



ONLINE SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

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|---------------------------------|--|
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The information in the table below details earlier versions of this document with a brief description of each review and how to distinguish amendments made since the previous version date (if any).

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POLICY

1. Background/Rationale

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

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

The requirement to ensure that children and young people can use online and related communications technologies appropriately and safely is addressed as part of the wider duty of care to which all who work in schools are bound. The school Online Safety Policy and procedures will help to ensure safe and appropriate use. The development and implementation of such a strategy will involve all the stakeholders in a child's education from the Head teacher and Governors to the senior leaders and classroom teachers, support staff, parents, members of the community and the pupils themselves.

The use of these exciting and innovative tools in school and at home has been shown to raise educational standards and promote pupil achievement. However, the use of these new technologies can put young people at risk within and outside the school. Some of the dangers they may face include:

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate images or other content;
- Unauthorised access to/loss of/sharing of personal information;
- The risk of being subject to grooming by those with whom they make contact on the internet;
- The risk of being targeted by extremists in order to promote and encourage radicalisation;
- The risk of being targeted by those involved in child sexual exploitation;
- The sharing/distribution of personal images without an individual's consent or knowledge;
- Inappropriate communication/contact with others, including strangers;
- Cyber-bullying;
- Access to unsuitable video/internet games;
- An inability to evaluate the quality, accuracy and relevance of information on the internet;
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement;
- Illegal downloading of music or video files;
- The potential for excessive use which may impact on the social and emotional development and learning of the young person.

Many of these risks reflect situations in the off-line world and it is essential that this Online Safety Policy and procedures is used in conjunction with other school Policies including the Overarching Safeguarding Statement, Child Protection, Data Protection and Whole School Behaviour.

As with all other risks, it is impossible to eliminate those risks completely. It is therefore essential, through good educational provision to build pupils' resilience to the risks to which they may be exposed, so that they have the confidence and skills to face and deal with these risks.

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

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this document a child, young person, pupil or student is referred to as a 'child' or a 'pupil' and they are normally under 18 years of age.

Wherever the term 'parent' is used this includes any person with parental authority over the child concerned e.g. carers, legal guardians etc.

Wherever the term 'Head teacher' is used this also refers to any Manager with the equivalent responsibility for children.

Wherever the term 'school' is used this also refers to academies and Pupil Referral Units (PRU) and references to Governing Bodies include Proprietors in academies and the Management Committees of PRUs and will usually include wrap around care provided by a setting such as After School Clubs.

Associated School Policies and procedures

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following school Policies/procedures:

- Overarching Safeguarding Statement
- Child Protection Policy and procedures
- Data Protection Policy including procedures for CCTV
- Health and Safety Policy and procedures
- Whole School Behaviour Policy
- Procedures for Using Pupils Images
- Prevent Duty Policy
- Whistleblowing procedures
- Code of Conduct for staff and other adults
- Voluntary Home-School Agreement

3. Communication/Monitoring/Review of this Policy and Procedures

This Policy and procedures will be communicated to staff, pupils and the wider community in the following ways:

- Posted on the school website/Learning Platform/staffroom/shared staff drive
- Policy and procedures to be discussed as part of the school induction pack for new staff and other relevant adults including (where relevant) the staff Acceptable Use Agreement
- Acceptable Use Agreements discussed with pupils at the start of each year
- Acceptable Use Agreements to be issued to external users of the school systems (e.g. Governors) usually on entry to the school
- Acceptable Use Agreements to be held in pupil and personnel files
- Online Safety rules are given to parents during Year 3 induction meetings and are also in the back of all children's journals.

The Online Safety Policy is referenced from within other school Policies and procedures as outlined above.

The review period for this Policy and procedures is as determined by the Governing Body/Proprietors and indicated on the front cover.

4. Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

| | |
|--|--|
| This Online Safety Policy and procedures was approved by the Governing Body/Governing Body Committee on: | 26/09/2023 |
| The implementation of this Online Safety Policy and procedures will be monitored by the: | Online Safety Coordinator/Committee & Senior Leadership Team |
| The Governing Body/Governing Body Committee will receive a report on the implementation of the Online Safety Policy and procedures generated by the monitoring group (which will include anonymous details of online safety incidents) at regular intervals: | Annually |

| | |
|--|---|
| The Online Safety Policy and procedures will be reviewed in accordance with the Governors decision on frequency, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments in the use of the technologies, new threats to online safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be: | <i>Autumn Term 2024 (September in line with the newly published KCSIE 2024)</i> |
| Should serious Online safety incidents take place, the following external persons/agencies will be informed: | <i>Head teacher</i> |

The school will monitor the impact of the Policy and procedures using:

- *Logs of reported incidents*
- *Internal monitoring data for network activity*
- *Surveys/questionnaires of*
 - *pupils (e.g. Ofsted "Tell-us" survey/CEOP ThinkUknow survey)*
 - *parents*
 - *staff*

5. Scope of the Policy

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

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Head teachers/Principals, to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of pupils when they are off the School/Academy site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is pertinent to incidents of cyber-bullying, or other online safety related incidents covered by this Policy and procedures, which may take place out of school, 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 with regard to issues covered by the published Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures.

The School/Academy will deal with such incidents within this Policy and procedures and the Whole School Behaviour Policy which includes anti-bullying procedures and will, where known, inform parents of incidents of inappropriate online safety behaviour that take place out of school.

PROCEDURES

1. Roles and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the roles and responsibilities for online safety of individuals and groups within the school:

1.1 Governors

The role of the Governors/online safety Governor is to:

- ensure that the school follows all current online safety advice to keep the children and staff safe;
- approve the Online Safety Policy and procedures and review its effectiveness. This will be carried out by the Governors/Governors Sub-committee receiving regular information about online safety incidents and monitoring reports. A member of the Governing Body has taken on the role of Online Safety Governor
- support the school in encouraging parents and the wider community to become engaged in online safety activities;
- regular review with the Online Safety Coordinator (including incident logs, filtering/change control logs etc.)

1.2 Head teacher

The Head teacher has overall responsibility for online safety provision. The day to day responsibility for online safety may be delegated to the Online Safety *Coordinator*.

The Head teacher will:

- take overall responsibility for data and data security;
- ensure the school uses an approved, filtered Internet Service, which complies with current statutory requirements;
- ensure that the Online Safety Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable CPD to enable them to carry out their online safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant;
- ensure that there is a system in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in school who carry out the internal online safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also support to those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles;
- receive regular monitoring reports from the Online Safety Coordinator;
- be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious online safety incident or an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer (see flow chart on dealing with online safety incidents – Appendix I, and relevant Local Authority HR/school disciplinary procedures). The procedures for dealing with allegations against staff or volunteers can be found within the school Child Protection Policy and all staff/volunteers are provided with a copy on induction.

1.3 Online Safety Coordinator/Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Online Safety Coordinator will:

- take day-to-day responsibility for online safety issues and take a lead role in establishing and reviewing the school online safety procedures and documents;
- promote an awareness and commitment to e-safeguarding throughout the school community;
- ensure that online safety education is embedded and meets current guidance across the curriculum;
- liaise with the school ICT technical staff
- communicate regularly with SLT and the designated online safety governor/committee to discuss current issues, review incident logs and filtering/change control logs;
- ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident or allegation against a member of staff or volunteer;
- ensure that an online safety log is kept up to date;
- facilitate training and advice for staff and others working in the school;

- be aware of emerging online safety issues and legislation, and of the potential for serious child protection issues to arise from:
 - sharing of personal data
 - access to illegal/inappropriate materials
 - inappropriate online contact with adults/strangers
 - potential or actual incidents of grooming
 - cyberbullying and the use of social media

1.4 Network Manager/Technical staff

The Network Manager/Systems Manager/ICT Technician/ICT Coordinator will:

- report any online safety related issues that arise, to the Head teacher;
- ensure that users may only access the school's networks through an authorised and properly enforced password protection procedures, in which passwords are regularly changed;
- ensure that the school's ICT infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack e.g. keeping virus protection up to date;
- that the school meets the online safety technical requirements outlined in the School Acceptable Use Agreements and any relevant Local Authority Online Safety Policy and guidance;
- the school's procedures on web filtering, is applied and updated on a regular basis and that its implementation is not the sole responsibility of any single person;
- ensure that access controls/encryption exist to protect personal and sensitive information held on school-owned devices;
- that he/she keeps up to date with the school's Online Safety Policy and procedures and technical information to effectively carry out their Online safety role and to inform and update others as relevant;
- that the use of the network/Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)/remote access/email is regularly monitored in order that any misuse/attempted misuse can be reported to the Online Safety Coordinator/Head teacher/Senior Leader/Head of ICT/ICT Coordinator/Class teacher/Head of Year (as in the section above) for investigation/action/sanction;
- ensure that appropriate backup procedures exist so that critical information and systems can be recovered in the event of a disaster and to complement the business continuity process;
- keep up-to-date documentation of the school's e-security and technical procedures.

1.5 Data Manager

It is the responsibility of the Data manager to ensure that all data held on pupils on school office machines have appropriate access controls in place and that systems and procedures comply with the General Data Protection Regulations.

