



# BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

## ONLINE SAFETY POLICY

THIS POLICY WAS APPROVED:	SUMMER 23
POLICY VERSION:	2.0
THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED:	SUMMER 24
MEMBER OF STAFF WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR REVIEW:	TRUST SYSTEM LEADER: SAFEGUARDING
THIS POLICY WAS CONSULTED WITH:	DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS AND DIRECTOR OF ICT
THIS POLICY WAS DISTRIBUTED TO:	TRUST LEADERSHIP GROUP AND CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

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## 1. Aims

Our school aims to:

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

## 2. Legislation and Guidance

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

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

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

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended), the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) and the [Equality Act 2010](#). In addition, it reflects the [Education Act 2011](#), which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

## 3. Roles and Responsibilities

### 3.1. The Local Governing Body for each Academy

The Local Governing body has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

The Local Governing body discuss online safety and monitor online safety logs as part of their Safeguarding Link Governor role.

All Governors will:

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

### **3.2. The Designated Safeguarding Lead**

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

- Ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the Headteacher, ICT Team Leader, incumbent third party support provider or Director of ICT and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents including Cyber Bullying are logged using MyConcern and dealt with appropriately in line with the Safeguarding Policy and Behaviour Policy
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety (appendix 3 contains a self-audit for staff on online safety training needs)
- Liaising with other agencies and / or external services if necessary
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the Headteacher and / or Local Governing Body
- Providing up-to-date information for parents routinely to ensure they are aware of emerging risks.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### **3.3. Internet Filters and Monitoring in school:**

The DSL team is responsible for:

- Ensuring appropriate filtering, monitoring systems and protection systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### **3.4. All staff and volunteers**

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

- Agreeing and adhering to the terms laid out in the Anglian Learning ICT Policy, and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendices 1 and 2)

- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy and safeguarding policy.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### 3.5. Parents

Parents are expected to:

- Keep their child safe online while at home and on any portable device by ensuring appropriate supervision and guidance is in place. **This includes, ensuring content they are accessing is age appropriate, including following age requirements for the different social media applications.**
- Engage with guidance and information shared by the school to ensure parents are aware of emerging risks.
- Support the school by ensuring that their child understands and adheres to the pupils acceptable use policy.
- **Notify a member of school staff of any concerns relating to their child's safety online**
- **Ensure that their child has read, understood and agreed to acceptable use agreement (see Appendix 2)**

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

- UK Safer Internet Centre – What are the issues? <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/what-are-the-issues>
- Hot topics – Childnet International <https://www.childnet.com/blog/hot-topics-finding-more-information-about-the-topics-affecting-young-people/>
- Parent resource sheet – Childnet International <https://www.childnet.com/resources/parents-and-carers-resource-sheet/>
- Social media safety guides <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>

## 4. Educating pupils about online safety

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

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

Academies that do not follow the National Curriculum should adapt this section to include details of how online safety forms part of their own curriculum.

From September 2020 **all** schools will have to teach:

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

This new requirement includes aspects about online safety. As such we have added these expectations in italics below.

In **Key Stage 3**, pupils will be taught to:

- Understand a range of ways to use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly and securely, including protecting their online identity and privacy
- Recognise inappropriate content, contact and conduct, and know how to report concerns

Pupils in **Key Stage 4** will be taught:

- To understand how changes in technology affect safety, including new ways to protect their online privacy and identify
- How to report a range of concerns

*By the **end of secondary school**, they will know:*

- *Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online*
- *About online risks, including that any material someone provides to another has the potential to be shared online and the difficulty of removing potentially compromising material placed online*
- *Not to provide material to others that they would not want shared further and not to share personal material which is sent to them*
- *What to do and where to get support to report material or manage issues online*
- *The impact of viewing harmful content*
- *That specifically sexually explicit material (e.g. pornography) presents a distorted picture of sexual behaviours, can damage the way people see themselves in relation to others and negatively affect how they behave towards sexual partners*
- *That sharing and viewing indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail*
- *How information and data is generated, collected, shared and used online*

- *How to identify harmful behaviours online (including bullying, abuse or harassment) and how to report, or find support, if they have been affected by those behaviours*

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

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

## 5. Cyber-bullying

### 5.1. Definition

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the academy Behaviour Policy.)

