



THE HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY COMPANY

Schools: Our Lady of the Angels Infant School and Nursery, St. Anne's Catholic Primary School, St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School, St. Francis Catholic Primary School, St. Joseph Junior School, St. Thomas More School and Sixth Form College.

E-SAFETY POLICY

Ratified at Directors Meeting on:.....

SignedChair of Directors

Date.....

To be reviewed annually in the Autumn term.

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This e-safety policy was approved by the Board	
The implementation of this e-safety policy will be monitored by the:	<i>E-Safety Officer & Senior Leadership Team in each School</i>
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	<i>Annually</i>
The <i>Headteacher & Governing Committee</i> will receive a report on the implementation of the e-safety policy from the e-Safety Officer (which will include anonymous details of e-safety incidents) at regular intervals:	<i>Annual report</i>
The E-Safety 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 e-safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be:	<i>June 2016</i>
Should serious e-safety incidents take place, the following external persons / agencies should be informed:	<i>School Safeguarding Officer, Police</i>

E-Safety Policy

Development, monitoring and review of the Policy

Schedule for development, monitoring and review

Scope of the Policy

Roles and Responsibilities

- Governors
- Headteacher / Principal and Senior Leaders
- E-Safety Co-ordinator / Officer
- Network Manager / Technical Staff
- Teaching and Support Staff
- Child Protection / Safeguarding Designated Person / Officer
- Students / Pupils
- Parents / Carers

Policy Statements

- Education – Students / Pupils
- Education – Parents / Carers
- Education and training – Staff / Volunteers
- Training – Governors
- Technical – infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring
- Bring your own devices (BYOD)
- Use of digital and video images
- Data protection
- Communications
- Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity
- User Actions - unsuitable / inappropriate activities
- Responding to incidents of misuse

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using: *(delete / add as relevant)*

- *Logs of reported incidents*
- *Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited)*
- *Internal monitoring data for network activity*

Scope of the Policy

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

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers / Principals 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 / academy, but is linked to membership of the school / academy. 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 published school 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

The following section outlines the e-safety roles and responsibilities of individuals and groups within the *school / academy*:

Governing Committee:

Committee members 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 Governing Committee receiving regular information about e-safety incidents and monitoring reports. A member of the Governing Committee will have taken on the role of E-Safety Committee Representative (it is suggested that the role may be combined with that of the Child Protection / Safeguarding Governor). The role of the E-Safety Committee Representative will include:

- *regular meetings with the school's E-Safety Officer*
- *regular monitoring of e-safety incident logs*
- *regular monitoring of filtering / change control logs*
- *reporting to relevant Governing Committee*

Headteacher and Senior Leaders:

- **The Headteacher / Principal 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 Officer.
- **The Headteacher and E-Safety Officer 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.** (see flow chart on dealing with e-safety incidents – included in a later section – “Responding to incidents of misuse”)
- *The Headteacher and Senior Leaders are responsible for ensuring that the E-Safety Officer 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 / Principal / 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. (The school will need to describe this and may wish or need to involve other agencies in this process)*
- *The Senior Leadership Team will receive regular monitoring reports from the E-Safety Officer.*

E-Safety Officer:

(It is strongly recommended that the school should have a named member of staff with a day to day responsibility for e-safety, some schools may choose to combine this with the Child Protection / Safeguarding Officer role. Schools may choose to appoint a person with a child welfare background, preferably with good knowledge and understanding of the new technologies, rather than a technical member of staff – but this will be the choice of the school)

- leads e-safety policy
- takes day to day responsibility for e-safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school e-safety policies & documents
- 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 the Local Authority where applicable
- liaises with school technical staff
- receives reports of e-safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future e-safety developments,
- meets regularly with E-Safety governing committee member to discuss current issues, review incident logs and filtering / change control logs
- attends relevant meeting / governing committee
- reports regularly to Senior Leadership Team

Network Manager / Technical staff:

The *Network Manager with Technical Staff* 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 / other relevant body E-Safety Policy / Guidance that may apply in this area.**
- **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 and email is regularly monitored in order that any misuse / attempted misuse can be reported to the Headteacher and/or E-Safety Officer for investigation / action / sanction
- that monitoring software / systems are implemented and updated as agreed in school / academy policies

Teaching and Support Staff

are responsible for ensuring that:

- **they have an up to date awareness of e-safety matters and of the current school / academy 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 and E-Safety Officer 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, 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*

Child Safeguarding Officer

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

Students / 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 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 / academy* 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 / academy (where this is allowed)

Policy Statements

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 all pupils across the age range in the MAC in e-safety is therefore an essential part of the MAC's e-safety provision. All young people need the help and support of their school to recognise and avoid e-safety risks and build their resilience.

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

- **A planned e-safety curriculum should be provided as part of Computing / PHSE / other lessons and should be regularly revisited**
- **Key e-safety messages should be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies and tutorial / pastoral activities**
- **Students / pupils should be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials / content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.**
- **Students / pupils should be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet**
- Students and pupils should be helped to understand the need for the Acceptable Use Agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside school
- Staff should 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 students / 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.
- Where students / pupils are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should 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 (eg racism, drugs, discrimination) that would normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the Technical Staff (or other relevant designated person) 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

Many parents and carers have only 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 and 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 site, VLE
- Parents and Carers evenings or other sessions
- High profile events and campaigns eg Safer Internet Day
- Reference to the relevant web sites / publications

Education & Training – Staff and Volunteers

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

- **A planned programme of formal e-safety training will be made available to staff. This will be regularly updated and reinforced. An audit of the e-safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly. *It is expected that some staff will identify e-safety as a training need within the performance management process.***
- **All new staff should receive e-safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school e-safety policy and Acceptable Use Agreements.**
- The E-Safety Officer will receive regular updates through attendance at external training events (eg from LA and other relevant organisations) and by reviewing guidance documents released by relevant organisations.
- This E-Safety policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff / team meetings / INSET days as deemed necessary.
- The E-Safety Officer (or other nominated person) will provide advice / guidance / training to individuals as required.

Training – Academy Committees

Members should take part in e-safety training / awareness sessions, with particular importance for those who are members of any sub-committee or group which is involved in technology / e-safety / health and safety / child protection. This may be offered in a number of ways:

- Attendance at training provided by the Local Authority / National Governors Association / or other relevant organisation.
- Participation in school training / information sessions for staff or parents

Technical – infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring

Each 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.