1.6 All Staff

It is the responsibility of all staff to:

- read, understand and help promote the school's Online Safety Policy and procedures
- read, understand and adhere to the school Staff Acceptable Use Agreement;
- be aware of online safety issues related to the use of mobile phones, cameras and hand-held devices and that they monitor their use and implement current school procedures with regard to these devices;
- report any suspected misuse or problem to the Online Safety Coordinator;
- maintain an awareness of current online safety issues and guidance e.g. through CPD opportunities;
- model safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology;
- ensure that any digital communications with pupils are on a professional level and only through school-based systems, never through personal mechanisms, e.g. email, text, mobile phones or social media messaging or posts.
- identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified.

- assist and advise families who raise concerns about their children's use of technology and be able to point them to the right support mechanisms.

Teachers must:

- ensure that online safety issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum and other school activities;
- monitor, supervise and guide pupils carefully when engaged in ICT activity in lessons, extra-curricular and extended school activities;
- ensure that pupils are fully aware of research skills and are made aware of legal issues relating to electronic content such as copyright laws.
- teach pupils to recognise and manage risk, make safer choices and recognise when pressure from others may threaten their personal safety and wellbeing, including knowing when, where and how to get help.
- ensure that during lessons where internet use is pre-planned pupils are guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are known and used when dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.

1.7 Pupils

Taking into account the age and level of understanding, the key responsibilities of pupils are to:

- use the school ICT systems in accordance with the Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement – see Appendix D or E, which they and/or their parents will be expected to sign before being given access to school systems;
- have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations;
- know and understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so;
- know what action to take if they or someone they know feels worried or vulnerable when using online technology;
- know and understand school procedures on the use of mobile phones, digital cameras and hand-held digital devices.
- know and understand school procedures on the taking/use of images and on cyber-bullying;
- understand the importance of adopting good online safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's Online Safety Policy and procedures covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school;
- take responsibility for learning about the benefits and risks of using the internet and other technologies safely both in school and at home;
- help the school in the creation/review of the Online Safety Policy and procedures.

1.8 Parents

Parents play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the internet/mobile devices in an appropriate way. Research shows that many parents do not fully understand the issues and are less experienced in the use of ICT than their children. The school will therefore take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through *parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, website/VLE and information about national/local online safety campaigns/literature*.

The key responsibilities for parents are to:

- support the school in promoting online safety which includes the pupils' use of the Internet and the school's use of photographic and video images;
- endorsing (by signature) the Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement – see Appendix D or E;
- access the school website/online pupil records in accordance with the relevant school Acceptable Use Agreement;
- consult with the school if they have any concerns about their children's use of technology;

- ensure that they themselves do not use the internet/social network sites/other forms of technical communication in an inappropriate or defamatory way;
- support the school's approach to online safety by not uploading or posting to the Internet any pictures, video or text that could upset, offend or threaten the safety of any member of the school community or bring the school into disrepute.

2. Training

2.1 Staff and Governor Training

This school:

- ensures staff know how to send or receive sensitive and personal data in accordance with GDPR and understand the requirement to encrypt data where the sensitivity requires data protection;
- makes regular training available to staff on online safety issues and the school's online safety education programme;
- provides, as part of the induction process, all new staff (including those on university/college placements and work experience) and volunteers with information and guidance on the Online Safety Policy and procedures the school's Acceptable Use Agreements.
- ensures staff members have undertaken Prevent Duty (2015) awareness training to understand and equip them with the capabilities to identify children at risk of terrorism and to challenge extremist ideology.
- guarantees the Designated Safeguarding Lead is able to provide advice and support to other members of staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.

2.2 Parent Awareness and Training

This school operates a rolling programme of advice, guidance and training for parents, including:

- the introduction of the Acceptable Use Agreements to new parents, to ensure that principles of online safe behaviour are made clear;
- the provision of information leaflets, articles in the school newsletter, on the school website;
- demonstrations and practical sessions held at the school;
- suggestions for safe Internet use at home;
- the provision of information about national support sites for parents.

3. Teaching and Learning

3.1 Why internet use is important

The rapid developments in electronic communications are having many effects on society. It is important to state what we are trying to achieve in education through ICT and Internet use.

- **Internet use is part of the statutory curriculum and is a necessary tool for learning.**
- **The Internet is a part of everyday life for education, business and social interaction.**
- **The school has a duty to provide pupils with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.**
- **Pupils use the Internet widely outside school and need to learn how to evaluate Internet information and to take care of their own safety and security.**
- *The purpose of Internet use in school is to raise educational standards, to promote pupil achievement, to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school's management functions.*
- *Internet access is an entitlement for pupils who show a responsible and mature approach to its use.*

3.2 How internet use benefits education

A number of studies and government projects have identified the educational benefits to be gained through the appropriate use of the Internet including increased pupil attainment.

Benefits of using the Internet in education include:

- *access to worldwide educational resources including museums and art galleries;*
- *educational and cultural exchanges between pupils worldwide;*
- *vocational, social and leisure use in libraries, clubs and at home;*
- *access to experts in many fields for pupils and staff;*
- *professional development for staff through access to national developments, educational materials and effective curriculum practice;*
- *collaboration across networks of schools, support services and professional associations;*
- *improved access to technical support including remote management of networks and automatic system updates;*
- *exchange of curriculum and administration data with the Local Authority and DfE;*
- *access to learning wherever and whenever convenient.*

3.3 How internet use enhances learning

Increased computer numbers and improved Internet access may be provided but its impact on pupils learning outcomes should also be considered. Developing effective practice in using the Internet for teaching and learning is essential. Pupils need to learn digital literacy skills and to refine their own publishing and communications with others via the Internet. Respect for copyright and intellectual property rights, and the correct use of published material should be taught. Methods to detect plagiarism may need to be developed.

This school:

- has a clear, progressive online safety education programme as part of the Computing/PSHCE curriculum. This covers the teaching of a range of skills and behaviours which are appropriate to the age and experience of the pupils concerned and include those to:
 - THINK then CLICK;
 - evaluate what they see online and make judgements before automatically assuming what they see is true, valid or acceptable;
 - recognise techniques for persuasion to enable pupils to recognise techniques that are often used to persuade or manipulate others;
 - enable pupils to understand what acceptable and unacceptable online behaviour looks like;
 - how to identify online risks and make informed decisions about how to act;
 - understand how and when to seek support if they are concerned or upset by something they have seen online;
 - understand that some online activities have age restrictions because they include content which is not appropriate for children under a specific age;
 - be aware how content that they put online can be used and shared i.e., digital footprints, cookies, how difficult it is to remove content from the internet and ensuring pupils understand what is illegal online;
 - understand that some information shared online can be accidentally or intentionally wrong, misleading, or exaggerated;
 - understand how to use search engines effectively and appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content;
 - be aware that the author of a website/page may have a particular bias or purpose and to develop skills to recognise what that may be;
 - know how to narrow down or refine a search;
 - [for older pupils] understand how search engines work and to understand that this affects the results they see at the top of the listings;

- understand acceptable behaviour when using an online environment/email, i.e. be polite, no bad or abusive language or other inappropriate behaviour; keeping personal information private;
 - understand how photographs can be manipulated and how web content can attract the wrong sort of attention;
 - understand why they should not post or share detailed accounts of their personal lives, contact information, daily routines, location, photographs and videos and to know how to ensure they have turned-on privacy settings;
 - understand why they must not post pictures or videos of others without their permission;
 - know not to download any files – such as music files – without permission;
 - have strategies for dealing with receipt of inappropriate materials;
 - [for older pupils] understand why and how some people will ‘groom’ young people for sexual reasons;
 - understand the impact of cyberbullying, sexting and trolling and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying;
 - know how to report any abuse including cyberbullying; and how to seek help if they experience problems when using the Internet and related technologies, i.e. parent, teacher or trusted staff member, or an organisation such as ChildLine or the CLICK CEOP button.
- plans Internet use carefully to ensure that it is age-appropriate and supports the learning objectives for specific curriculum areas;
 - will remind pupils about their responsibilities through an end-user Acceptable Use Agreement which will be displayed throughout the school or when they log on to the school’s network;
 - ensures staff model safe and responsible behaviour in their own use of technology during lessons;
 - ensures that when copying materials from the web, staff and pupils understand issues around plagiarism; how to check copyright and know that they must respect and acknowledge copyright/intellectual property rights;
 - ensures that staff and pupils understand the issues around aspects of the commercial use of the Internet, as age appropriate. This may include, risks in pop-ups; buying online, online gaming/gambling etc.

3.4 Pupils with additional needs

The school endeavours to create a consistent message with parents for all pupils and this in turn should aid establishment and future development of the schools’ online safety rules. However, staff are aware that some pupils may require additional teaching including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their existing knowledge and understanding of online safety issues.

Where a pupil has poor social understanding, careful consideration is given to group interactions when raising awareness of online safety. Internet activities need to be planned and well managed for these children and young people.

