



## **St John's CE (C) Primary School**

### **ICT and Online Safety Policy 2020 Update**

Our ICT and Online safety policy has been created to support staff and pupils in using ICT equipment safely and sensibly. It has also been developed to support staff and pupils in using the internet safely and responsibly in school and to alert them to possible dangers. Due to the nature of the subject, the school leaders and governors recognise that changes happen quickly and regularly. Therefore, situations might arise which outdate aspects of our policy in a short space of time. To counter this, the school and its staff monitor guidance regarding safe internet practices and children/young adults. Wherever they can, staff inform parents of any dangers or issues which they become aware of as soon as possible.

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## **1. Introduction**

Our online safety Policy has been written by the school.

It has been discussed with staff, agreed by the senior management and approved by Governors. It will be reviewed annually.

It is the duty of the St John's CE Primary School to ensure that every child in our care is safe and aware of how to keep themselves safe, and the same principles should apply to the 'virtual' or 'digital' world as would be applied to the school's physical buildings.

This Policy document is drawn up to protect all parties: the students, the staff and the school and aims to provide clear advice and guidance on how to minimise risks and how to deal with any infringements.

## **2. Context and Background**

### **The technologies**

ICT in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has an all-encompassing role within the lives of children and adults. New internet and online technologies are enhancing communication and the sharing of information.

Current and emerging Internet and online technologies used in school and, more importantly in many cases, used outside of school by children include:

- The Internet – World Wide Web
- e-mail
- Instant messaging (often using simple web cams e.g. Instant Messenger)
- Web based voice and video calling (e.g. Skype/Zoom/Microsoft Teams)
- Online chat rooms
- Online discussion forums
- Social networking sites (e.g. Facebook/Twitter/Instagram)
- Blogs and Micro-blogs (e.g. Twitter)
- Podcasting (radio / audio broadcasts downloaded to computer or MP3/4 player)
- Video broadcasting sites (e.g. You Tube)
- Music and video downloading (e.g. iTunes/Spotify)
- Mobile phones with camera and video functionality
- Smart phones with e-mail, messaging and internet access

### **Our whole school approach to the safe use of ICT**

We believe that creating a safe ICT learning environment includes three main elements:

- An effective range of technological tools;
- Policies and procedures, with clear roles and responsibilities
- Online safety teaching is embedded throughout the school curriculum and schemes of work

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

Online safety is recognised as an essential aspect of strategic leadership in St John's CE Primary School and the Head, with the support of Governors, aims to embed safe practices into the culture of the school.

With the support of the ICT co-ordinator and teaching staff, The Headteacher ensures that the Policy is implemented across the school via the usual school monitoring procedures

### **Online Safety Co-ordinator**

Our school online safety Co-ordinator is Nathan Price

He is responsible for keeping up to date on all online safety issues and ensuring that staff are updated as necessary.

**Brimstone Advantage LTD** are employed by the school to carry out IT support. This includes support in internet use and safe settings.

### **Governors**

The School Governing body is responsible for overseeing and reviewing all school policies, including the online safety Policy. The Governing body are kept up to date with changes relating to online safety by reports provided by the ICT co-ordinator and the Headteacher.

### **School Staff**

All teachers are responsible for promoting and supporting safe behaviours in their classrooms and following school online safety procedures. Central to this is fostering a 'No Blame' culture so pupils feel able to report any bullying, abuse or inappropriate materials.

Staff should ensure they are familiar with the school online safety policy, and ask for clarification where needed.

They should sign the Staff Acceptable Internet Use agreement annually

Class teachers should ensure that pupils are aware of the online safety rules, introducing them at the beginning of each new school year.

### **Pupils**

Pupils are expected to take an active part in planned lessons and activities to support their understanding and confidence in dealing with online safety issues, both at home and school.

They are asked to agree to a set of guidelines and rules covering their responsibilities when using ICT at school

### **Parents**

Parents are given information about the school's online safety policy in the school prospectus. Any changes in relation to online safety are communicated to parents. They are informed of the school expectations in relation to online safety and asked to support these rules with their children.

## 4. Technical and hardware guidance

### **School Internet provision**

Our internet provider is Entrust which uses a sophisticated content filter to ensure that as far as possible, only appropriate content from the Internet finds its way into school. Whilst this filtering technology is robust and generally effective at blocking unsuitable material, it is still possible for unsuitable material to occasionally get past the filter.

- All pupils and staff have been issued with clear guidelines on what to do if this happens, and parents will be informed where necessary.
- Pupils or staff who deliberately try and access unsuitable materials will be dealt with according to the rules outlined elsewhere in this document.