Technical Security Statements

- **School (and 6th Form) technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school academy meets recommended technical requirements**
- **There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school academy 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 / academy technical systems and devices.**
- **All users will be provided with a username and secure password by *Senior Technician who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames*. Users are responsible for the security of their username and password**
- **The “ administrator” passwords for the school / academy ICT system, used by the Network Manager kept in a secure place (eg school safe)**
- **Senior Technician is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations**
- **Internet access is filtered for all users.** Illegal content (child sexual abuse images) is filtered by the broadband or filtering provider by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation CAIC list. Content lists are regularly updated and internet use is logged and regularly monitored. There is a clear process in place to deal with requests for filtering changes
- The school has provided enhanced / differentiated user-level filtering
- School technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school technical systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Policy.
- An appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual / potential technical incident / security breach to the relevant person, as listed above).
- 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” (eg trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems.
- An agreed policy is in place (AUPs) regarding the extent of personal use that users (staff / students / pupils) and their family members (not supported) are allowed on school devices that may be used out of school.
- An agreed policy (staff AUP) is in place that allows staff to / forbids staff from downloading executable files and installing programmes on school devices.
- An agreed policy (staff AUP) 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.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

The educational opportunities offered by mobile technologies are being expanded as a wide range of devices, software and online services become available for teaching and learning, within and beyond the classroom. This has led to the exploration by schools of users bringing their own technologies in order to provide a greater freedom of choice and usability. However, there are a number of e-safety considerations for BYOD that need to be reviewed prior to implementing such a policy. Use of BYOD should not introduce vulnerabilities into existing secure environments. Considerations will need to include; levels of secure access, filtering, data protection, storage and transfer of data, mobile device management systems, training, support, acceptable use, auditing and monitoring. This list is not exhaustive and this BYOD policy below is in place and reference made within all relevant policies when revised.

- The school has a set of clear expectations and responsibilities for all users
- The school adheres to the Data Protection Act principles

- All users are provided with and accept the Acceptable Use Agreement
- All network systems are secure and access for users is differentiated
- Where possible these devices will be covered by the school's / academy's normal filtering systems, while being used on the premises
- All users will use their username and password and keep this safe
- Mandatory training is undertaken for all staff
- Students / Pupils receive training and guidance on the use of personal devices
- Regular audits and monitoring of usage will take place to ensure compliance
- Any device loss, theft, change of ownership of the device will be reported as in the BYOD policy
- Any user leaving the school will follow the process outlined within the BYOD policy

Use of digital and video images

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, parents / carers and students / pupils need to be aware of the risks associated with publishing digital images on the internet. Such images may provide avenues for cyberbullying to take place. Digital images may remain available on the internet forever and may cause harm or embarrassment to individuals in the short or longer term. It is common for employers to carry 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 eg on social networking sites.**
- In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office, parents & carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use (as such use is not covered by the Data Protection Act). To respect everyone's privacy and in some cases protection, these images should not be published nor made publicly available on social networking sites. Parents and carers should not comment on any activities involving other pupils in the digital / video images.
- Staff and volunteers 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 are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission – this is a potential problem area for the school as these actions cannot be monitored by any available technology.
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.
- 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 pupils are published on the school website
- Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the student / pupil and parents or carers.

Data Protection

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998 which states that personal data must be:

- Fairly and lawfully processed
- Processed for limited purposes
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Accurate
- Kept no longer than is necessary
- Processed in accordance with the data subject's rights
- Secure
- Only transferred to others with adequate protection.

Each school will ensure that:

- **It will hold the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and it will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for.**

- **Every effort will be made to ensure that data held is accurate, up to date and that inaccuracies are corrected without unnecessary delay.**
- **All personal data will be fairly obtained in accordance with the “Privacy Notice” and lawfully processed in accordance with the “Conditions for Processing”.**
- **It has a Data Protection Policy**
- **It is registered as a Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act (DPA)**
- Responsible persons are appointed and identified to oversee Information Risk Officer and Information Asset Risk assessments are carried out
- It has clear and understood arrangements for the security, storage and transfer of personal data
- Data subjects have rights of access and there are clear procedures for this to be obtained
- There are clear and understood policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data
- There is a policy for reporting, logging, managing and recovering from information risk incidents
- There are clear Data Protection clauses in all contracts where personal data may be passed to third parties
- There are clear policies about the use of cloud storage / cloud computing which ensure that such data storage meets the requirements laid down by the Information Commissioner’s Office.

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.**
- **Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices.**

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

- the data must be encrypted and password protected
- the device must be password protected (please note that many memory sticks / cards and other mobile devices cannot 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 (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete

Communications

Each school should determine as appropriate the use of mobile phones and other communications with in their school community

Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity

With an increase in use of all types of social media for professional and personal purposes a policy that sets out clear guidance for staff to manage risk and behaviour online is essential. Core messages should include the protection of pupils, the school and the individual when publishing any material online. Expectations for teachers’ professional conduct are set out in ‘Teachers Standards 2012’. While, Ofsted’s e-safety framework 2012, reviews how a school protects and educates staff and pupils in their use of technology, including what measures would be expected to be in place to intervene and support should a particular issue arise.

All schools, academies and local authorities have a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for pupils and staff. Schools/academies 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 / academy* 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 students and pupils, their parents and 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 / academy* or local authority

- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information.

The school's use of social media for professional purposes will be checked regularly by the e-safety officer to ensure compliance with the Social Media, Data Protection, Communications, Digital Image and Video Policies.

Unsuitable / inappropriate activities

Some internet activity eg accessing child abuse images or distributing racist material is illegal and would obviously be banned from school / academy and all other technical systems. Other activities eg cyber-bullying would be banned and could lead to criminal prosecution. There are however a range of activities which may, generally, be legal but would be inappropriate in a school context, either because of the age of the users or the nature of those activities.

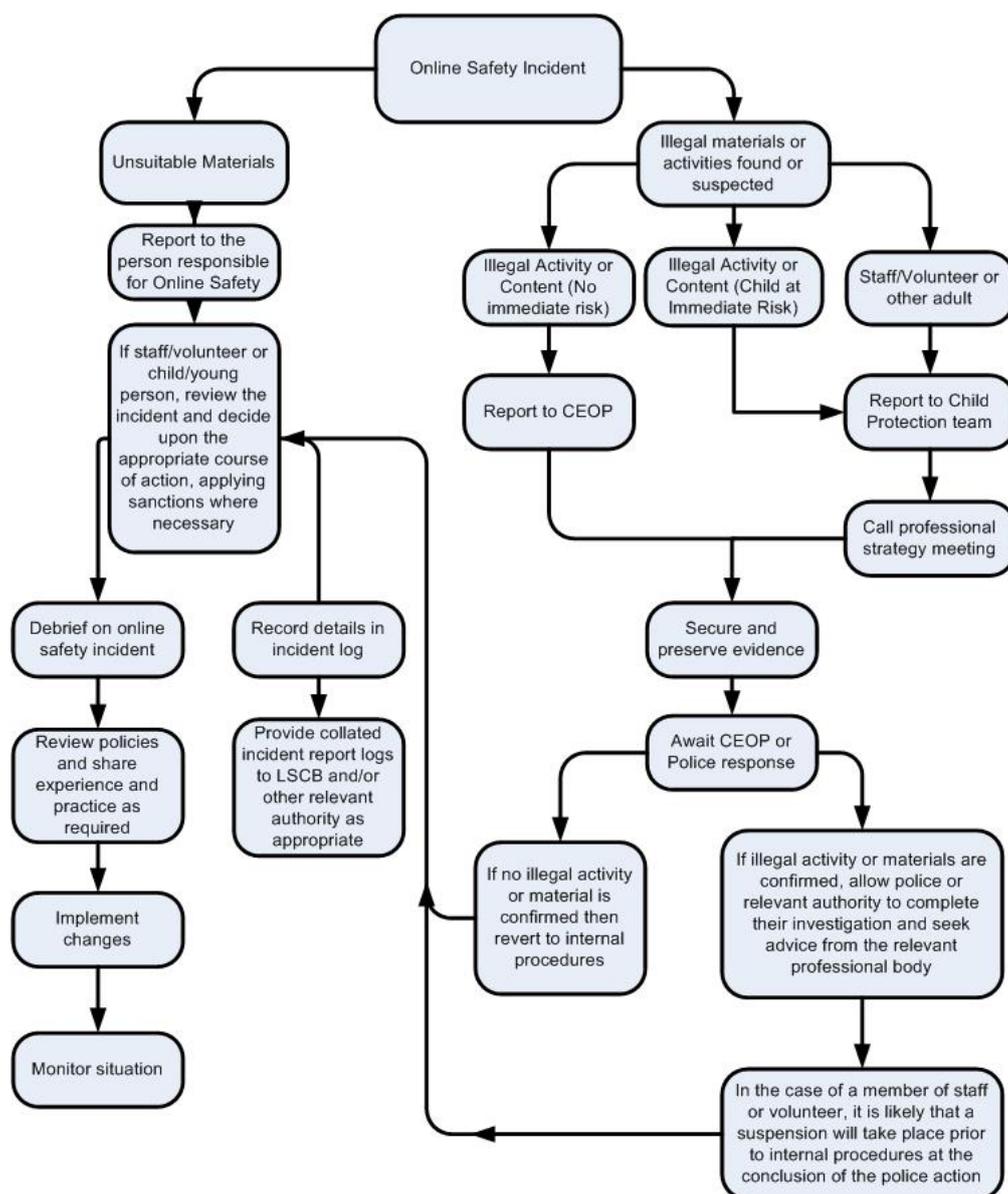
The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in school or outside school when using school equipment or systems. The way that the school policy restricts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