- *A fundamental part of teaching online safety is to check pupil’s understanding and knowledge of general personal safety issues. Some pupils may need additional teaching that includes reminders and explicit prompts to link their existing knowledge of “how to keep safe” to the rules that will apply specifically to, for instance, internet use.*
- *Rules are very helpful to all pupils and it is important to achieve consistency of how rules can be applied.*
- *This is a difficult area for some pupils who will usually learn rules within certain contexts, but who will find it difficult to transfer these rules across environments, lessons or teachers.*
- *As consistency is so important for these pupils, there is a need to establish online safety rules for school that are similar to those for home. Working with parents and sharing information with them would be relevant to all children, but this group especially.*
- *There will always be exceptions to rules and if this is the case, then these pupils will need to have additional explanations about why rules might change in different situations i.e. why it is ok to give your name and address to an adult if you are lost in town, but not when using the internet.*

- *It might be helpful to consider presenting the rules as being linked to consequences such that you are teaching cause-effect rather than a list of procedures. This needs to be achieved carefully so as to use realistic and practical examples of what might happen if... without frightening pupils.*

How rules are presented could be vital to help these pupils understand and apply some of the rules they need to learn:

- *Visual support is usually important to help most pupils' understanding but some areas of this topic are quite abstract in nature and difficult to represent visually i.e.*
 - *Uncomfortable*
 - *Smart*
 - *Stranger*
 - *Friend*

It might be helpful to ask pupils to produce a drawing or write a mini-class dictionary that describes and defines these words in their own terms.

- *Visual support can be useful, but it is more likely that the pupils will respond to multi-media presentations of the rules such as interactive power-point slides, screensavers, spoken recordings of the main rules or sounds that they can associate with decisions they make while using the internet. The really useful thing about these is the repetition and practice that pupils can have with these which may not be so easy if spoken language were used.*
- *If visual prompts are used to help remember the rules, the picture or image support needs to give the pupils some improved understanding of what the rule is about. It is quite easy to find attractive pictures that link to other abstract ideas not related to internet use i.e. use of a compass to show "lose track" of a search when a head looking confused is more like what happens.*
- *This group of pupils are vulnerable to poor social understanding that may leave them open to risks when using the internet individually, but also when with peers.*
- *It can be common for peers to set up scenarios or "accidents" regarding what they look for on the internet and then say it was someone else who has done so. Adults need to plan group interactions carefully when raising awareness of internet safety.*
- *Some pupils in this group may choose recreational internet activities that are perhaps simpler or aimed at pupils younger than themselves. By their very nature, these activities tend to be more controlled and less open to naïve mistakes. Staff need to plan how to manage pupils who may want to do the same as other peers but who may need small step teaching due to limited experiences with internet use.*
- *For various reasons, pupils with additional needs may find it difficult to explain or describe events when using the internet.*
- *Some pupils might find it easier to show adults what they did i.e. replay which will obviously have its own issues for staff regarding repeating access.*
- *Some pupils are very quick to click with the mouse and may not actually know what they did or how something happened. Gentle investigation will be more productive than asking many questions.*
- *Some pupils may not be able to ask for help. Staff will need to know specific pupils well so that this can be addressed.*
- *Pupils may need a system or a help sound set up on computers which will help them to get adult attention. If pupils don't recognise that they need help, then adult supervision is the safe way to improve their recognition of this.*

4. Handling Online Safety Concerns and Incidents

Our staff recognise that online safety is only one element of the wider safeguarding agenda as well as being a curriculum strand of Computing, PSHCE and the teaching of British Values.

General concerns will be handled in the same way as any other child protection concern. Early reporting to the DSL is vital to ensure that the information contributes to the overall picture or highlights what might not yet be a problem. Support staff will often have a unique insight and opportunity to find out about

issues first in the playground, corridors, toilets, and other communal areas outside the classroom (particularly relating to bullying and sexual harassment and violence).

Procedures for dealing with online safety, concerns and incidents are detailed in the following Policies:

- Child Protection Policy and procedures
- Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures (includes anti-bullying procedures)
- Acceptable Use Agreements
- Prevent Risk Assessment
- Data Protection Policy, agreements, and other documentation (e.g., privacy statement, consent forms for data sharing image use etc.)

We are committed to taking all reasonable precautions to ensure online safety but recognise that incidents will occur both inside and outside school. All members of the school community are encouraged to report issues swiftly to school staff so that they can be dealt with quickly and sensitively. Any suspected online risk or infringement should be reported to the DSL on the same day wherever possible or, if out of school, the following school day. Any concern/allegation about misuse by staff or another adult in school will always be referred directly to the Head teacher unless the concern is about the Head teacher, in which case, the complaint will be directed to the Chair of Governors. Staff may also use the NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline. Call 0800 028 0285 or email: help@nspcc.org.uk.

The school will actively seek support from other agencies as needed (i.e., Cumbria Safeguarding Hub, UK Safer Internet Centre's Professionals' Online Safety Helpline (03443814772), NCA CEOP, Cumbria Police Prevent Officer, Cumbria Police, Internet Watch Foundation). We will inform parents of online safety incidents involving their child and the Police where staff or pupils engage in or are subject to behaviour which we consider is particularly disturbing or is considered illegal. See Sections below for procedures for dealing with sharing nude and semi-nude images, upskirting, extremism and online bullying.

In this school there is strict monitoring and application of the Online Safety Policy and a differentiated and appropriate range of sanctions.

- All members of the school community will be informed about the procedure for reporting online safety concerns (such as breaches of filtering, cyberbullying, illegal content etc.).
- The Online Safety Lead will record all reported incidents and actions taken in the School Online Safety incident log and other in any relevant areas e.g., Bullying or Child protection log.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed of any online safety incidents involving Child Protection concerns, which will then be escalated appropriately – See Child Protection Policy and procedures for dealing with concerns.
- The school will manage Online Safety incidents in accordance with the school discipline/behaviour policy where appropriate.
- The school will inform parents of any incidents or concerns as and when required.
- After any investigations are completed, the school will debrief, identify lessons learnt and implement any changes required.
- Where there is cause for concern or fear that illegal activity has taken place or is taking place then the school will contact the Safeguarding Hub and escalate the concern to the Police.
- If the school is unsure how to proceed with any incidents of concern, then the incident may be escalated to the Safeguarding Hub – see Child Protection Policy and procedures.

If members of staff suspect that misuse might have taken place, but that the misuse is not illegal (as above) it is essential that correct procedures are used to investigate, preserve evidence, and protect those carrying out the investigation. More than one member of staff should be involved in the investigation which should be carried out on a "clean" designated computer.

Incidents will be dealt with as soon as possible in a proportionate manner through normal behaviour/disciplinary procedures. It is important that, where necessary, members of the school community are made aware that incidents have been dealt with accordingly.

4.1 Online Bullying

Online bullying (also known as cyberbullying) will be treated in the same way as any other form of bullying and the Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures will be followed in relation to sanctions taken against the bully. It is important not to treat online bullying separately to offline bullying and to recognise that some bullying will have both online and offline elements. Support will be provided to both the victim and the perpetrator. In some cases, it may be necessary to inform or involve the Police.

Many young people and adults find that using the Internet and mobile phones is a positive and creative part of their everyday life. Unfortunately, technologies can also be used negatively. When children are the target of bullying via mobile phones, gaming, or the Internet, they can often feel very alone, particularly if the adults around them do not understand cyberbullying and its effects. A once previously safe and enjoyable environment or activity can become threatening, harmful and a source of anxiety. It is essential that young people, school staff and parents understand how cyberbullying is different from other forms of bullying, how it can affect people and how to respond and combat misuse. Promoting a culture of confident users will support innovation and safety.

There are several statutory obligations on schools in relation to behaviour which establish clear responsibilities to respond to bullying. In particular, section 89 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006:

- every school must have measures to encourage good behaviour and prevent all forms of bullying amongst pupils. These measures should be part of the school's Behaviour Policy which must be communicated to all pupils, school staff and parents;
- gives Head teachers the ability to ensure that pupils behave when they are not on school premises or under the lawful control of school staff.

Where bullying outside school (such as online or via text) is reported to the school, it will be investigated and acted on.

Although bullying in itself is not a specific criminal offence in the UK, it is important to bear in mind that some types of harassing or threatening behaviour or communications could be a criminal offence, for example under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, the Malicious Communications Act 1988, the Communications Act 2003, and the Public Order Act 1986. If school staff feels that an offence may have been committed, they should seek assistance from the Police.

DfE and Childnet have produced resources and guidance that we expect staff to use to give practical advice and guidance on cyberbullying:

- Cyberbullying (along with all other forms of bullying) of any member of the school community will not be tolerated. Full details are set out in the Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures.
- There are clear procedures in place to support anyone in the school community affected by cyberbullying.
- All incidents of cyberbullying reported to the school will be recorded.
- There will be clear procedures in place to investigate incidents or allegations of cyberbullying.
- Pupils, staff, and parents will be advised to keep a record of the bullying as evidence.
- The school will take steps to identify the bully, where possible and appropriate. This may include examining school system logs, identifying and interviewing possible witnesses, and contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary.
- Pupils, staff, and parents will be required to work with the school to support the approach to cyberbullying and the school's online safety ethos.
- Sanctions for those involved in cyberbullying may include:
 - The bully will be asked to remove any material deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.

- A service provider may be contacted to remove content if the bully refuses or is unable to delete content.
- Internet access may be suspended at school for the user for a period of time. Other sanctions for pupils and staff may also be used in accordance with the Whole School Behaviour Policy, Acceptable Use Agreement and Disciplinary Procedures.
- Parents of pupils will be informed.
- The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.

