.
- We will celebrate and promote Online Safeguarding through a planned programme of assemblies and whole-school activities, including promoting Safer Internet Day each year.
- We will discuss, remind or raise relevant Online Safeguarding messages with pupils routinely wherever suitable opportunities arise during all lessons; including the need to protect personal information, consider the consequences their actions may have on others, the need to check the accuracy and validity of information they use and the need to respect and acknowledge ownership of digital materials.
- Any internet use will be carefully planned to ensure that it is age appropriate and supports the learning objectives for specific curriculum areas.
- Pupils will be taught how to use a range of age-appropriate online tools in a safe and effective way.
- We will remind pupils about their responsibilities through an end-user Acceptable Use Policy which every pupil will sign/will be displayed throughout the school/will be displayed when a pupil logs on to the school network.
- Staff will model safe and responsible behaviour in their own use of technology during lessons.
- We will teach pupils how to search for information and to evaluate the content of websites for accuracy when using them in any curriculum area.
- When searching the internet for information, pupils will be guided to use age-appropriate search engines. All use will be monitored and pupils will be reminded of what to do if they come across unsuitable content.
- All pupils will be taught in an age-appropriate way about copyright in relation to online resources and will be taught to understand about ownership and the importance of respecting and acknowledging copyright of materials found on the internet.
- Pupils will be taught about the impact of cyberbullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying.
- Pupils will be made aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies; i.e. parent or carer, teacher or trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Childline or the CEOP report abuse button

All Staff (including Governors)

It is essential that all staff receive online safety training and understand their responsibilities, as outlined in this policy. Training will be offered as follows:

- A planned programme of formal online safety training will be made available to staff.
- An audit of the online safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly.
- All new staff receive online safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school online safety policy and Acceptable Use Policies.
- This Online Safeguarding policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff / team meetings / INSET days.
- The Online Safety Coordinator (or other nominated person) will provide advice / guidance / training as required to individuals as required.

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 and in promoting the positive use of the internet and social media. Research shows that many parents and carers do not fully understand the issues and are less experienced in the use of ICT than their children. The school will therefore take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through

- parents' evenings
- newsletters
- letters
- website / VLE
- information about national / local online safety campaigns / literature

Managing ICT systems and access

- The school will be responsible for ensuring that access to the ICT systems is as safe and secure as reasonably possible.
- All access to school ICT systems should be based upon a 'least privilege' approach.
- Servers and other key hardware or infrastructure will be located securely with only appropriate staff permitted access.
- Servers, workstations and other hardware and software will be kept updated as appropriate.
- Virus protection is installed on all appropriate hardware, and will be kept active and up to date.
- The school will agree which users should and should not have internet access and the appropriate level of access and supervision they should receive. At Key Stage 2, pupils will have an individual user account with an appropriate password which will be kept secure, in line with the pupil Acceptable Use Policy. They will ensure they log out after each session.
- Members of staff will access the internet using an individual id and password, which they will keep secure. They will ensure that they log out after each session and not allow pupils to access the internet through their id and password. They will abide by the school AUP at all times.

Filtering internet access

- The school uses a filtered internet service. The filtering system is provided by Smoothwall
- The school's internet provision will include filtering appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils.
- The school will always be proactive regarding the nature of content which can be viewed through the school's internet provision.
- The school will have a clearly defined procedure for reporting breaches of filtering. All staff and pupils will be aware of this procedure by reading and signing the Acceptable Use Policy and by attending the appropriate awareness training.
- If users discover a website with inappropriate content, this should be reported to a member of staff who will inform the Online Safeguarding Coordinator. All incidents should be documented.
- If users discover a website with potentially illegal content, this should be reported immediately to the Online Safeguarding Coordinator. The school will report such incidents to appropriate agencies including the filtering provider, the local authority, [CEOP](#) or the [IWF](#).
- The school will regularly review the filtering product for its effectiveness.
- The school filtering system will block all sites on the [Internet Watch Foundation](#) list and this will be updated daily.
- Any amendments to the school filtering policy or block-and-allow lists will be checked and assessed prior to being released or blocked.
- Pupils will be taught to assess content as their internet usage skills develop.
- Pupils will use age-appropriate tools to research internet content.
- The evaluation of online content materials is a part of teaching and learning in every subject and will be viewed as a whole-school requirement across the curriculum.

Management of assets

- Details of all school-owned hardware will be recorded in a hardware inventory.
- Details of all school-owned software will be recorded in a software inventory.
- All redundant ICT equipment will be disposed of through an authorised agency. This will include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data.
- All redundant ICT equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media overwritten multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed. Alternatively, if the storage media has failed, it will be physically destroyed. The school will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen.

Disposal of any ICT equipment will conform to The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006 and/or The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007. Further information can be found on the Environment Agency website.