Responding to incidents of misuse

This guidance is intended for use when staff need to manage incidents that involve the use of online services. It encourages a safe and secure approach to the management of the incident. Incidents might involve illegal or inappropriate activities (see "User Actions" above).

Illegal Incidents

If there is any suspicion that the web site(s) concerned may contain child abuse images, or if there is any other suspected illegal activity, refer to the right hand side of the Flowchart (below and appendix) for responding to online safety incidents and report immediately to the police.



School Technical Security Policy

Introduction

Effective technical security depends not only on technical measures, but also on appropriate policies and procedures and on good user education and training. The school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure and network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that:

- users can only access data to which they have right of access
- no user should be able to access another's files (other than that allowed for monitoring purposes within the school's policies).
- access to personal data is securely controlled in line with the school's personal data policy
- logs are maintained of access by users and of their actions while users of the system
- there is effective guidance and training for users
- there are regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school computer systems
- there is oversight from senior leaders and these have impact on policy and practice.

Responsibilities

The management of technical security will be the responsibility of an appropriate Network Manager or Senior Technician in each school.

Technical Security

Policy statement

Each school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure and 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 will receive guidance and training and will be effective in carrying out their responsibilities:

- **School technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school meets required technical requirements**
- **There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school technical systems – this is annual and, in addition, to response to incidents.**
- **Servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted – locked parts of the premises.**
- **Appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, switches, routers, wireless systems, work stations, mobile devices etc from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school systems and data.**
- **Responsibilities for the management of technical security are clearly assigned to appropriate and well trained staff**
- **All users will have clearly defined access rights to school / academy technical systems. Details of the access rights available to groups of users are recorded by the Senior Technician and will be reviewed, at least annually, with the E-Safety Officer.**
- Users will be made responsible for the security of their username and password, must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security.
- **The Senior Technician (or appropriate named person) is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations (Inadequate licencing could cause the school to breach the Copyright Act which could result in fines or unexpected licensing costs)**
- *Mobile device security and management procedures are in place (where mobile devices are allowed access to school systems).*
- *School technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school technical systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Agreement.*
- *Remote management tools are used by staff to control workstations and view users activity*
- *An appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual / potential technical incident to the E-Safety Officer and Network Manager / Senior Technician.*
- An agreed protocol is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (eg trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school system.
- *A policy is in place regarding the downloading of executable files and the installation of programmes on school devices by users*
- *A policy is in place regarding the extent of personal use that users (staff / students / pupils) and their family members are allowed on school devices that may be used out of school.*
- *A policy is in place regarding the use of removable media (eg memory sticks / CDs / DVDs) by users on school devices.*
- *The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up to date software to protect against malicious threats from viruses, worms, trojans etc.*
- *Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured.*

Password Security

A safe and secure username / password system is essential if the above is to be established and will apply to all school technical systems, including networks, devices, email and Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Policy Statement

- All users will have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices. Details of the access rights available to groups of users will be recorded by the Network Manager and will be reviewed, at least annually, by the E-Safety Officer.
- **All school networks and systems will be protected by secure passwords that are regularly changed**
- **The “ administrator” passwords for the school / academy systems, used by the technical staff are kept in a secure place eg school safe. Consideration should also be given to using two factor authentication for such accounts.**
- *Passwords for new users, and replacement passwords for existing users will be allocated by Senior Technician (or appropriate named person).*

- All users (adults and pupils) will have responsibility for the security of their username and password, must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security.
- The level of security required does vary for staff and 6th Form student & pupil accounts and the sensitive nature of any data accessed through that account.
- requests for password changes should be authenticated by the Network Manager to ensure that the new password can only be passed to the genuine user .

Staff passwords:

- **All staff users will be provided with a username and password** by Senior Technician who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames.
- *the password should be a minimum of 8 characters long and must include three of – uppercase character, lowercase character, number, special characters*
- *must not include proper names or any other personal information about the user that might be known by others*
- *the account are be “locked out” following a fixed number of successive incorrect log-on attempts*
- *passwords are not be displayed on screen, and shall be securely hashed (use of one-way encryption)*
- *passwords should be different for different accounts, to ensure that other systems are not put at risk if one is compromised and should be different for systems used inside and outside of school*
- should be different for different accounts, to ensure that other systems are not put at risk if one is compromised
- should be different for systems used inside and outside of school

Student / pupil passwords

- **All users will be provided with a username and password** by Senior Technician who will keep an up to date record of users and their usernames.
- The complexity (ie minimum standards) will be set with regard to the cognitive ability of the children.

Training / Awareness

It is essential that users should be made aware of the need for keeping passwords secure, and the risks attached to unauthorised access / data loss.

Members of staff will be made aware of the schools’ password policy:

- at induction
- through the e-safety policy and password security policy
- through the Acceptable Use Policy

Pupils / students will be made aware of the school’s password policy:

- in lessons
- through the Acceptable Use Policy

Audit / Monitoring / Reporting / Review

The Senior Technician will ensure that full records are kept of:

- User Ids and requests for password changes
- *User log-ons*
- *Security incidents related to this policy*

Filtering – an Introduction

The filtering of internet content provides an important means of preventing users from accessing material that is illegal or is inappropriate in an educational context. The filtering system cannot, however, provide a 100% guarantee that it will do so, because the content on the web changes dynamically and new technologies are constantly being developed. It is important, therefore, to understand that filtering is only one element in a larger strategy for e-safety and acceptable use. It is important that this school continues to review a filtering policy (Network Manager and Senior Technician) to manage the associated risks and to provide preventative measures which are relevant to the situation in this school.