### **Downloading files and applications**

The Internet is a rich source of free files, applications, software, games and other material that can be downloaded and installed on a computer. Whilst some of this material may be useful, much is inappropriate, and may adversely affect the performance and reliability of school equipment.

- Pupils are not allowed to download any material from the Internet unless directed to do so by an appropriate staff member.

### **Portable storage media**

- Staff are not permitted to store any school or pupil data on portable storage devices. Pupils data may only be saved to the school server or to the school's One Drive account.

### **Security and virus protection**

The school subscribes to Sophos Antivirus software. The software is monitored and updated regularly by the school technical support staff

- Any software messages or pop-up screens reporting evidence of viral infection should always be reported immediately to the ICT Administrator

## 5. online safety for Pupils

We believe it is our responsibility to prepare pupils for their lives in the modern world and ICT is an integral part of that world. Therefore, we are committed to teaching pupils to use the ICT effectively and appropriately in all aspects of their education.

### Internet access at school

#### **Use of the Internet by pupils**

Internet access is carefully controlled by teachers according to the age and experience of the pupils, and the learning objectives being addressed. Pupils are always actively supervised by an adult when using the Internet and lap top computers with Internet access are carefully arranged so that screens can be seen at all times by all who pass by.

#### **Access for all pupils**

In line with our inclusion policies across the school, we want to ensure that all out pupils have access to the Internet, particularly where this will directly support their learning.

## **Using the Internet for learning**

The Internet is now an invaluable resource for learning for all our pupils, and we use it across the curriculum both for researching information and as a source of digital learning materials.

Using the Internet for learning is now a part of the Computing Curriculum (Sept 2014) We teach all of our pupils how to find appropriate information on the Internet, and how to ensure as far as possible that they understand who has made this information available, and how accurate and truthful it is.

- Teachers carefully plan all Internet-based teaching to ensure that pupils are focused and using appropriate and relevant materials.
- Children are taught how to use search engines and how to evaluate Internet-based information as part of the ICT curriculum, and in other curriculum areas where necessary.
- They are taught how to recognise the difference between commercial and non-commercial web sites, and how to investigate the possible authors of web-based materials.
- They are taught how to carry out simple checks for bias and misinformation
- They are taught that web-based resources have similar copyright status as printed and recorded materials such as books, films and music, and that this must be taken into consideration when using them.

## **Teaching safe use of the Internet and ICT**

It is crucial to teach pupils how to use the Internet safely, both at school and at home, and we use the Kidsmart safety code to support our teaching in this area:

Kidsmart has been developed by the Childnet charity, and is endorsed by the DfES

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk>

The main aspects of this approach include the following five SMART tips:

- Safe - Staying safe involves being careful and not giving out your name, address, mobile phone no., school name or password to people online...
- Meeting someone you meet in cyberspace can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents'/carers' permission and then when they are present...
- Accepting e-mails or opening files from people you don't really know or trust can get you into trouble - they may contain viruses or nasty messages...
- Remember someone online may be lying and not be who they say they are. If you feel uncomfortable when chatting or messaging end the conversation...
- Tell your parent or carer if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried...

## **Suitable material**

We encourage pupils to see the Internet as a rich and challenging resource, but we also recognise that it can be difficult to navigate and find useful and appropriate material. Where possible, and particularly with younger children, we provide pupils with suggestions for suitable sites across the curriculum, and staff always check the suitability of websites before suggesting them to children or using them in teaching.

## **Non-Education materials**

We believe it is better to support children in finding their way around the Internet with guidance and positive role modelling rather than restrict Internet use to strict curriculum-based research. As well as Internet material directly related to the curriculum, we encourage children to visit appropriate entertainment and child-oriented activity sites that have interesting and relevant activities, games and information, in free time at out-of-school-hours provision, and at home. There is a selection of links to such resources available from on the school website, and in the shared pupil folders on the school network.

## **Unsuitable material**

Our internet provided uses a web filtering service to try to prevent pupils accessing inappropriate material. However, despite these efforts, occasionally pupils may come across something on the Internet that they find offensive, unpleasant or distressing. Pupils are taught to always report such experiences directly to an adult at the time they occur, so that action can be taken. The action will include:

1. Making a note of the website and any other websites linked to it.
2. Informing the ICT Administrator
3. Logging the incident – ICT Incident Logbook in the school office
4. Discussion with the pupil about the incident, and how to avoid similar experiences in future

## Using E-Mail at school

E-Mail is a valuable and stimulating method of communication that plays an important role in many aspects of our lives today. We believe it is important that our pupils understand the role of e-mail, and how to use it appropriately and effectively.