Use of digital and video images

- Photographic, Video

The development of digital imaging technologies has created significant benefits to learning, allowing staff and students / pupils instant use of images that they have recorded themselves or downloaded from the internet. However, staff and students / pupils need to be aware of the risks associated with sharing images and with posting digital images on the internet. Those images may remain available on the internet forever and may cause harm or embarrassment to individuals in the short or longer term. There are many reported incidents of employers carrying out internet searches for information about potential and existing employees. The school will inform and educate users about these risks and will implement policies to reduce the likelihood of the potential for harm:

- When using digital images, staff should inform and educate students / pupils about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images. In particular they should recognise the risks attached to publishing their own images on the internet e.g. on social networking sites.
- Staff are allowed to take digital / video images to support educational aims, but must follow school policies concerning the sharing, distribution and publication of those images. Those images should only be taken on school equipment; the personal equipment of staff should not be used for such purposes.
- Care should be taken when taking digital / video images that students / pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Students / pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission.
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include students / pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.
- Students' / Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of students / pupils are published on the school website
- Student's / Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the student / pupil and parents or carers.

Mobile phone usage in schools

General issues

- Mobile phones and personally-owned devices will not be used in any way during lessons or formal school time. They should be switched off or silent at all times.
- Mobile phones and personally-owned mobile devices brought in to school are the responsibility of the device owner. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of personally-owned mobile phones or mobile devices.
- Mobile phones and personal devices are not permitted to be used in certain areas within the school site such as changing rooms and toilets.
- Mobile phones will not be used during lessons or formal school time unless as part of an approved and directed curriculum-based activity with consent from a member of staff.
- The Bluetooth function of a mobile phone should be switched off at all times and not be used to send images or files to other mobile phones.
- Personal mobile phones will only be used during lessons with permission from the teacher.
- No images or videos should be taken on mobile phones or personally-owned mobile devices without the prior consent of the person or people concerned.
- All mobile phones and personally-owned devices will be handed in at reception should they be brought into school.

Pupils' use of personal devices

- If a pupil breaches the school policy then the phone or device will be confiscated and will be held in a secure place in the school office. Mobile phones and devices will be released to parents or carers in accordance with the school policy.
- Phones and devices must not be taken into examinations. Pupils found in possession of a mobile phone during an exam will be reported to the appropriate examining body. This may result in the pupil's withdrawal from either that examination or all examinations.
- If a pupil needs to contact his or her parents or carers, they will be allowed to use a school phone. Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office.
- Pupils should protect their phone numbers by only giving them to trusted friends and family members. Pupils will be instructed in safe and appropriate use of mobile phones and personal devices and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.
- Pupils will be provided with school mobile phones to use in specific learning activities under the supervision of a member of staff. Such mobile phones will be set up so that only those features required for the activity will be enabled.
- No pupils should bring his or her mobile phone or personally-owned device into school. Any device brought into school will be confiscated.

Data Protection

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the General Data Protection Regulation (which states that personal data must be:

- Lawfulness, fairness and transparency
- Purpose limitation
- Data minimisation
- Accuracy
- Storage limitation
- Integrity and confidentiality (security)
- Accountability

Personal Data

The school may have access to a wide range of personal information and data, held in digital format or on paper records. Personal data is defined as any combination of data items that identifies an individual and provides specific information about them, their families or circumstances. This will include:

- Personal information about children / young people, members of staff / volunteers / students and mothers and fathers / carers e.g. names, addresses, contact details, legal guardianship / contact details, health records, disciplinary records
- Professional records e.g. employment history, taxation and national insurance records, appraisal records and references
- Any other information that might be disclosed by mothers and fathers / carers or by other agencies working with families

Staff must ensure that they:

- At all times take care to ensure the safe keeping of personal data, minimising the risk of its loss or misuse.
- Use personal data only on secure password protected computers and other devices, ensuring that they are properly “logged-off” at the end of any session in which they are using personal data or their computer is locked.
- Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices.

When personal data is stored on any portable computer system, USB stick or any other removable media:

- the data must be encrypted and password protected
- the device must be password protected
- the device must offer approved virus and malware checking software
- the data must be securely deleted from the device, in line with school policy once it has been transferred or its use is complete

- The school has established an information-handling procedure and assessed the risks involved with handling and controlling access to all levels of information within school.
- The school has deployed appropriate technical controls to minimise the risk of data loss or breaches.
- All access to personal or sensitive information owned by the school will be controlled appropriately through technical and non-technical access controls.
- Users should be vigilant when accessing sensitive or personal information on screen to ensure that no one else, who may be unauthorised, can read the information.
- All access to information systems should be controlled via a suitably complex password.
- Any access to personal and sensitive information should be assessed and granted by the SIRO and the applicable IAO.
- All access to the school information management system will be on a need-to-know or least privilege basis. All access should be granted through the SIRO or IAO.
- All information on school servers shall be accessed through a controlled mechanism, with file permissions allocated and assessed on a need to know/least privilege basis. All access should be granted through the SIRO or IAO.
- Staff and pupils will not leave personal and sensitive printed documents on printers within public areas of the school.
- All physical information will be stored in controlled access areas.
- Fax machines will be situated within controlled areas of the school.
- All communications involving personal or sensitive information (email, fax or post) should be appropriately secured.
- All devices taken off site, e.g. laptops, tablets, removable media or phones, will be secured in accordance with the school's information-handling procedures and, for example, not left in cars or insecure locations.