4.2 Prevent Duty 2015

From 1 July 2015 all schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

To fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that all our staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is a part of our wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

As a school, we aim to build pupils’ resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values. We provide a safe environment to debate controversial issues and help them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision making. As a part of our curriculum we actively promote equality alongside the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. To do this we:

- provide pupils with time to explore sensitive or controversial issues equipping them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage difficult situations;
- we teach pupils to recognise and manage risk, make safer choices and recognise when pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing.
- ensure children develop effective ways of resisting pressures, including knowing when, where and how to get help.
- encourage pupils to develop positive character traits through PSHCE, such as resilience, determination, self-esteem, and confidence.

The statutory guidance makes clear that schools are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are a part of terrorist ideology. As a school we are aware of the increased risk of online radicalisation through social media and the wider internet. Thus, we work collaboratively with the Police and Cumbria County Council who provide contextual information so we can understand the risks in our area and update our risk assessment accordingly.

If staff are confident children and young people are aware of, vulnerable to or engaged in radicalisation that is putting them at risk of harm and terrorist ideology, then it would be directly addressed by either the DSL or a senior lead in school.

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, our staff are alert to changes in children’s behaviour which could indicate there may need help or protection. As a staff we utilise our professional judgement in identifying and act proportionately.

Where the DSL considers it necessary to directly address an issue, this can be achieved without exposing children and young people to distressing content and ideas. In response, we will:

- follow our normal safeguarding procedures and policies including discussing concerns with our Designated Safeguarding Lead, and where deemed necessary discuss concerns with children’s social care;

- Contact the local authority Prevent Leaders on prevent@cumbria.police.uk or ring 101 in non-emergencies and ask to speak to the current Prevent Officer.
- if there is a risk of significant harm we would contact Cumbria Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub or if threat is immediate ring 999.

4.3 Harmful Online Challenges and Hoaxes

An online challenge will generally involve users recording themselves taking a challenge and then distributing the resulting video through social media sites, often inspiring or daring others to repeat the challenge. Whilst many will be safe and fun, others can be potentially harmful and even life threatening.

If staff are confident children and young people are aware of, and engaged in, a real challenge that may be putting them at risk of harm, then it would be appropriate for this to be directly addressed by either the DSL or a senior leader in school. Careful consideration will be given on how best to do this, and it may be appropriate to offer focussed support to a particular age group or individual children at risk. We will take account of the fact that even with real challenges, many children and young people may not have seen it and may not be aware of it and will carefully weigh up the benefits of institution-wide highlighting of the potential harms related to a challenge against needlessly increasing children and young people's exposure to it.

Where staff become aware of a potentially harmful online hoax or challenge, they will immediately inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will take the appropriate action either with the child concerned or with the wider group where the incident involves more than one child.

Where the DSL considers it necessary to directly address an issue, this can be achieved without exposing children and young people to scary or distressing content. In the response, we will consider the following questions:

- is it factual?
- is it proportional to the actual (or perceived) risk?
- is it helpful?
- is it age and stage of development appropriate?

A **hoax** is a deliberate lie designed to seem truthful. The internet and social media provide a perfect platform for hoaxes, especially hoaxes about challenges or trends that are said to be harmful to children and young people to be spread quickly.

We will carefully consider if a challenge or scare story is a hoax. Generally speaking, naming an online hoax, and providing direct warnings is not helpful. Concerns are often fuelled by unhelpful publicity, usually generated on social media, and may not be based on confirmed or factual occurrences or any real risk to children and young people. There have been examples of hoaxes where much of the content was created by those responding to the story being reported, needlessly increasing children and young people's exposure to distressing content.

Evidence from Childline shows that, following viral online hoaxes, children and young people often seek support after witnessing harmful and distressing content that has been highlighted, or directly shown to them (often with the best of intentions), by parents, carers, schools, and other bodies. In this respect, staff will be mindful of the advice provided by the UK Safer Internet Centre which provides guidance on dealing with online hoaxes or challenges.

In any response, reference will be made to the DfE guidance 'Harmful online challenges and online hoaxes'

4.4 Sexual Violence and Harassment

DfE guidance on sexual violence and harassment is referenced in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and separate guidance exists on this issue 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges'. All staff are aware of this guidance. We take all forms of sexual violence and harassment seriously and will act appropriately on information which suggests inappropriate behaviour regardless of the considered seriousness. Any incident of sexual harassment or violence (online or offline) must be reported to the DSL at the earliest opportunity. The DSL will follow the guidance as outlined in the Child Protection Policy and procedures.

4.5 Misuse of School Technology

Clear and well communicated rules and procedures are essential to govern pupil and adult use of school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices and social media (both when on school site and outside of school). These rules are defined in the relevant Acceptable Use Agreements as provided to pupils, staff, and Governors. Where pupils contravene these rules, the Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures will be applied; where staff contravene these rules, action will be taken as outlined in the staff code of conduct and, where necessary, the school disciplinary procedures. The school reserves the right to withdraw, temporarily or permanently, any or all access to such technology or the right to bring mobile technology devices onto school property.

4.6 Social Media Incidents

See also Section 8. below. Social media incidents are governed by Acceptable Use Agreements. Breaches will be dealt with in line with these procedures, the Whole School Behaviour Policy, and procedures (for pupils) and the staff Code of Conduct/Disciplinary procedures (for staff and other adults). Where an incident relates to an inappropriate, upsetting, violent or abusive social media post by an identifiable member of the school community, we will request that the post be deleted and will expect this to be actioned promptly. Where an offending post has been made by a third party or is anonymous, the school may report it to the hosting platform, the Police or may contact the Professionals' Online Safety Helpline (UK Safer Internet Centre) for support or assistance in accelerating the process of removal.

4.7 Upskirting

All staff are aware that 'upskirting' (taking a photo of someone under their clothing) is now a criminal offence, but that pupils should be encouraged to discuss with staff situations if they have made a mistake or had a problem with this issue. If staff or other adults become aware of an incident of 'upskirting', the issue must be reported to the DSL as soon as possible.

4.8 Sharing Inappropriate Images (Nude or Semi Nude)

Where incidents of the sharing of nude and semi-nude images via the internet or mobile phone by those under the age of 18 are discovered, we will refer to the UK Council for (UKCIS) guidance 'Sharing nude and semi-nude images. Where one of the parties is over the age of 18, we will refer to it as child sexual abuse.

All staff and other relevant adults have been issued with a copy of the UKCIS overview document (Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: how to respond to an incident) in recognition of the fact that it is generally someone other than the DSL or OSL who will first become aware of an incident. Staff, other than the DSL, must not attempt to view, share, or delete the image or ask anyone else to do so but must report the incident to the DSL as soon as possible.

It is the responsibility of the DSL to follow the guidance issued by UKCIS, decide on the next steps and whether to involve other agencies as appropriate.

It is important to understand that whilst the sharing of nude and semi-nude images illegal, pupils should be encouraged to discuss with staff situations if they have made a mistake or had a problem with this issue.

The UKCIS advice outlines how to respond to an incident of nudes and semi-nudes being shared including:

- risk assessing situations;
- safeguarding and supporting children and young people;
- handling devices and images;
- recording incidents, including the role of other agencies.
- informing parents and carers

The types of incidents which this advice covers are:

- a person under the age of 18 creates and shares nudes and semi-nudes of themselves with a peer under the age of 18;
- a person under the age of 18 shares nudes and semi-nudes created by another person under the age of 18 with a peer under the age of 18;
- a person under the age of 18 is in possession of nudes and semi-nudes created by another person under the age of 18.

5. Data Protection and Security

5.1 Maintaining Information Systems Security

Local Area Network (LAN) security issues include:

- Users must act reasonably e.g. the downloading of large files during the working day will affect the service that others receive.
- Users must take responsibility for their network use. For staff, flouting the school Acceptable Use Agreement may be regarded as a reason for dismissal.
- Workstations should be secured against user mistakes and deliberate actions.
- Servers must be located securely and physical access restricted.
- The server operating system must be secured and kept up to date.
- Virus protection for the whole network must be installed and current.
- Access by wireless devices must be proactively managed and secured with a minimum of WPA2 encryption.

Wide Area Network (WAN) security issues include:

- Broadband firewalls and local CPEs (Customer Premises Equipment) are configured to prevent unauthorised access between schools.
- Decisions on WAN security are made on a partnership between schools and the network provider.
- **The security of the school information systems and users will be reviewed regularly.**
- **Virus protection will be updated regularly.**
- *Personal data sent over the Internet or taken off site will be encrypted.*
- *Portable media may not be used without specific permission followed by an anti-virus/malware scan.*
- *Unapproved software will not be allowed in work areas or attached to email.*
- *Files held on the school's network will be regularly checked.*
- *The ICT coordinator/network manager will review system capacity regularly.*
- *Use of user logins and passwords to access the school network will be enforced – see Section 6.2 below.*

The school broadband and online suppliers are Gemini ICT Support.

5.2 Password Security

The school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure/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, without permission (or as allowed for monitoring purposes within the school's procedures);**

- access to personal data is securely controlled in line with the school's personal data procedures;
- logs are maintained of access by users and of their actions while users of the system.

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

The management of password security will be the responsibility of the School Business Manager

Responsibilities:

All users (adults and young people) 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.