- We teach the use of e-mail as part of our ICT curriculum, and use appropriate pupil email accounts where necessary
- Pupils are not allowed to access personal e-mail using school Internet facilities

## Chat, discussion and social networking sites

These forms of electronic communication are used more and more by pupils out of school and can also contribute to learning across a range of curriculum areas.

Online chat rooms, discussion forums and social networking sites present a range of personal safety and privacy issues for young people, and there have been some serious cases highlighted in the media.

We use the resources, guidelines and materials offered by Kidsmart, as outlined above in the Safe use of the Internet section to teach children how to use chat rooms safely.

All commercial Instant Messaging and Social Networking sites are filtered by our internet filtering provider.

Pupils may take part in discussion forums or post messages on bulletin boards that teachers have evaluated as part of specific lesson activities. Individual pupil names or identifying information will never be used.

### Internet-enabled mobile phones and handheld devices

More and more young people have access to sophisticated new internet-enabled devices such as SMART mobile phones, tablets and music players.

It is important that whilst the potential advantages these devices are recognised, there are clear and enforceable rules for their use in school, particularly when they give access to the Internet, and allow pictures and information to be remotely posted to a website or weblog.

During both PSHE and Computing lessons, pupils will be taught the legal and moral implications of posting photos and personal information from mobile phones to public websites etc and how the data protection and privacy laws apply.

- Pupils are not allowed to have personal mobile phones or other similar devices in school. Parents may request that such devices are kept at the School Office for pupils who may need them on their journey to and from school. This should be prearranged with the Headteacher.

### Cyberbullying - Online bullying and harassment

Online bullying and harassment via Instant messaging, mobile phone texting, e-mail and chat rooms are potential problems that can have a serious effect on pupils. We have a range of strategies and policies to prevent online bullying, outlined in various sections of this policy. These include:

- No access to public chatrooms, Instant Messaging services and bulletin boards.
- Pupils are taught how to use the Internet safely and responsibly and are given access to guidance and support resources from a variety of sources.

We encourage pupils to discuss any concerns or worries they have about online bullying and harassment with staff and have a range of materials available to support pupils and their families.

- Complaints of cyber-bullying are dealt with in accordance with our Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Complaints related to child protection are dealt with in accordance with school child protection procedures.

### Contact details and privacy

As specified elsewhere in this policy, pupil's personal details, identifying information, images or other sensitive details will never be used for any public Internet-based activity unless written permission has been obtained from a parent or legal guardian.

Pupils are taught that sharing this information with others can be dangerous – see Teaching the Safe Use of the Internet.

As part of the ICT and wider curriculum, pupils may be involved in evaluating and designing web pages and web-based resources.

Any work that is published on a public website and attributed to members of our school community will reflect our school and will therefore be carefully checked inappropriate content.

Pupils may design and create personal web pages. These pages will generally only be made available to other school users, or as part of a password protected network or learning platform.

Where pupil websites are published on the wider Internet, perhaps as part of a project with another school, organisation etc, then identifying information will be removed, and images restricted.

#### Deliberate misuse of the Internet facilities

All pupils have discussed the rules for using the Internet safely and appropriately. These rules should be displayed in each classroom and the library.

Where a pupil is found to be using the Internet inappropriately, for example to download games, or search for unsuitable images, then sanctions will be applied according to the nature of the misuse, and any previous misuse.

Sanctions will include:

#### **Unsuitable material (e.g. online games, celebrity pictures, music downloads, sport websites etc)**

- Initial warning from class teacher
- Being banned from using Internet facilities
- Report to Headteacher
- Letter to parent/care

#### **Offensive material**

- Meeting with Parent/Carer to re-sign Internet use agreement
- Removal of access to Internet
- Subsequent incidents will be treated very seriously by the Headteacher and may result in exclusion and/or police involvement.

How will complaints regarding online safety be handled?

It is the duty of St John's CE Primary School to ensure that every child in our care is safe, and the same principles should apply to the 'virtual' or 'digital' world as would be applied to the school's physical buildings.

With the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, the availability of mobile technologies and speed of change, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a school computer or mobile device. Neither the school nor the Local Authority can accept liability for material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.

Staff and pupils are given information about infringements in use and possible sanctions.

Sanctions available include:

- All incidents will be recorded
- Interview/counselling by class teacher and Headteacher;
- Informing parents or carers;
- Removal of Internet or computer access for a period, □ Referral to LA / Police.

The class teacher acts as first point of contact for any complaint. Any complaint about staff misuse is referred to the Head teacher.