Responsibilities

The responsibility for the management of each school's filtering policy will be held by the **Network Manager**. They will manage the school filtering, in line with this policy and will keep records / logs of changes and of breaches of the filtering systems.

To ensure that there is a system of checks and balances and to protect those responsible, changes to the school filtering service is:

- **logged in change control logs**
- **would be reported to a second responsible person - E-Safety Officer:**

All users have a responsibility to report immediately to **E-Safety Officer** any infringements of the school's filtering policy of which they become aware or any sites that are accessed, which they believe should have been filtered.

Users must not attempt to use any programmes or software that might allow them to bypass the filtering / security systems in place to prevent access to such materials. This is in the staff and pupil AUPs.

Policy Statement

Internet access is filtered for all users. Differentiated internet access is available for staff and customised filtering changes are managed by the school. Illegal content is filtered by broadband or filtering provider by actively employing the Internet Watch Foundation CAIC list and other illegal content lists. Filter content lists are regularly updated and internet use is logged and frequently monitored. The monitoring process alerts the school to breaches of the filtering policy, which are then acted upon. There is a clear route for reporting and managing changes to the filtering system. Where personal mobile devices are allowed internet access through the school network, filtering will be applied that is consistent with school practice.

- *The school manages its own filtering service*
- *The school has provided enhanced / differentiated user-level filtering through the use of the Impero filtering programme. (allowing different filtering levels for different ages / stages and different groups of users – staff / pupils / students etc)*
- *In the event of the technical staff needing to switch off the filtering for any reason, or for any user, this must be logged and carried out by a process that is agreed by the Headteacher.*
- *Mobile devices that access the school / academy internet connection (whether school / academy or personal devices) will be subject to the same filtering standards as other devices on the school systems*
- *Any filtering issues should be reported immediately to the filtering provider - Impero.*
- *Requests from staff for sites to be removed from the filtered list will be considered by the technical staff ie Network Manager or any other member of staff, should any issues arise re unfiltered access). If the request is agreed, this action will be recorded and logs of such actions shall be reviewed regularly by the E-Safety Officer.*

Education / Training / Awareness

Pupils and students should be made aware of the importance of filtering systems through the e-safety education programme (under review – 2015). They will also be warned of the consequences of attempting to subvert the filtering system (pupil AUP).

Staff users will be made aware of the filtering systems through:

- *the Acceptable Use Policy*
- *induction training*
- *staff meetings, briefings, Inset.*

Parents will be informed of the school's filtering policy through the pupils' Acceptable Use Policy and through e-safety awareness sessions / newsletter etc. Copy is in the pupils' logbook.

Monitoring

No filtering system can guarantee 100% protection against access to unsuitable sites. The school will therefore monitor the activities of users on the school network and on school equipment as indicated in the School E-Safety Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy. *Monitoring will take place at all times and logs are kept of all transactions by staff and pupils.*

Audit / Reporting

Logs of filtering change controls and of filtering incidents will be made available to:

- *E-Safety Officer*
- *E-Safety Governors committee*

- *External Filtering provider / Local Authority / Police on request*

The filtering policy will be reviewed in the response to the evidence provided by the audit logs of the suitability of the current provision.

School Personal Data Handling

Suggestions for use

Sections within this section are for information and/or guidance purposes only.

School Personal Data Handling Policy

Recent publicity about data breaches suffered by organisations and individuals has made the area of personal data protection compliance a current and high profile issue for schools and other organisations. It is important that the school has a clear and well understood personal data handling policy in order to avoid or at least minimise the risk of personal data breaches. A breach may arise from a theft, a deliberate attack on your systems, the unauthorised use of personal data by a member of staff, accidental loss, or equipment failure. In addition:

- No school or individual would want to be the cause of any data breach, particularly as the impact of data loss on individuals can be severe and cause extreme embarrassment, put individuals at risk and affect personal, professional or organisational reputation.
- Schools are “data rich” and the introduction of electronic storage and transmission of data has created additional potential for the loss of data
- The school will want to avoid the criticism and negative publicity that could be generated by any personal data breach.
- The school is subject to a wide range of legislation related to data protection and data use, with significant penalties for failure to observe the relevant legislation.

It is a statutory requirement for all schools to have a Data Protection Policy:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/toolsandinitiatives/cuttingburdens/a00201669/statutory-policies-for-schools>

Schools have always held personal data on the pupils in their care, and increasingly this data is held digitally and accessible not just in school but also from remote locations. Legislation covering the safe handling of this data is mainly the Data Protection Act 1998 (‘the DPA’). Moreover, following a number of losses of sensitive data, a report was published by the Cabinet Office in June 2008, Data Handling Procedures in Government. The latter stipulates the procedures that all departmental and public bodies should follow in order to maintain security of data. Given the personal and sensitive nature of much of the data held in schools, it is critical that they adopt these procedures too.

It is important to stress that the Personal Data Handling Policy Template applies to all forms of personal data, regardless of whether it is held on paper or in electronic format. However, as it is part of an overall e-safety policy template, this document will place particular emphasis on data which is held or transferred digitally.

Schools will need to carefully review this policy template and amend sections, as necessary, in the light of pertinent Local Authority regulations and guidance, and changes in legislation.

Introduction

Schools and their employees should do everything within their power to ensure the safety and security of any material of a personal or sensitive nature

It is the responsibility of all members of the school community to take care when handling, using or transferring personal data that it cannot be accessed by anyone who does not:

- have permission to access that data, and/or
- need to have access to that data.

Data breaches can have serious effects on individuals and / or institutions concerned, can bring the school into disrepute and may well result in disciplinary action, criminal prosecution and fines imposed by the Information Commissioners Office for the school and the individuals involved. Particularly, all transfer of data is subject to risk of loss or contamination.

Anyone who has access to personal data must know, understand and adhere to this policy, which brings together the legal requirements contained in relevant data protection legislation and relevant regulations and guidance (where relevant from the Local Authority).

The DPA lays down a set of rules for processing of personal data (both structured manual records and digital records). It provides individuals (data subjects) with rights of access and correction. The DPA requires organisations to comply with eight data protection principles, which, among others require data controllers to be open about how the personal data they collect is used.

The DPA defines “Personal Data” as data which relate to a living individual who can be identified (http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/data_protection/the_guide/key_definitions)

- from those data, or
- from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller,
- and includes any expression of opinion about the individual and any indication of the intentions of the data controller or any other person in respect of the individual.

It further defines “Sensitive Personal Data” as personal data consisting of information as to:

- the racial or ethnic origin of the data subject,
- his political opinions,
- his religious beliefs or other beliefs of a similar nature,
- whether he is a member of a trade union (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992),
- his physical or mental health or condition,
- his sexual life,
- the commission or alleged commission by him of any offence, or
- any proceedings for any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by him, the disposal of such proceedings or the sentence of any court in such proceedings.