Passwords for new users, and replacement passwords for existing users can be allocated by the School Business Manager. Any changes carried out must be notified to the member of staff responsible for issuing and coordinating password security (above).

Training/Awareness:

It is essential that users are made aware of the need to keep passwords secure, and the risks attached to unauthorised access/data loss. This should apply to even the youngest of users, even if class log-ons are being used.

Members of staff will be made aware of the school's password security procedures:

- at induction;
- through the school's Online Safety Policy and procedures;
- through the Acceptable Use Agreement;

Pupils will be made aware of the school's password security procedures:

- in ICT and/or Online Safety lessons
- through the Acceptable Use Agreement

The following rules apply to the use of passwords:

- the last four passwords cannot be re-used;
- the password should be a minimum of 8 characters long and must include three of – uppercase character, lowercase character, number, special character;
- temporary passwords e.g. used with new user accounts or when users have forgotten their passwords, shall be enforced to change immediately upon the next account log-on;
- passwords shall not be displayed on screen, and shall be securely hashed (use of one-way encryption);
- requests for password changes should be authenticated by the School Business Manager

6. Electronic Communications

6.1 Managing Email

In the school context (as in the business world), email should not be considered private and most schools and many firms reserve the right to monitor email. There is a balance to be achieved between necessary monitoring to maintain the safety of pupils and staff and the preservation of human rights, both of which are covered by recent legislation. It is important that staff understand they should be using a work provided email account to communicate with parents, pupils and other professionals for any official school business. This is important for confidentiality and security and also to safeguard members of staff from allegations.

The use of email identities such as john.smith@school.co.uk generally needs to be avoided for younger pupils, as revealing this information could potentially expose a child to identification by unsuitable people. Email accounts should not be provided which can be used to identify both a pupil's full name and their school. Secondary schools should limit pupils to email accounts approved and managed by the school. For EYFS and primary schools, whole-class or project email addresses should be used. When using external

providers to provide pupils with email systems, schools must pay close attention to the sites terms and conditions as some providers have restrictions of use and age limits for their services.

Spam, phishing and virus attachments can make email dangerous. The school provider uses industry leading email relays to stop unsuitable mail using robust filtering.

- **Pupils may only use approved email accounts for school purposes.**
- **Pupils must immediately tell a designated member of staff if they receive an offensive email or one which upsets or worries them.**
- **Pupils must not reveal personal details of themselves or others in email communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission from an adult.**
- **Whole-class or group email addresses will be used in primary schools for communication outside of the school.**
- **Staff will only use official school provided email accounts to communicate with pupils and parents, as approved by the Senior Leadership Team.**
- *Access in school to external personal email accounts may be blocked.*
- *Excessive social email use can interfere with learning and will be restricted.*
- *Email sent to external organisations should be written carefully and authorised before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper would be.*
- *The forwarding of chain messages is not permitted.*
- *Staff should not use personal email accounts during school hours or for professional purposes.*
- **The official school email service may be regarded as safe and secure and is monitored. Staff and pupils should therefore use only the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or on school systems (e.g. by remote access).**
- **Users need to be aware that email communications may be monitored.**
- **Users must immediately report, to the nominated person – in accordance with the school Policy and procedures, the receipt of any email that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such email.**
- **Any digital communication between staff and pupils or parents (email, chat, etc.) must be professional in tone and content. These communications may only take place on official (monitored) school systems. Personal email addresses, text messaging or public chat/social networking programmes must not be used for these communications.**
- *Whole class or group email addresses will be used at KS1, while pupils at KS2 and above will be provided with individual school email addresses for educational use.*
- *Pupils should be taught about email safety issues, such as the risks attached to the use of personal details. They should also be taught strategies to deal with inappropriate emails and be reminded of the need to write emails clearly and correctly and not include any unsuitable or abusive material.*
- *Personal information should not be posted on the school website and only official email addresses should be used to identify members of staff.*
- *Spam, phishing and virus attachments can make email dangerous. The school ICT provider Gemini ensures mail is virus checked (ingoing and outgoing), includes spam filtering and backs emails up daily.*

6.2 Emailing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information

- Assess whether the information can be transmitted by other secure means before using email - emailing confidential data is not recommended and should be avoided where possible;
- The use of Hotmail, BT Internet, G-mail or any other Internet based webmail service for sending email containing sensitive information is not permitted;
- Where your conclusion is that email must be used to transmit such data:
 - Obtain express consent from your manager to provide the information by email;
 - Exercise caution when sending the email and always follow these checks before releasing the email:
 - Verify the details, including accurate email address, of any intended recipient of the information;

- Verify (by phoning) the details of a requestor before responding to email requests for information;
- Do not copy or forward the email to any more recipients than is absolutely necessary.
- Do not send the information to any person whose details you have been unable to separately verify (usually by phone);
- Send the information as an encrypted document **attached** to an email;
- Provide the encryption key or password by a **separate** contact with the recipient(s);
- Do not identify such information in the subject line of any email;
- Request confirmation of safe receipt.

6.3 Zombie accounts

Zombie accounts refer to accounts belonging to users who have left the school and therefore no longer have authorised access to the school's systems. Such Zombie accounts when left active can cause a security threat by allowing unauthorised access.

- Ensure that all user accounts are disabled once the member of the school has left;
- Prompt action on disabling accounts will prevent unauthorised access;
- Regularly change generic passwords to avoid unauthorised access (Microsoft© advise every 42 days).

7. School Website

7.1 Managing published content

Many schools have created excellent websites and communication channels, which inspire pupils to publish work of a high standard. Websites can celebrate pupils' work, promote the school and publish resources for projects. Editorial guidance will help reflect the school's requirements for accuracy and good presentation.

Sensitive information about schools and pupils could be found in a newsletter but a school's website is more widely available. Publication of any information online should always be considered from a personal and school security viewpoint. Material such as staff lists or a school plan may be better published in the school handbook or on a secure part of the website which requires authentication.

- **The contact details on the website are the school address, email and telephone number. Staff, Governors or pupils' personal information are not published.**
- *The Head teacher will take overall editorial responsibility for online content published by the school and will ensure that content published is accurate and appropriate.*
- *The school website will comply with the school's guidelines for publications including respect for intellectual property rights, privacy procedures and copyright.*

8. Utilisation of Digital Imagery and Videos

8.1 Use of digital and video images

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

- **We gain parental permission for the use of digital photographs or video involving their child as part of the school agreement form when their child joins the school. This is a once in a school lifetime**

consent. Parents are required to inform the school if their consent changes.

- **We do not identify pupils in online photographic materials or include the full names of pupils in the credits of any published school produced digital materials.**
- **When using digital images, staff will inform and educate pupils about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images. Pupils are advised to be very careful about placing any personal photos on any 'social' online network space. They are taught to understand the need to maintain privacy settings so as not to make public, personal information.**
- *Staff sign the school's Acceptable Use Agreement, and this includes a clause on the use of mobile phones/personal equipment for taking pictures of pupils;*
- *The school blocks/filter access to social networking sites or newsgroups unless there is a specific approved educational purpose;*
- *Staff are permitted to take digital/video images to support educational aims, but must follow school procedures 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 pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.*
- *Pupils are taught about how images can be manipulated in their online safety education programme and also taught to consider how to publish for a wide range of audiences which might include governors, parents or younger children as part of their ICT scheme of work;*
- *Pupils are taught that they should not post images or videos of others without their permission. We teach them about the risks associated with providing information with images (including the name of the file), that reveals the identity of others and their location, such as house number, street name or school. We teach them about the need to keep their data secure and what to do if they are subject to bullying or abuse.*
- *If specific pupil photos (not group photos) are used on the school web site, in the prospectus or in other high-profile publications the school will obtain individual parental or pupil permission for its long-term use. A model Consent Form can be found in Kym Allan Health and Safety Consultants Ltd. (KAHSC) General Safety Series G21.*
- *Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs.*
- *Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the pupil and parents.*

9. Social Media

9.1 Managing social networking, social media and personal publishing sites

Parents and teachers need to be aware that the Internet has emerging online spaces and social networks which allow individuals to publish unmediated content. Social networking sites can connect people with similar or even very different interests. Users can be invited to view personal spaces and leave comments, over which there may be limited control. For responsible adults, social networking sites provide easy to use, free facilities, although advertising often intrudes and some sites may be dubious in content. Pupils should be encouraged to think about the ease of uploading personal information, the associated dangers and the difficulty of removing an inappropriate image or information once published.

All staff should be made aware of the potential risks of using social networking sites or personal publishing either professionally with pupils or personally. They should be made aware of the importance of considering the material they post, ensuring profiles are secured and how publishing unsuitable material may affect their professional status.

Examples of social media and personal publishing tools include: blogs, wikis, social networking, forums, bulletin boards, multiplayer online gaming, chatrooms, instant messenger and many others.