## 6. Use of the Internet and ICT resources by school staff

### **The Internet**

St John's CE Primary School understands that the Internet is a valuable resource for school staff. It provides a wealth of resources, teaching materials and information that teachers can use across the curriculum. It allows staff to share resources with other schools, and to engage in debate and discussion.

We are committed to encouraging and supporting our school staff to make the best use of the Internet and all the opportunities it offers to enhance our teaching and support learning.

### **Internet Availability**

To enable staff to make full use of these important resources, the Internet is available in school to all staff for professional use.

### **ICT Equipment and Resources**

The school also offers staff access to appropriate ICT equipment and resources, including computers, laptops, tablets, interactive whiteboards, data projectors, digital cameras, video camcorders, sound recorders, control and data logging equipment and a range of professional and curriculum software

### **Professional use**

Staff are expected to model appropriate ICT and Internet use at all times. This supports our commitment to encouraging safe and appropriate ICT and Internet use by our pupils both in school and at home.

Staff are also careful to consider inclusion and equalities issues when using ICT and the Internet, and to provide pupils with appropriate models to support the school's Inclusion policy.

Staff who need support in using ICT as part of their professional practice should approach the Headteacher and discuss their needs.

### **Personal use of the Internet and ICT resources**

Some equipment (including laptops) is available for loan to staff, with permission from the Headteacher. The appropriate forms and agreements must be signed.

However, all staff must be aware of the school policy on using school Internet and ICT resources for personal use. These are outlined in the staff agreement form below.

#### E-mail

St John's CE Primary School recognises that e-mail is a useful and efficient professional communication tool. To facilitate this, staff members will be given a school e-mail address and we ask staff to use it for all professional communication with colleagues, organisations, companies and other groups.

Staff are reminded that using this e-mail address means that they are representing the school, and all communications must reflect this.

E-mail accounts provided by the school may sometimes need to be accessed, although personal privacy will be respected.

### **Online discussion groups, bulletin boards and forums, online chat and messaging**

We realise that a growing number of educationalists and education groups use discussion groups, online chat forums and bulletin board to share good practice and disseminate information and resources.

The use of online discussion groups and bulletin boards relating to professional practice and continuing professional development is encouraged, although staff are reminded that they are representing the school, and appropriate professional standards should apply to all postings and messages.

### **Social Networking**

We appreciate that many staff will use social networking sites and tools. The use of social networking tools and how it relates to the professional life of school staff is covered in Staff Professional Conduct expectations and agreements.

### **Data Protection and Copyright**

St John's CE Primary School has data protection policy in place – please see separate documentation for more details.

Staff are aware of this policy, and how it relates to Internet and ICT use, in particular with regard to pupil data and photographs, and follow the guidelines as necessary.

Staff understand that there are complex copyright issues around many online resources and materials, and always give appropriate credit when using online materials or resources in teaching and learning materials. They also support pupils to do their best to avoid breaching copyright.



## St John's CE (C) Primary School Online safety Policy Staff Agreement Form

This document covers use of school digital technologies and networks etc. as well as in school and out of school access.

- I will obtain the appropriate log on details and passwords from the Headteacher.
- I will not reveal my password(s) to anyone other than the persons responsible for running and maintaining the system.
- If my password is compromised, I will ensure I change it. I will not use anyone else's password if they reveal it to me and will advise them to change it.
- I will not allow unauthorised individuals to access school ICT systems or resources

### **Appropriate Use**

- I will only use the school's digital technology resources and systems for professional purposes or for uses deemed 'reasonable' by the Head and Governing Body.
- I will never view, upload, download or send any material which is likely to be unsuitable for children or material that could be considered offensive to colleagues. This applies to any material of a violent, dangerous or inappropriate sexual content.
- I will not download, use or upload any material which is copyright, does not have the appropriate licensing or that might compromise the network.
- I will report any accidental access to, or receipt of inappropriate materials, or filtering breach to the Headteacher.

### **Professional Conduct**

- I will not engage in any online activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities
- I will ensure that any private social networking sites / blogs etc. that I create or actively contribute to are not confused with my professional role
- I will never include pupils, former pupils or parents as part of a non-professional social network or group
- I will ensure that I represent the school in a professional and appropriate way when sending e-mail, contributing to online discussion or posting to public websites using school facilities
- I will not browse, download or send material that could be considered offensive to colleagues
- I will report any accidental access to, or receipt of inappropriate materials, or filtering breach to the Headteacher

## **Personal Use**

- I understand that I may use Internet facilities for personal use at lunchtimes and break time, where computers are available and not being used for professional or educational purposes.
- I understand that I may access private e-mail accounts during the availability periods outlined above for personal use, but will not download any attachments, pictures or other material onto school computers, or onto the school network area.
- I understand that the forwarding of e-mail chain letters, inappropriate 'jokes' and similar material is forbidden.
- I understand that I can use the school Internet facilities for personal access to school agreed public discussion groups or social networking sites, but this usage is monitored within school and must stay within the Appropriate Use Policy guidelines.