Guidance for organisations processing personal data is available on the Information Commissioner’s Office website: http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_organisations/data_protection_guide.aspx

Policy Statement

The school will hold the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and it will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for.

Every effort will be made to ensure that data held is accurate, up to date and that inaccuracies are corrected without unnecessary delay.

All personal data will be fairly obtained in accordance with the “Privacy Notice” and lawfully processed in accordance with the “Conditions for Processing”. ([see Privacy Notice section below](#))

Personal Data

The school and individuals will have access to a wide range of personal information and data. The data may be held in a 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 members of the school community – including pupils members of staff and parents & carers eg names, addresses, contact details, legal guardianship contact details, health records, disciplinary records
- Curricular / academic data eg class lists, pupil / student progress records, reports, references
- Professional records eg employment history, taxation and national insurance records, appraisal records and references
- Any other information that might be disclosed by parents / carers or by other agencies working with families or staff members.

Responsibilities

Each school’s headteacher will keep up to date with current legislation and guidance and will:

- determine and take responsibility for the school’s information risk policy and risk assessment
- in particular Information Assets.

Each school will manage and address risks to the information and will understand :

- what information is held, for how long and for what purpose,
- how information has been amended or added to over time, and
- who has access to protected data and why.

Everyone in the school has the responsibility of handling protected or sensitive data in a safe and secure manner.

Directors/Governors are required to comply fully with this policy in the event that they have access to personal data, when engaged in their role as a Governor.

Registration

The school is registered as a Data Controller on the Data Protection Register held by the Information Commissioner as part of an academy group. The MAC has appointed a data controller.

Information to Parents / Carers – the “Privacy Notice”

In order to comply with the fair processing requirements of the DPA, the school will inform parents / carers of all pupils / students of the data they collect, process and hold on the pupils / students, the purposes for which the data is held and the third parties (eg LA, DfE, etc) to whom it may be passed. This privacy notice will be passed to parents / carers through the school website. Parents / carers of young people who are new to the school will be provided with the privacy notice through the regular parents’ bulletin.

More information about the suggested wording of privacy notices can be found on the DfE website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/datatdatam/a0064374/pn>.

Training & awareness

All staff will receive data handling awareness / data protection training and will be made aware of their responsibilities, as described in this policy through:

- Induction training for new staff
- Staff meetings / briefings / Inset
- Day to day support and guidance from Information Asset Owner – the headteacher.

Risk Assessments

Information risk assessments will be carried out by Information Asset Owner (headteacher) to establish the security measures already in place and whether they are the most appropriate and cost effective. The risk assessment will involve:

- Recognising the risks that are present;
- Judging the level of the risks (both the likelihood and consequences); and
- Prioritising the risks.

Most student / pupil or staff personal data that is used within educational institutions will come under the PROTECT classification. However some, eg the home address of a child (or vulnerable adult) at risk will be marked as RESTRICT.

The school will ensure that all school staff, independent contractors working for it, and delivery partners, comply with restrictions applying to the access to, handling and storage of data classified as Protect, Restricted or higher. Unmarked material is considered 'unclassified'. The term 'UNCLASSIFIED' or 'NON' or 'NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED' may be used to indicate positively that a protective marking is not needed.

All documents (manual or digital) that contain protected or restricted data will be labelled clearly with the Impact Level shown in the header and the Release and Destruction classification in the footer.

Users must be aware that when data is aggregated the subsequent impact level may be higher than the individual impact levels of the original data. Combining more and more individual data elements together in a report or data view increases the impact of a breach. A breach that puts students / pupils at serious risk of harm will have a higher impact than a risk that puts them at low risk of harm. Long-term significant damage to anyone's reputation has a higher impact than damage that might cause short-term embarrassment.

Release and destruction markings should be shown in the footer eg. "Securely delete or shred this information when you have finished using it".

Secure Storage of and access to data

Each school will ensure that ICT systems are set up so that the existence of protected files is hidden from unauthorised users and that users will be assigned a clearance that will determine which files are accessible to them. Access to protected data will be controlled according to the role of the user. Members of staff will not, as a matter of course, be granted access to the whole management information system.

All users will use strong passwords which must be changed regularly. User passwords must never be shared.

Personal data may only be accessed on machines that are securely password protected. Any device that can be used to access data must be locked if left (even for very short periods) and set to auto lock if not used for five minutes.

All storage media must be stored in an appropriately secure and safe environment that avoids physical risk, loss or electronic degradation.

Personal data can only be stored on school equipment (this includes computers and portable storage media. Private equipment (ie owned by the users) must not be used for the storage of personal data.

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 and
- the data must be securely deleted from the device, in line with school policy (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete.

The school will need to set its own policy as to whether data storage on removal media is allowed, even if encrypted – some organisations do not allow storage of personal data on removable devices.

IT Technical Service has clear policy and procedures for the automatic backing up, accessing and restoring all data held on school systems, including off-site backups.

The school has clear policy and procedures (at present this only applies to SISRA and Doodle – no advice was taken by SLT on this matter) for the use of "Cloud Based Storage Systems" (for example dropbox, google apps and google docs) and is aware that data held in remote and cloud storage is still required to be protected in line with the Data Protection Act. The school will ensure that it is

satisfied with controls put in place by remote / cloud based data services providers to protect the data.

http://www.ico.org.uk/for_organisations/guidance_index/~media/documents/library/Data_Protection/Practical_application/cloud_computing_guidance_for_organisations.ashx

As a Data Controller the MAC (and within that the individual school) is responsible for the security of any data passed to a “third party”. Data Protection clauses will be included in all contracts where data is likely to be passed to a third party.

All paper based Protected and Restricted (or higher) material must be held in lockable storage, whether on or off site.

The school / academy recognises that under Section 7 of the DPA, <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/29/section/7> data subjects have a number of rights in connection with their personal data, the main one being the right of access. Procedures are in place within individual schools in the MAC to deal with Subject Access Requests i.e. a written request to see all or a part of the personal data held by the data controller in connection with the data subject. Data subjects have the right to know: if the data controller holds personal data about them; a description of that data; the purpose for which the data is processed; the sources of that data; to whom the data may be disclosed; and a copy of all the personal data that is held about them. Under certain circumstances the data subject can also exercise rights in connection with the rectification; blocking; erasure and destruction of data.

Secure transfer of data and access out of school

The school recognises that personal data may be accessed by users out of school, or transferred to the LA or other agencies. In these circumstances:

- Users may not remove or copy sensitive or restricted or protected personal data from the school or authorised premises without permission and unless the media is encrypted and password protected and is transported securely for storage in a secure location.
- Users must take particular care that computers or removable devices which contain personal data must not be accessed by other users (eg family members) when out of school
- When restricted or protected personal data is required by an authorised user from outside the organisation’s premises (for example, by a member of staff to work from their home), they should preferably have secure remote access to the management information system or learning platform;
- If secure remote access is not possible, users must only remove or copy personal or sensitive data from the organisation or authorised premises if the storage media, portable or mobile device is encrypted and is transported securely for storage in a secure location;
- Users must protect all portable and mobile devices, including media, used to store and transmit personal information using approved encryption software; and
- Particular care should be taken if data is taken or transferred to another country, particularly outside Europe, and advice should be taken from the local authority (if relevant) in this event. (please note that to carry encrypted material is illegal in some countries)

Disposal of data

Each school will comply with the requirements for the safe destruction of personal data when it is no longer required.