- **The school will control access to social media and social networking sites.**

- **Pupils will be advised never to give out personal details of any kind which may identify them and / or their location. Examples would include real name, address, mobile or landline phone numbers, school attended, IM and email addresses, full names of friends/family, specific interests and clubs etc.**
- **Staff wishing to use Social Media tools with pupils as part of the curriculum will risk assess the sites before use and check the sites terms and conditions to ensure the site is age appropriate. Staff will obtain documented consent from the Senior Leadership Team before using Social Media tools in the classroom.**
- *Pupils will be advised on security and privacy online and will be encouraged to set passwords, deny access to unknown individuals and to block unwanted communications.*
- *Concerns regarding a pupil's use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites (in or out of school) will be raised with their parents, particularly when concerning the underage use of sites.*
- *Staff personal use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites will be discussed as part of staff induction and outlined in the school Staff Acceptable Use Agreement – see Appendix F.*
- **Further guidance can be found in the document 'Safe Use of Facebook and Other Social Networking Sites' on the KAHSC website.**
- *A sample advice leaflet for parents on Social Networking Sites, in particular, Facebook, can be found at Appendix H.*

10. Managing Internet Accessibility and Technology

10.1 Managing filtering

Levels of Internet access and supervision will vary according to the pupil's age and experience. Access profiles must be appropriate for all members of the school community. Older secondary pupils, as part of a supervised project, might need to access specific adult materials; for instance, a course text or set novel might include references to sexuality. Teachers might need to research areas including drugs, medical conditions, bullying, racism or harassment. In such cases, legitimate use should be recognised and restrictions removed temporarily. Systems to adapt the access profile to the pupil's age and maturity are available.

Access controls fall into several overlapping types (commonly described as filtering):

- Blocking strategies prevent access to a list of unsuitable sites. Maintenance of the blocking list is a major task as new sites appear every day.
- A walled garden or "allow list" restricts access to a list of approved sites. Such lists inevitably limit pupils' access to a narrow range of content.
- Dynamic content filtering examines web page content or email for unsuitable words.
- Keyword lists filter search engine searches and URLs for inappropriate results and web addresses.
- Rating systems give each web page a rating for sexual, profane, violent or other unacceptable content. Web browsers can be set to reject rated pages exceeding a threshold.
- URL monitoring records the Internet sites visited by individual users. Reports can be produced to investigate pupil access.

It is important that as a school we recognise that filtering is not 100% effective. There are ways to bypass filters (such as using proxy websites, using a device not connected to the network e.g. mobile phone). Occasionally mistakes may happen and inappropriate content may be accessed. It is therefore important that children should always be supervised when using internet access and that Acceptable Use Agreements are in place. In addition, Internet Safety rules should be displayed, and both children and adults should be educated about the risks online. There should also be an Incident Log to report breaches of filtering or inappropriate content being accessed. Procedures need to be established to report such incidents to parents and the LA where appropriate. Any material that the school believes is illegal must be reported to appropriate agencies such as Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), Cumbria Police or CEOP (see online safety contacts and references). Please refer to the appendices 1.6 Appendix H – Response to an Incident of Concern and 1.7 Appendix G Filtering and Monitoring Standards to see the schools procedures upon Safeguarding children when utilising digital devices.

Websites which schools believe should be blocked centrally should be reported to the Schools Broadband Service Desk. Teachers should always evaluate any websites/search engines before using them with their pupils; this includes websites shown in class as well as websites accessed directly by the pupils. Often this will mean checking the websites, search results etc. just before the lesson. Remember that a site considered safe one day may be changed due to the Internet being a dynamic entity. Particular attention should also be paid to advertisements as they can change each time the web page is accessed.

- *The school's broadband access will include filtering appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils.*
- *The school will have a clear procedure for reporting breaches of filtering. All members of the school community (all staff and all pupils) will be aware of this procedure.*
- *If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL will be reported to the School Online Safety Coordinator who will then record the incident and escalate the concern as appropriate.*
- *The School filtering system will block all sites on the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) list [Click here to access](#).*
- *Changes to the school filtering procedures will be risk assessed by staff with educational and technical experience prior to any changes and where appropriate with consent from the Senior Leadership Team. The appropriateness of these adaptations will be informed in part, by the risk assessment required by the Prevent Duty (2015).*
- *The School Senior Leadership Team will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are effective.*
- *Any material that the school believes is illegal will be reported to appropriate agencies such as IWF [Click here to access](#), Cumbria Police or CEOP [Click here to access](#).*
- *The school's access strategy will be designed by educators to suit the age and curriculum requirements of the pupils, with advice from network managers.*

10.2 Webcams and CCTV

- *The school uses CCTV for security and safety. The only people with access to this are office staff.*
- *Notification of CCTV use is displayed at the front of the school. Please refer to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for further guidance and the school CCTV procedures.*
- *We do not use publicly accessible webcams in school.*

10.3 Managing emerging technologies

- **Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and a risk assessment will be carried out before use in school is allowed.**
- *Pupils will be instructed about safe and appropriate use of personal devices both on and off site in accordance with the school Acceptable Use Agreement/Mobile Phone procedures.*

10.4 Data protection

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR which states that personal data must be:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals.
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
- be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- kept for no longer than is necessary.
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of it.

More detailed information can be found in the School Data Protection Policy.

Staff must:

- **take care at all times 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, USB stick or any other removable media:

- *the data must be encrypted and password protected;*
- *the device must be password protected (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 procedures (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete.*

10.5 Disposal of redundant ICT equipment

- All redundant ICT equipment will be disposed of through an authorised agency. This should include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data.
 - All redundant ICT equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media over written multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed. If the storage media has failed it will be physically destroyed. We will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen.
 - Disposal of any ICT equipment will conform to:
 - The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006
 - The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007
 - Environment Agency Guidance (WEEE) [Click here to access](#)
 - Data Protection Act 2018
 - Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
 - The school’s disposal record will include:
 - Date item disposed of;
 - Authorisation for disposal, including:
 - verification of software licensing
 - any personal data likely to be held on the storage media? *
 - How it was disposed of e.g. waste, gift, sale
 - Name of person and/or organisation who received the disposed item
- * if personal data is likely to be held the storage media will be over written multiple times or ‘scrubbed’ to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed.**
- Any redundant ICT equipment being considered for sale/gift will have been subject to a recent electrical safety check and hold a valid PAT certificate.

11. Policy Decisions

11.1 Authorising internet access

- **The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to the school’s electronic communications.**
- **All staff will read and sign the Staff Acceptable Use Agreement before using any school ICT resources.**
- *Parents will be asked to read and sign the School Acceptable Use Agreement for pupil access and discuss it with their child, where appropriate.*
- *Parents will be informed that pupils will be provided with supervised Internet access appropriate to their age and ability.*

- *When considering access for vulnerable members of the school community (such as with children with special education needs) the school will make decisions based on the specific needs and understanding of the pupil(s).*
- **At Key Stage 2 pupils will be supervised. Pupils will use age-appropriate search engines and online tools and online activities will be teacher-directed where necessary.**

11.2 Assessing risks

- **The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the global and connected nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that access to unsuitable material will never occur via a school computer. Neither the school nor the LA can accept liability for the material accessed, or any consequences resulting from Internet use.**
- **The school will audit ICT use to establish if the Online Safety Policy and procedures is adequate and that the implementation of the Online Safety Policy is appropriate – see Appendix A for a sample Online Safety Audit.**
- *The use of computer systems without permission or for inappropriate purposes could constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 and breaches will be reported to Cumbria Police.*
- *Methods to identify, assess and minimise risks will be reviewed regularly.*

11.3 Unsuitable/Inappropriate Activities

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

| | | Acceptable | Acceptable at certain times | Acceptable for nominated users | Unacceptable | Unacceptable and illegal |
|--|---|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| User Actions | | | | | | |
| Users shall not visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to: | child sexual abuse images | | | | | ✓ |
| | promotion or conduct of illegal acts, e.g. under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation | | | | | ✓ |
| | adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK | | | | | ✓ |
| | criminally racist material in UK | | | | | ✓ |
| | pornography | | | | ✓ | |
| | promotion of any kind of discrimination | | | | ✓ | |
| | promotion of racial or religious hatred | | | | ✓ | |
| | threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm | | | | ✓ | |
| | any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute | | | | ✓ | |
| Using school systems to run a private business | | | | | ✓ | |

User Actions

| | Acceptable | Acceptable at certain times | Acceptable for nominated users | Unacceptable | Unacceptable and illegal |
|--|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Use systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by the school | | | | ✓ | |
| Uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions | | | | ✓ | |
| Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial/personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords) | | | | ✓ | |
| Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files | | | | ✓ | |
| Carrying out sustained or instantaneous high volume network traffic (downloading / uploading files) that causes network congestion and hinders others in their use of the internet | | | | ✓ | |
| Online gaming (educational) | | | | ✓ | |
| Online gaming (non-educational) | | | | ✓ | |
| Online gambling | | | | ✓ | |
| Online shopping/commerce | | | | ✓ | |
| File sharing | | | | ✓ | |
| Use of social networking sites | | | | ✓ | |
| Use of video broadcasting e.g. YouTube | | ✓ | | | |

11.4 What are the risks?

The risks that can be posed to young people and adults when online have been identified by the EUKids online project, which was later referenced in paragraph 1.3 of Dr Tanya Byron in “Safer Children in a Digital World” (2008).

| | Commercial | Aggressive | Sexual | Values |
|--|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Content (Child as recipient) | Adverts Spam Sponsorship Personal Info | Violent/hateful content | Pornographic or unwelcome sexual content | Bias, Racist or Misleading info or advice |
| Contact (Child as participant) | Tracking Harvesting personal info | Being bullied, harassed or stalked | Meeting strangers, being groomed | Self-harm, Unwelcome persuasions |
| Conduct (Child as actor) | Illegal downloading Hacking Gambling Financial scams | Bullying or harassing another | Creating and uploading inappropriate material | Providing misleading information/advice |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| | Terrorism | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|