### 5.2. Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying **and the impact of the misuse of social media**. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the academy Behaviour Policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, a DSL must be made aware immediately. The school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained involving external agencies for example the Police and Social Care.

Staff can seek further information about cyberbullying from the following organisations and websites:

- **Childnet** <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/teachers-and-professionals>
- **UK Safer Internet Centre** <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/teachers-and-school-staff>
- **NSPCC** <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/schools/safer-internet-resources>

### **5.3. Examining electronic devices**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **6. Acceptable use of the internet in school**

All pupils and, staff are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the academy's ICT systems.

Use of the academy's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in the Anglian Learning ICT Policy and appendices 1, 2 and 3.

## **7. Pupils using mobile devices in school**

Pupils may bring mobile devices into school, but are not permitted to use them during:

- Lessons



- Tutor group time
- Clubs before or after school, or any other activities organised by the school

On rare occasions, teachers may permit students to use their own devices to further enrich learning or access learning resources, however they must mitigate risks of misuse, by ensuring they are able to effectively monitor how they are used. They also be mindful of the students that do not have access to their own device and plan accordingly.

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

Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device.

## **8. How the school will respond to issues of misuse**

Where a pupil misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our policies on Behaviour and ICT (Trust policy). The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff disciplinary procedures / staff code of conduct. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident.

The school will consider whether incidents which involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

## **9. Training**

The school is committed to providing training to ensure that:

- Staff are aware of online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying and grooming.
- Staff are aware of emerging risks
- Staff are equipped to deliver the e-safety curriculum

All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, or as part of an annual safeguarding update.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

## **10. Links with other policies**

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy

- Staff disciplinary procedures
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure
- ICT and internet acceptable use policy

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

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE ACADEMY'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS / CARERS**

**Name of pupil:**

**When I use the academy's ICT systems (e.g. computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:**

- Ask a teacher or adult if I can do so before using them
- Only use websites that a teacher or adult has told me or allowed me to use •

Tell my teacher immediately if:

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

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

**Signed (pupil):**

**Date:**

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

**Signed (Parent / Carer):**

**Date:**

**Appendix 2: KS2, KS3, KS4 and KS5 acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents / carers)**

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE ACADEMY'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS**

**Name of pupil:**

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

**When I use the academy's ICT systems (e.g. computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:**

- Always use the academy's ICT systems and the internet responsibly and for educational purposes only
- Only use them when a teacher is present, or with a teacher's permission
- Keep my username and passwords safe and not share these with others
- Keep my private information safe at all times and not give my name, address or telephone number to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent / carer
- Tell a teacher (or sensible adult) immediately if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others
- Always log off or shut down a computer when I'm finished working on it **I will not:**
- Access any inappropriate websites including: social networking sites, chat rooms and gaming sites unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity
- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher
- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails
- Log in to the academy's network using someone else's details
- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent / carer, or without adult supervision

**If I bring a personal mobile phone or other personal electronic device into school:**

- I will not use it during lessons, tutor group time, clubs or other activities organised by the school, without a teacher's permission
- I will use it responsibly, and will not access any inappropriate websites or other inappropriate material or use inappropriate language when communicating online **I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.**

**Signed (pupil):**

**Date:**

### Appendix 3: Online safety training needs – self audit for staff

ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING NEEDS AUDIT	
Name of staff member/volunteer:	Date:
Question	Yes/No (add comments if necessary)
Do you know the name of the person who has lead responsibility for online safety in school?	
Do you know what you must do if a pupil approaches you with a concern or issue?	
Are you familiar with the academy's acceptable use agreement for staff, volunteers, governors and visitors?	
Are you familiar with the academy's acceptable use agreement for pupils and parents?	
Do you regularly change your password for accessing the academy's ICT systems?	
Are you familiar with the academy's approach to tackling cyber-bullying?	
Are there any areas of online safety in which you would like training / further training?	