Secure Transfer Process

- All sensitive information or personal data sent by email or fax will be transferred using a secure method.
- Personal or sensitive information must be within the email itself as the information may be insecure. This can be done by creating a document (e.g. Word document) and then encrypting the document and sending it as an attachment with the email.

Communication Technologies

A wide range of rapidly developing communications technologies has the potential to enhance learning.

Communication Technologies	Staff & other adults				Students / Pupils			
	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed for selected staff	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Allowed with staff permission	Not allowed
Mobile phones may be brought to school	✓						✓	
Use of mobile phones in lessons				✓				✓
Use of mobile phones in social time	✓							✓
Taking photos on mobile phones or other camera devices				✓				✓
Use of hand held devices eg PDAs, PSPs		✓					✓	
Use of personal email addresses in school, or on school network				✓				✓
Use of school email for personal emails				✓				✓
Use of chat rooms / facilities				✓				✓
Use of instant messaging				✓				✓
Use of social networking sites			✓					✓
Use of blogs	✓							✓

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

- The official school email service may be regarded as safe and secure and is monitored. Staff and students / pupils should therefore use only the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or on school systems (eg by remote access).
- Users need to be aware that email communications may be monitored
- Users must immediately report, to the nominated person, in accordance with the school policy, the receipt of any email that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such email.
- Any digital communication between staff and students / pupils or parents / carers (email, chat, VLE etc) must be professional in tone and content.

Unsuitable / inappropriate activities

The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in school or outside school when using school equipment or systems. The school policy restricts certain internet usage as follows:

		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for certain users	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
User Actions Users shall not visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:	child sexual abuse images					✓
	promotion or conduct of illegal acts, eg under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation					✓
	adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK					✓
	criminally racist material in UK					✓
	pornography				✓	
	promotion of any kind of discrimination					✓
	promotion of racial or religious hatred					✓
	threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm				✓	
	any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute				✓	
Using school systems to run a private business				✓		
Use systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by YHGfL and / or the school				✓		
Uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions				✓		
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (eg financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)				✓		
Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files				✓		
Carrying out sustained or instantaneous high volume network traffic (downloading / uploading files) that causes network congestion and hinders others in their use of the internet				✓		
On-line gaming (educational)			✓			
On-line gaming (non educational)				✓		
On-line gambling				✓		
On-line shopping / commerce				✓		
File sharing			✓			
Use of social networking sites			✓			

Use of video broadcasting eg YouTube



Responding to incidents of misuse

It is hoped that all members of the school community will be responsible users of ICT, who understand and follow this policy. However, there may be times when infringements of the policy could take place, through careless or irresponsible or, very rarely, through deliberate misuse. Listed below are the responses that will be made to any apparent or actual incidents of misuse:

If any apparent or actual misuse appears to involve illegal activity e.g.

- child sexual abuse images
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials

The SSCB flow chart (see Appendices) should be consulted and actions followed in line with the flow chart.

If members of staff suspect that misuse might have taken place, but that the misuse is not illegal it is essential that correct procedures are used to investigate, preserve evidence and protect those carrying out the investigation

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

Students / Pupils

Actions / Sanctions

Incidents:	Refer to class teacher / tutor	Refer to Head of Department / Head of Year / other	Refer to Headteacher	Refer to Police	Refer to technical support staff for action re filtering / security etc	Inform parents / carers	Removal of network / internet access rights	Warning	Further sanction eg detention / exclusion
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable / inappropriate activities).			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons	✓						✓	✓	
Unauthorised use of mobile phone / digital camera / other handheld device			✓			✓			✓
Unauthorised use of social networking / instant messaging / personal email			✓			✓		✓	
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files					✓			✓	
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords							✓	✓	
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another student's / pupil's account									✓
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using the account of a member of staff			✓		✓		✓		✓
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users			✓		✓		✓		✓
Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature			✓		✓		✓		✓
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions			✓		✓				✓
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school			✓					✓	✓
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system			✓		✓	✓			✓
Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident			✓		✓	✓		✓	
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the Data Protection Act and GDPR			✓			✓	✓	✓	

Staff

Actions / Sanctions

Incidents:	Refer to line manager	Refer to Headteacher	Refer Astrea Academy Trust/ HR	Refer to Police	Refer to Technical Support Staff for action re filtering etc.	Warning	Suspension	Disciplinary action
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable / inappropriate activities).		✓	✓	✓				✓
Excessive or inappropriate personal use of the internet / social networking sites / instant messaging / personal email		✓				✓		
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files		✓				✓		
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords or attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another person's account		✓				✓		
Careless use of personal data eg holding or transferring data in an insecure manner		✓				✓		
Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules		✓	✓					✓
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software		✓	✓		✓			✓
Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature		✓						✓
Using personal email / social networking / instant messaging / text messaging to carrying out digital communications with students / pupils		✓	✓			✓		
Actions which could compromise the staff member's professional standing		✓	✓			✓		
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school		✓	✓					✓
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident		✓	✓		✓			
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material		✓	✓		✓			✓
Breaching copyright or licensing regulations		✓				✓		
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions		✓	✓					✓