Byron Review (2008): [Click here to access](#)

11.5 Responding to Incidents of Concern

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

- child sexual abuse images
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- extremism or radicalisation of individuals
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials - school should refer to the Flow Chart found at Appendix I.
- *In this school there is strict monitoring and application of the Online Safety Policy and a differentiated and appropriate range of sanctions, though the attitudes and behaviour of users are generally positive and there is rarely a need to apply sanctions*
- *All members of the school community will be informed about the procedure for reporting online safety concerns (such as breaches of filtering, cyber-bullying, illegal content etc.).*
- *The Online Safety Coordinator will record all reported incidents and actions taken in the School Online Safety incident log and other in any relevant areas e.g. Bullying or Child protection log.*
- *The Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed of any online safety incidents involving Child Protection concerns, which will then be escalated appropriately – See Child Protection Policy and procedures for dealing with concerns.*
- *The school will manage Online Safety incidents in accordance with the school discipline/behaviour policy where appropriate.*
- *The school will inform parents of any incidents of concerns as and when required.*
- *After any investigations are completed, the school will debrief, identify lessons learnt and implement any changes required.*
- *Where there is cause for concern or fear that illegal activity has taken place or is taking place then the school will contact the Safeguarding Hub **and** escalate the concern to the Police.*
- *If the school is unsure how to proceed with any incidents of concern, then the incident may be escalated to the Safeguarding Hub – see Child Protection Policy and procedures.*

If members of staff suspect that misuse might have taken place, but that the misuse is not illegal (as above) it is essential that correct procedures are used to investigate, preserve evidence and protect those carrying out the investigation. More than one member of staff should be involved in the investigation which should be carried out on a “clean” designated computer.

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

| Pupils | Actions / Sanctions | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------|--|----------------|---|---------|---|
| Incidents: | Refer to class teacher/tutor | Refer to Head of Department/Head of Year/other | Refer to Head teacher | Refer to Police | Refer to technical support staff for action re filtering/security etc. | Inform parents | Removal of network / internet access rights | Warning | Further sanction e.g. detention/exclusion |
| Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable/inappropriate activities). | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons | ✓ | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Unauthorised use of mobile phone / digital camera /other handheld device | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Unauthorised use of social networking / instant messaging / personal email | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another pupil's account | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using the account of a member of staff | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Corrupting or destroying the data of other users | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the Data Protection Act/GDPR | ✓ | | | | | | | | |

Staff

Actions / Sanctions

| Incidents: | Refer to line manager | Refer to Head teacher | Refer to LA/HR | Refer to Police | Refer to Technical Support Staff for action re filtering etc. | Warning | Suspension | Disciplinary action |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable / inappropriate activities). | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| Excessive or inappropriate personal use of the internet / social networking sites / instant messaging / personal email | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords or attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another person's account | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Careless use of personal data e.g. holding or transferring data in an insecure manner | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Using personal email / social networking / instant messaging / text messaging to carrying out digital communications with pupils | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Actions which could compromise the staff member's professional standing | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| Breaching copyright or licensing regulations | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions | | ✓ | | | | | | |

11.6 Managing cyber-bullying

- **Cyber-bullying (along with all other forms of bullying) of any member of the school community will not be tolerated. Full details are set out in the Whole School Behaviour Policy.**
- **There are clear procedures in place to support anyone in the school community affected by cyber-bullying.**
- **All incidents of cyber-bullying reported to the school will be recorded.**
- **There will be clear procedures in place to investigate incidents or allegations of Cyber-bullying.**
- *Pupils, staff and parents will be advised to keep a record of the bullying as evidence.*
- *The school will take steps to identify the bully, where possible and appropriate. This may include examining school system logs, identifying and interviewing possible witnesses, and contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary.*
- *Pupils, staff and parents will be required to work with the school to support the approach to cyber-bullying and the school's online safety ethos.*
- **Sanctions for those involved in cyber-bullying may include:**
 - *The bully will be asked to remove any material deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.*
 - *A service provider may be contacted to remove content if the bully refuses or is unable to delete content.*
 - *Internet access may be suspended at school for the user for a period of time. Other sanctions for pupils and staff may also be used in accordance with the Whole School Behaviour Policy, Acceptable Use Agreement and Disciplinary Procedures.*
 - *Parents of pupils will be informed.*
 - *The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.*

11.7 Managing Mobile Phones and Personal Devices

- **The use of mobile phones and other personal devices by pupils and staff in school will be decided by the school and covered in the school Acceptable Use Agreement.**

- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages or content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the school community and any breaches will be dealt with as part of the school discipline/Behaviour Policy.
- The school reserves the right to search the content of any mobile or handheld devices on the school premises where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain undesirable materials, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying. Staff mobiles or hand-held devices may be searched at any time as part of routine monitoring.
- School staff may confiscate a phone or device if they believe it is being used to contravene the school's behaviour Policy or bullying procedures.

Staff use of personal devices:

- Staff are not permitted to use their own personal phones or devices for contacting children, young people and their families within or outside of the setting in a professional capacity.
- Staff will be issued with a school phone where contact with pupils or parents is required.
- Mobile phones and personally owned devices will be switched off or switched to 'silent' mode; Bluetooth communication should be "hidden" or switched off and mobile phones or personally owned devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been given by a member of Senior Leadership Team in emergency circumstances.
- Staff should not use personal devices such as mobile phones or cameras to take photos or videos of pupils and will only use work-provided equipment for this purpose.
- Where members of staff are required to use a mobile phone for school duties, for instance in case of emergency during off-site activities, or for contacting pupils or parents, then a school mobile phone will be provided and used. In an emergency where a staff member does not have access to a school-owned device, they should use their own device and hide (by inputting 141) their own mobile number for confidentiality purposes.
- If a member of staff breaches the school Policy and procedures, then disciplinary action may be taken.

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

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| Use of blogs | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
|--------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|

12. Communicating Policy and procedures

12.1 Introducing the Policy and procedures to Pupils

Many pupils are very familiar with the culture of mobile and Internet use and it is wise to involve them in designing the School Online Safety Policy, possibly through a pupil council. As pupils' perceptions of the risks will vary, the online safety rules may need to be explained or discussed.

Posters covering online safety rules should be displayed in every room with a computer to remind pupils of the rules at the point of use.

The pupil and parent agreement form should include a copy of the school online safety rules appropriate to the age of the pupil.

Consideration must be given as to the curriculum place for teaching online safety. This could be as an ICT lesson activity, part of the pastoral programme or part of every subject whenever pupils are using the internet.

Useful online safety programmes include:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- www.childnet.com
- www.kidsmart.org.uk
- **All users will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored.**
- **An online safety training programme will be established across the school to raise the awareness and importance of safe and responsible internet use amongst pupils.**
- *Pupil instruction regarding responsible and safe use will precede Internet access.*
- *An online safety module will be included in the PSHE, Citizenship and/or ICT programmes covering both safe school and home use.*
- *Online Safety rules or copies of the pupil Acceptable Use Agreement will be posted in all rooms with Internet access.*
- *Safe and responsible use of the Internet and technology will be reinforced across the curriculum and subject areas.*
- *Particular attention to Online Safety education will be given where pupils are considered to be vulnerable.*

12.2 Discussing the Policy and procedures with Staff

- **The Online Safety Policy and procedures will be formally provided to, and discussed, with all members of staff.**
- **To protect all staff and pupils, the school will implement Acceptable Use Agreements.**
- **Staff will be made aware that Internet traffic can be monitored and traced to the individual user. Discretion and professional conduct is essential.**
- **Up-to-date and appropriate staff training in safe and responsible Internet use, both professionally and personally, will be provided for all members of staff.**
- *Staff who manage filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by the Senior Leadership Team and have clear procedures for reporting issues.*
- *The School will highlight useful online tools which staff should use with children in the classroom. These tools will vary according to the age and ability of the pupils.*
- *All members of staff will be made aware that their online conduct out of school could have an impact on their role and reputation within school. Civil, legal or disciplinary action could be taken if they are found to bring the profession or institution into disrepute, or if something is felt to have undermined confidence in their professional abilities.*

12.3 Enlisting Parents' Support

- **Parents' attention will be drawn to the school Online Safety Policy and procedures in newsletters, and on the school website.**
- *A partnership approach to online safety at home and at school with parents will be encouraged. This may include offering parent evenings with demonstrations and suggestions for safe home Internet use, or highlighting online safety at other attended events e.g. parent evenings and sports days.*
- *Parents will be requested to sign an Online Safety/Internet agreement.*
- *Parents will be encouraged to read and sign the school Acceptable Use Agreement for pupils and discuss its implications with their children.*
- *Information and guidance for parents on online safety will be made available to parents in a variety of formats.*
- *Advice on useful resources and websites, filtering systems and educational and leisure activities which include responsible use of the Internet will be made available to parents.*
- *Interested parents will be referred to organisations listed in the "online safety Links" at Appendix K.*

13. Complaints

The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure online safety. However, owing to the international scale and linked nature of internet content, the availability of mobile technologies and speed of change, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable materials will never appear on a school computer or mobile device. Neither the school staff nor the Governing Body/Board of Directors can accept liability for material accessed, or any consequences of internet access.