The disposal of personal data, in either paper or electronic form, must be conducted in a way that makes reconstruction highly unlikely. Electronic files must be securely overwritten, in accordance with government guidance (refer to Cabinet Office guidance), and other media must be shredded, incinerated or otherwise disintegrated for data.

A Destruction Log should be kept of all data that is disposed of. The log should include the document ID, classification, date of destruction, method and authorisation.

Audit Logging / Reporting / Incident Handling

It is good practice, as recommended in the “Data Handling Procedures in Government” document that the activities of data users, in respect of electronically held personal data, will be logged and these logs will be monitored by responsible individuals. (The headteacher and Network Manager)

The audit logs will be kept to provide evidence of accidental or deliberate_data security breaches – including loss of protected data or breaches of an acceptable use policy, for example.

Each school has a policy for reporting, managing and recovering from information risk incidents, which establishes:

- a “responsible person” for each incident;
- a communications plan, including escalation procedures;
- and results in a plan of action for rapid resolution; and
- a plan of action of non-recurrence and further awareness raising.

All significant data protection incidents must be reported through the SLT to the Information Commissioner’s Office based upon the local incident handling policy and communication plan.

Comments on use of technologies and Protective Marking

The following provides a useful guide:

	The information	The technology	Notes on Protect Markings (Impact Level)
School life and events	School terms, holidays, training days, the curriculum, extra-curricular activities, events, displays of pupils work, lunchtime menus, extended services, parent consultation events	Common practice is to use publically accessible technology such as school websites or portal, emailed newsletters, subscription text services	Most of this information will fall into the NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED (Impact Level 0) category.
Learning and achievement	Individual pupil / student academic, social and behavioural achievements, progress with learning, learning behaviour, how parents can support their child’s learning, assessments, attainment, attendance, individual and personalised curriculum and educational needs.	Typically schools will make information available by parents logging on to a system that provides them with appropriately secure access, such as a Learning Platform or portal, or by communication to a personal device or email account belonging to the parent.	Most of this information will fall into the PROTECT (Impact Level 2) category. There may be students/ pupils whose personal data requires a RESTRICTED marking (Impact Level 3) or higher. For example, the home address of a child at risk. In this case, the school may decide not to make this pupil / student record available in this way.
Messages and alerts	Attendance, behavioural, achievement, sickness, school closure, transport arrangements, and other information that it may be important to inform or contact a parent about as soon as possible. This may be particularly important when it is necessary to contact a parent concerning information that may be considered too sensitive to make available using other online means.	Email and text messaging are commonly used by schools to contact and keep parents informed. Where parents are frequently accessing information online then systems e.g. Learning Platforms or portals, might be used to alert parents to issues via “dashboards” of information, or be used to provide further detail and context.	Most of this information will fall into the PROTECT (Impact Level 1) category. However, since it is not practical to encrypt email or text messages to parents, schools should not send detailed personally identifiable information. General, anonymous alerts about schools closures or transport arrangements would fall into the NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED (Impact Level 0) category.

Privacy and Electronic Communications

Schools should be aware that the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations have changed and that they are subject to these changes in the operation of their websites.

Freedom of Information Act

All schools (including Academies, which were previously exempt) must have a Freedom of Information Policy which sets out how it will deal with FOI requests. In this policy the school should:

- Delegate to the Headteacher / day-to-day responsibility for FOIA policy and the provision of advice, guidance, publicity and interpretation of the school's policy.
- Consider designating an individual with responsibility for FOIA, to provide a single point of reference, coordinate FOIA and related policies and procedures, take a view on possibly sensitive areas and consider what information and training staff may need.
- Consider arrangements for overseeing access to information and delegation to the appropriate governing body.
- Proactively publish information with details of how it can be accessed through a Publication Scheme (see Model Publication Scheme below) and review this annually.
- Ensure that a well-managed records management and information system exists in order to comply with requests.
- Ensure a record of refusals and reasons for refusals is kept, allowing the Academy Trust to review its access policy on an annual basis.

School Policy: Electronic Devices - Searching & Deletion

The Education Act 2012, the basis of this policy, sets out what the law is presumed to be, based on prior legal and educational knowledge, and common sense. Rights and responsibilities regarding physical contact and personal data are still evolving rapidly. So too are social, entertainment and educational technologies and the skills necessary to use them safely and prudently. This is particularly so where those who are under 18 are involved.

No existing law or policy can fully insulate anyone from the risk involved in searching for, access to or deletion of the personal data of others. Anyone refraining from any such search, access or deletion when hindsight shows circumstances merit such actions may however be at significant risk and may put seriously at risk the wellbeing of children entrusted to their care. This template cannot therefore be relied on as justification for any act or lack of action by anyone – there is no substitute for the proper and well documented exercise of adequately informed professional judgement. .

It is for each school's headteacher to set, apply and monitor application of their own policies as guided by their head teacher, MAC, local authority and official guidance.

Introduction

The changing face of information technologies and ever increasing pupil / student use of these technologies has meant that the Education Acts have had to change in an attempt to keep pace. Within Part 2 of the Education Act 2011 (Discipline) there have been changes to the powers afforded to schools by statute to search pupils in order to maintain discipline and ensure safety. Schools are required to ensure they have updated policies which take these changes into account. No such policy can on its own guarantee that

the school will not face legal challenge, but having a robust policy which takes account of the Act and applying it in practice will however help to provide the school with justification for what it does.

The particular changes we deal with here are the added power to search for items ‘banned under the school rules’ and the power to ‘delete data’ stored on seized electronic devices.

Items banned under the school rules are determined and publicised by the Headteacher (section 89 Education and Inspections Act 1996).

An item banned by the school rules may only be searched for under these new powers if it has been identified in the school rules as an item that can be searched for. It is therefore important that there is a school policy which sets out clearly and unambiguously the items which:

- are banned under the school rules; and
- are banned AND can be searched for by authorised school staff

The act allows authorised persons to examine data on electronic devices if they think there is a good reason to do so. In determining a ‘good reason’ to examine or erase the data or files the authorised staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or could break the school rules.

Following an examination, if the person has decided to return the device to the owner, or to retain or dispose of it, they may erase any data or files, if they think there is a good reason to do so.

The Head Teacher must publicise the school behaviour policy, in writing, to staff, parents / carers and students / pupils at least once a year. (There should therefore be clear links between the search etc. policy and the behaviour policy).

DfE advice on these sections of the Education Act 2011 can be found in the document: “Screening, searching and confiscation – Advice for head teachers, staff and governing bodies”

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0076897/screening-searching-and-confiscation>

It is recommended that the Headteacher (and, at the least, other senior leaders) should be familiar with this guidance.