## **Email**

- I will only use the approved, secure email system for any school business
- I will only use the approved school email, or other school approved communication systems with pupils or parents/carers, and only communicate with them on appropriate school business.

## **Use of School equipment out of school**

- I agree and accept that any computer or laptop loaned to me by the school, is provided mainly to support my professional responsibilities and that I will notify the school of any "significant personal use" as defined by HM Revenue and Customs.
- I will return school equipment on an annual basis to be checked and updated
- I will not connect a computer, laptop or other device to the network / Internet that does not have up-to-date anti-virus software

## **Teaching and Learning**

- I will always actively supervise, or arrange for suitable supervision of pupils that I have directed or allowed to use the Internet
- I will embed the school's online safety curriculum into my teaching, using agreed resources and materials
- I will ensure I am aware of digital safety-guarding issues, so they are appropriately embedded in my classroom practice
- I will only use the Internet for professional purposes when pupils are present in an ICT suite, or a classroom with Internet access

## **Photographs and Video**

- I will not use personal digital cameras or camera phones for taking and transferring images of pupils or staff without permission and will not store images at home without permission
- I will never associate pupil names or personal information with images or videos published in school publications or on the Internet (in accordance with school policy and parental guidance)

## **Data protection**

- I will not give out or share personal addresses (including email), telephone / fax numbers of any adult or students working at the school.
- I will not take pupil data, photographs or video from the school premises without the full permission of the head teacher e.g. on a laptop, memory stick or any other removable media
- I will ensure that I follow school data security protocols when using any confidential data at any location other than school premises
- I will respect the privacy of other users' data, and will never enter the file areas of other staff without their expressed permission
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any information seen by me with regard to staff or pupil information, held within the school's information management system, will be kept private and confidential, **EXCEPT** when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.

### Copyright

- I will not publish or distribute work that is protected by copyright
- I will encourage pupils to reference online resources and websites when they use them in a report or publication User Signature

I agree to abide by all the points above.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that I remain up-to-date and read and understand the school's most recent online safety policies.

I agree to have a school user account, be connected to the Internet via the school network and be able to use the school's ICT resources and systems.

Signature ..... Date .....

Full Name ..... (printed)

Job title .....

School .....

Authorised Signature (Head Teacher) I approve this user to be set-up.

Signature ..... Date .....

Full Name ..... (printed)

## **11. Data Protection Policy**

St John's CE Primary School is aware of its responsibilities in line with the data GDPR and protection law as it affects our use of the Internet, both in administration and teaching and learning.

We adhere to the appropriate GDPR and LA Guidelines on Data protection.

Staff and pupils understand the legal and disciplinary implications of using the Internet at school for illegal purposes.

Where appropriate, the police and other relevant authorities will be involved in cases of deliberate misuse or abuse of the Internet by members of the school community using the connection provided by the school.

## **12. Staff Laptop and ICT Equipment Loans**

Any member of staff who borrows or uses a school laptop, computer or any other ICT equipment must adhere to all aspects of this online safety Policy.

This must be the case wherever the laptop, computer or other such device is being used as it remains the property of St John's CE Primary School at all times.

Staff must undertake to take proper care of the equipment whilst in their possession and will abide by the requirements of the school's insurance policy with regard to protecting the equipment from loss or damage.

Staff must sign the 'Staff Laptop and Computer Loans Agreement' before taking the equipment away from the school premises.

## Staff Laptop and ICT Equipment Loan Agreement

I have borrowed a school laptop to use out of school in agreement with both Head Teacher and the ICT coordinator.

Make:

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Model:

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Serial number:

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It is understood that I will return the equipment to school if requested to do so by either the Head Teacher or the ICT co-ordinator.

I undertake to take proper care of the equipment whilst in my possession and will abide by the requirements of the school's insurance policy with regard to protecting the equipment from loss or damage. I agree that, should the equipment be lost or damaged due to exposure to a non-insured risk, I will replace or arrange for the repair of the equipment at my own expense.

I will use the equipment in accordance with the school's online safety Policy and Staff Acceptable Use policy.

I agree to the above conditions:

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

(Print name) \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Returned: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Checked and updated by N N Price 29.4.2020