Relevant legislation:

- Education Act 1996
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011 Part 2 (Discipline)
- The School Behaviour (Determination and Publicising of Measures in Academies) Regulations 2012
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Obscene Publications Act 1959
- Children Act 1989
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Computer Misuse Act 1990

This is not a full list of Acts involved in the formation of this policy document. Further information about relevant legislation can be found via the above link to the DfE advice document.

Responsibilities

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that the school policies reflect the requirements contained within the relevant legislation. The formulation of these policies may be delegated to other individuals or groups. The policies will normally be taken to Governing Committee for approval. The Headteacher will need to authorise those staff who are allowed to carry out searches.

The Headteacher has authorised the following members of staff to carry out searches for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data / files on those devices: **Network Manager and Senior Technician**

Members of staff cannot be required to carry out such searches. They can each choose whether or not they wish to be an authorised member of staff.

Training / Awareness

It is essential that all staff should be made aware of and should implement the school's policy.

Members of staff should be made aware of the school's policy on "Electronic devices – searching and deletion":

- at induction
- at regular updating sessions on the school's e-safety policy

Members of staff authorised by the Headteacher to carry out searches for and of electronic devices and to access and delete data / files from those devices should receive training that is specific and relevant to this role.

Specific training is required for those staff who may need to judge whether material that is accessed is inappropriate or illegal.

Policy Statement

Search:

The school Behaviour Policy should refer to the policy regarding searches with and without consent for the wide range of items covered within the Education Act 2011 and lists those items. This policy refers only to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data / files on those devices.

At present, pupils and students are allowed to bring mobile phones or other personal electronic devices to school and use them only within the rules laid down by the school.

If pupils / students breach these roles:

The sanctions for breaking these rules can be found in the Behaviour Policy)

Authorised staff (defined in the responsibilities section above) have the right to search for such electronic devices where they reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules.

- Searching with consent - Authorised staff may search with the pupil's consent for any item.
- Searching without consent - Authorised staff may only search without the pupil's consent for anything which is either 'prohibited' (as defined in Section 550AA of the Education Act 1996) or appears in the school rules as an item which is banned and may be searched for.

In carrying out the search:

The authorised member of staff must have reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student or pupil is in possession of a prohibited item i.e. an item banned by the school rules and which can be searched for. *(Whether there are 'reasonable grounds' is a matter decided on by reference to the circumstances witnessed by, or reported to, someone who is authorised and who exercises properly informed professional judgment and has received appropriate training).*

The authorised member of staff should take reasonable steps to check the ownership of the mobile phone / personal electronic device before carrying out a search. (Please note that: the powers included in the Education Act do not extend to devices owned (or mislaid) by other parties eg a visiting parent or contractor, only to devices in the possession of pupils / students.)

The authorised member of staff should take care that, where possible, searches should not take place in public places eg an occupied classroom, which might be considered as exploiting the student or pupil being searched.

The authorised member of staff carrying out the search must be the same gender as the student or pupil being searched; and there must be a witness (also a staff member) and, if at all possible, they too should be the same gender as the person being searched.

There is a limited exception to this rule: Authorised staff can carry out a search of a student or pupil of the opposite gender including without a witness present, but **only where you reasonably believe that there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if you do not conduct the search immediately and where it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff.**

Extent of the search:

The person conducting the search may not require the student or pupil to remove any clothing other than outer clothing.

Outer clothing means clothing that is not worn next to the skin or immediately over a garment that is being worn as underwear (outer clothing includes hats; shoes; boots; coat; blazer; jacket; gloves and scarves).

'Possessions' means any goods over which the *student / pupil* has or appears to have control – this includes desks, lockers and bags.

A student's or pupil's possessions can only be searched in the presence of that person and another member of staff, except where there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not conducted immediately and where it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff.

The power to search without consent enables a personal search, involving removal of outer clothing and searching of pockets; but not an intimate search going further than that, which only a person with more extensive powers (e.g. a police officer) can do.

Use of Force – force cannot be used to search without consent for items banned under the school rules regardless of whether the rules say an item can be searched for.

Electronic devices

An authorised member of staff finding an electronic device may access and examine any data or files on the device if they think there is a good reason to do so (i.e. the staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules).

The examination of the data / files on the device should go only as far as is reasonably necessary to establish the facts of the incident. Any further intrusive examination of personal data may leave the school open to legal challenge. It is important that authorised staff should have training and sufficient knowledge of electronic devices and data storage.

If inappropriate material is found on the device it is up to the authorised member of staff to decide whether they should delete that material, retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline) or whether the material is of such seriousness that it requires the involvement of the police. Examples of illegal activity would include:

- **child sexual abuse images (including images of one child held by another child)**
- **adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act**
- **criminally racist material**
- **other criminal conduct, activity or materials**

Members of staff may require support in judging whether the material is inappropriate or illegal. One or more Senior Leaders should receive additional training to assist with these decisions. Care should be taken not to delete material that might be required in a potential criminal investigation.

Each school should also consider their duty of care responsibility in relation to those staff who may access disturbing images or other inappropriate material whilst undertaking a search. Seeing such material can be most upsetting. There should be arrangements in place to support such staff. The school may wish to add further detail about these arrangements.

Deletion of Data

Following an examination of an electronic device, if the authorised member of staff has decided to return the device to the owner, or to retain or dispose of it, they may erase any data or files, if they think there is a good reason to do so. (i.e. the staff member must reasonably suspect that the data or file on the device in question has been, or could be, used to cause harm, to disrupt teaching or break the school rules).

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the authorised member of staff to decide whether they should delete that material, retain it as evidence (of a possible criminal offence or a breach of school discipline) or whether the material is of such seriousness that it requires the involvement of the police. (It is recommended that members of staff should know who to contact, within school, for further guidance before taking action and that the person or persons is or are named within this policy).

A record should be kept of the reasons for the deletion of data / files. (DfE guidance states and other legal advice recommends that there is no legal reason to do this, best practice suggests that the school can refer to relevant documentation created at the time of any search or data deletion in the event of a pupil /student, parental or other interested party complaint or legal challenge. Records

will also help the school to review e-safety incidents, learn from what has happened and adapt and report on application of policies as necessary).

Care of Confiscated Devices

School staff are reminded of the need to ensure the safe keeping of confiscated devices, to avoid the risk of compensation claims for damage / loss of such devices (particularly given the possible high value of some of these devices). Please refer to the Behaviour Policy in this respect.

The school may wish to add a disclaimer to the relevant section of the Behaviour Policy which may assist in covering the school against damage / loss claims.

Audit / Monitoring / Reporting / Review

The responsible person (Headteacher or member of SLT) will ensure that full records are kept of incidents involving the searching for and of mobile phones and electronic devices and the deletion of data / files. Template available.

These records will be reviewed by ... (*E-Safety Officer* /) at regular intervals i.e. termly.

This policy will be reviewed by the head teacher and governors annually and in response to changes in guidance (DfE guidance has been reviewed in 2013) and evidence gained from the records.

The school is required to publish its Behaviour Policy to parents annually (including on its website) – the Behaviour Policy should be cross referenced with this policy on search and deletion.

School Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD) Considerations

To be added

School Policy Considerations - E-Safety

E-safety Considerations

- To (at least) annually review and develop the e-safety policy in line with new technologies and incidents
- To keep up to date with new developments in the area of e-safety
- To monitor the delivery and impact of the e-safety policy
- To monitor the log of reported e-safety incidents (anonymous) to inform future areas of teaching / learning / training.
- To co-ordinate consultation with the whole school community to ensure stakeholders are up to date with information, training and/or developments in the area of e-safety. This could be carried out through[add/delete as relevant]:
 - Staff meetings
 - Student / pupil forums (for advice and feedback)
 - Governors meetings
 - Surveys/questionnaires for students / pupils, parents / carers and staff
 - Parents evenings
 - Website/VLE/Newsletters
 - E-safety events
 - Internet Safety Day (annually held on the second Tuesday in February)
 - Other methods
- To ensure that monitoring is carried out of Internet sites used across the school
- To monitor filtering / change control logs (e.g. requests for blocking / unblocking sites).
- To monitor the safe use of data across the [school]
- To monitor incidents involving cyberbullying for staff and pupils

Legislation

Schools should be aware of the legislative framework under which this E-Safety Policy template and guidance has been produced. It is important to note that in general terms an action that is illegal if committed offline is also illegal if committed online.

It is recommended that legal advice is sought in the advent of an e safety issue or situation.

Computer Misuse Act 1990

This Act makes it an offence to:

- Erase or amend data or programs without authority;
- Obtain unauthorised access to a computer;
- “Eavesdrop” on a computer;
- Make unauthorised use of computer time or facilities;
- Maliciously corrupt or erase data or programs;
- Deny access to authorised users.

Data Protection Act 1998 and Revisions

This protects the rights and privacy of individual’s data. To comply with the law, information about individuals must be collected and used fairly, stored safely and securely and not disclosed to any third party unlawfully. The Act states that person data must be:

- Fairly and lawfully processed.
- Processed for limited purposes.
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive.
- Accurate.
- Not kept longer than necessary.
- Processed in accordance with the data subject’s rights.
- Secure.
- Not transferred to other countries without adequate protection.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Freedom of Information Act gives individuals the right to request information held by public authorities. All public authorities and companies wholly owned by public authorities have obligations under the Freedom of Information Act. When responding to requests, they have to follow a number of set procedures.

Communications Act 2003

Sending by means of the Internet a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or sending a false message by means of or persistently making use of the Internet for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety is guilty of an offence liable, on conviction, to imprisonment. This wording is important because an offence is complete as soon as the message has been sent: there is no need to prove any intent or purpose.

Malicious Communications Act 1988

It is an offence to send an indecent, offensive, or threatening letter, electronic communication or other article to another person.

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 – please refer to updated Act

It is an offence for any person to intentionally and without lawful authority intercept any communication. Monitoring or keeping a record of any form of electronic communications is permitted, in order to:

- Establish the facts;
- Ascertain compliance with regulatory or self-regulatory practices or procedures;
- Demonstrate standards, which are or ought to be achieved by persons using the system;
- Investigate or detect unauthorised use of the communications system;
- Prevent or detect crime or in the interests of national security;
- Ensure the effective operation of the system.
- Monitoring but not recording is also permissible in order to:
- Ascertain whether the communication is business or personal;
- Protect or support help line staff.
- The school reserves the right to monitor its systems and communications in line with its rights under this act.

Trade Marks Act 1994

This provides protection for Registered Trade Marks, which can be any symbol (words, shapes or images) that are associated with a particular set of goods or services. Registered Trade Marks must not be used without permission. This can also arise from using a Mark that is confusingly similar to an existing Mark.

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

It is an offence to copy all, or a substantial part of a copyright work. There are, however, certain limited user permissions, such as fair dealing, which means under certain circumstances permission is not needed to copy small amounts for non-commercial research or private study. The Act also provides for Moral Rights, whereby authors can sue if their name is not included in a work they wrote, or if the work has been amended in such a way as to impugn their reputation. Copyright covers materials in print and electronic form, and includes words, images, and sounds, moving images, TV broadcasts and other media (e.g. youtube).

Telecommunications Act 1984

It is an offence to send a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character. It is also an offence to send a message that is intended to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another that the sender knows to be false.

Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994

This defines a criminal offence of intentional harassment, which covers all forms of harassment, including sexual. A person is guilty of an offence if, with intent to cause a person harassment, alarm or distress, they:

- Use threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour, or disorderly behaviour; or
- Display any writing, sign or other visible representation, which is threatening, abusive or insulting, thereby causing that or another person harassment, alarm or distress.

Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006

This Act makes it a criminal offence to threaten people because of their faith, or to stir up religious hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Other laws already protect people from threats based on their race, nationality or ethnic background.

Protection from Harassment Act 1997

A person must not pursue a course of conduct, which amounts to harassment of another, and which he knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other. A person whose course of conduct causes another to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be used against him is guilty of an offence if he knows or ought to know that his course of conduct will cause the other so to fear on each of those occasions.

Protection of Children Act 1978

It is an offence to take, permit to be taken, make, possess, show, distribute or advertise indecent images of children in the United Kingdom. A child for these purposes is anyone under the age of 18. Viewing an indecent image of a child on your computer means that you have made a digital image. An image of a child also covers pseudo-photographs (digitally collated or otherwise). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison

Sexual Offences Act 2003

The new grooming offence is committed if you are over 18 and have communicated with a child under 16 at least twice (including by phone or using the Internet) it is an offence to meet them or travel to meet them anywhere in the world with the intention of committing a sexual offence. Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act is illegal, including looking at images such as videos, photos or webcams, for your own gratification. It is also an offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in sexual activity with any person under 18, with whom they are in a position of trust. (Typically, teachers, social workers, health professionals, connexions staff fall in this category of trust). Any sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 13 commits the offence of rape.

Public Order Act 1986

This Act makes it a criminal offence to stir up racial hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Like the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 it also makes the possession of inflammatory material with a view of releasing it a criminal offence. Children, Families and Education Directorate page 38 April 2007.

Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964

Publishing an "obscene" article is a criminal offence. Publishing includes electronic transmission.

Human Rights Act 1998

This does not deal with any particular issue specifically or any discrete subject area within the law. It is a type of "higher law", affecting all other laws. In the school context, human rights to be aware of include:

- The right to a fair trial
- The right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence
- Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of assembly
- Prohibition of discrimination
- The right to education

These rights are not absolute. The school is obliged to respect these rights and freedoms, balancing them against those rights, duties and obligations, which arise from other relevant legislation.

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.

The Education and Inspections Act 2011

Extended the powers included in the 2006 Act and gave permission for Headteachers (and nominated staff) to search for electronic devices. It also provides powers to search for data on those devices and to delete data.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/behaviourpolicies/f0076897/screening-searching-and-confiscation>

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

Requires schools to seek permission from a parent / carer to use Biometric systems

The School Information Regulations 2012

Requires schools to publish certain information on its website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/toolsandinitiatives/cuttingburdens/b0075738/reducing-bureaucracy/requirements/changestoschoolinformationregulations>