- Complaints about the misuse of on-line systems will be dealt with under the school's Complaints procedure.
- Complaints about cyberbullying are dealt with in accordance with our Anti-bullying procedures which form part of our Whole School Behaviour Policy and procedures.
- Complaints related to child protection are dealt with in accordance with school Child Protection Policy and procedures.
- Any complaints about staff misuse will be referred to the Head teacher.
- All online safety complaints and incidents will be recorded by the school including any actions taken (see Appendix I and J).
- Any complaints regarding inappropriate use of technology linked to extremism and terrorism will be referred to prevent@cumbria.police.uk and if there is a risk of significant harm the Cumbria Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub would be contacted.

Staff and pupils are given information about infringements in use and possible sanctions. Sanctions available include:

- interview/counselling by class teacher/Head of Year/Online Safety Coordinator/Head teacher; informing parents;
- removal of internet or computer access for a period, which could ultimately prevent access to files held on the system, including examination coursework);
- referral to the Police.

Appendices

1.1 Appendix A - Seaton St Paul's Church of England Junior School Online Safety Audit

This self-audit should be completed by the member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) responsible for Online Safety. Staff that could contribute to the audit include: Designated Safeguarding Lead, SENCO, Online Safety Coordinator, Network Manager and Head teacher.

| | | |
|--|--|----------|
| Does the school have an Online Safety Policy and procedures | | YES / NO |
| Date of latest update: | | |
| Date of future review: | | |
| The school Online Safety Policy and procedures was agreed by governors on: | | |
| The Policy and procedures is available for staff to access at: | | |
| The Policy and procedures is available for parents to access at: | | |
| The responsible member of the Senior Leadership Team is: | | |
| The Governor responsible for Online Safety is: | | |
| The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: | | |
| The Online Safety Coordinator is: | | |
| Were all stakeholders (e.g. pupils, staff and parents) consulted when updating the school Online Safety Policy and procedures? | | YES / NO |
| Has up-to-date Online Safety training been provided for all members of staff? (not just teaching staff) | | YES / NO |
| | | |
| Do all members of staff sign an Acceptable Use Agreement on appointment? | | YES / NO |
| | | |
| Are all staff made aware of the schools expectation around safe and professional online behaviour? | | YES / NO |
| Is there a clear procedure for staff, pupils and parents to follow when responding to or reporting an online safety incident of concern? | | YES / NO |
| | | |
| Have online safety materials from CEOP, Childnet and UKCCIS etc. been obtained? | | YES / NO |
| Is online safety training provided for all pupils (appropriate to age and ability and across all Key Stages and curriculum areas)? | | YES / NO |
| | | |
| Are online safety rules displayed in all rooms where computers are used and expressed in a form that is accessible to all pupils? | | YES / NO |
| Do parents or pupils sign an Acceptable Use Agreement? | | YES / NO |
| Are staff, pupils, parents and visitors aware that network and Internet use is closely monitored and individual usage can be traced? | | YES / NO |

Appendix A

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Has an ICT security audit been initiated by SLT? | YES / NO |
| | |
| Is personal data collected, stored and used according to the principles of the Data Protection Act/GDPR? | YES / NO |
| Is Internet access provided by an approved educational Internet service provider which complies with DfE requirements? | YES / NO |
| | |
| Has the school filtering been designed to reflect educational objectives and been approved by SLT? | YES / NO |
| | |
| Are members of staff with responsibility for managing filtering, network access and monitoring systems adequately supervised by a member of SLT? | YES / NO |
| Do members of staff routinely monitor the content that pupils are accessing when utilising internet enabled devices in school time and after school clubs? | YES / NO |
| Are the filtering and monitoring procedures/capabilities of the systems reviewed by the DSL and Gemini annually? | YES / NO |
| Are reports of inappropriate content being accessed logged in accordance with the Filtering and Monitoring standards? | YES / NO |
| Does the school log and record all online safety incidents, including any action taken? | YES / NO |
| | |
| Are the Governing Body and SLT monitoring and evaluating the school Online Safety Policy and procedures on a regular basis? | YES / NO |

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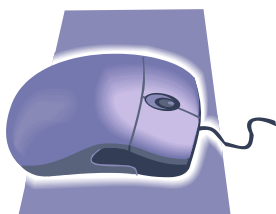
1.2 Appendix B - Think then Click

These rules help us to stay safe on the Internet.

Think then Click



We only use the Internet when an adult is with us.



We can click on the buttons or links when we know what they do



We can search the internet with an adult.



We always ask if we get lost on the Internet.



We can send and open emails together.



We can write polite and friendly emails to people that we know.

Think then Click



We ask permission before using the Internet.

We only use websites that our teacher has chosen.



We immediately close any webpage we don't like.

We only email people our teacher has approved.



We send emails that are polite and friendly.

We never give out a home address or phone number.



We never arrange to meet anyone we don't know.

We never open emails sent by anyone we don't know.



We never use Internet chat rooms.

We tell the teacher or trusted adult if we see anything we are unhappy with.



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1.3 Appendix C – Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement

PUPIL ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT***Seaton St Paul's Church of England Junior School***

These rules will help us to be fair to others and keep everyone safe.

- I will only use ICT in school for school purposes.
- I will only use my class email address or my own school email address when emailing.
- I will only open email attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved.
- I will not give my username and passwords to anyone else but my parents.
- If I think someone has learned my password then I will tell my teacher.
- I will only open/delete my own files.
- I will 'log-off' when I leave a computer.
- I will make sure that all ICT contact with other children and adults is responsible, polite and sensible.
- I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this I will tell my teacher immediately.
- I will not give out or share my own/or others details such as name, phone number or home address.
- I will be aware of 'stranger danger' when I am communicating online and will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher and a responsible adult comes with me.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules are to keep me safe.
- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it online and will not show it to other pupils.
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community.
- I know that my use of the school ICT systems and email can be checked and my parent contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my safety.
- I will not sign up for any online service unless this is an agreed part of a school project approved by my teacher.



Seaton St Paul's Church of England Junior School

Pupil Acceptable Use – Pupil and Parent Agreement

Dear Parent,

ICT including the internet, email and mobile technologies has become an important part of learning in our school. We expect all children to be safe and responsible when using any ICT.

Please read and discuss these online safety rules with your child and return the slip at the bottom of this page. If you have any concerns or would like some explanation please contact Miss R Carter.

Please take care to ensure that appropriate systems are in place at home to protect and support your child.

We have discussed this document with (child's name) and we agree to follow the online safety rules and to support the safe use of ICT at Seaton Church of England Junior School.

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Parent Name | | Pupil Class | |
| Signed (Parent) | | Date | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------|--|
| | | | |
| Signed (<i>Pupil</i>) | | Date | |

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1.4 Appendix D – Staff/Volunteer Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

STAFF / VOLUNTEER ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY AGREEMENT

ICT (including data) and the related technologies such as email, the internet and mobile devices are an expected part of our daily working life in school. This Agreement is designed to ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of their responsibilities when using any form of ICT. This applies to ICT used in school and also applies to use of school ICT systems and equipment out of school and use of personal equipment in school or in situations related to their employment by the school. All staff and volunteers (where they are using technology in school) are expected to sign this Agreement and adhere at all times to its contents. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with Miss B Crellin (Online Safety Coordinator) or Mrs L Carini (Head teacher).

This Acceptable Use Agreement is intended to ensure that:

- staff and volunteers are responsible users and stay safe while using technologies for educational, personal and recreational use;
- school ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk;
- staff are protected from potential risk from the use of ICT in their everyday work and work to ensure that young people in their care are safe users.

Acceptable Use Agreement

I understand that I must use school ICT systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the ICT systems and other users.

Keeping Safe

- I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available, on request, to my Line Manager or Head teacher.
- I will only use my own user names and passwords which I will choose carefully so they cannot be guessed easily. I will also change the passwords on a regular basis.
- I will not use any other person's user name and password.
- I will not give out my own personal details, such as mobile phone number, personal email address, personal Twitter account, or any other social media link, to pupils.
- I will ensure that my data is regularly backed up.
- I will ensure that I 'log off' after my network session has finished.
- If I find an unattended machine logged on under another user's username, I will **not** continue using the machine – I will 'log off' immediately.
- I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not bring my professional role or the school into disrepute.
- I will not accept invitations from school pupils to add me as a friend to their social networking sites, nor will I invite them to be friends on mine.
- As damage to professional reputations can inadvertently be caused by quite innocent postings or images, I will also be careful with who has access to my pages through friends and friends of friends, especially with those connected with my responsibilities as a Governor at the school, such as parents and their children.
- I understand that data protection requires that any personal data that I have access to must be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by school procedures to disclose it an appropriate authority.
- I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others as outlined in the school personal data guidelines. I will not send personal information by email as it is not secure.
- Where personal data is transferred outside the secure school network, it must be encrypted. Personal data can only be taken out of school or accessed remotely when authorised, in advance, by the Head teacher or Governing Body. Personal or sensitive data taken off site in an electronic format must be encrypted, e.g. on a password secured laptop or memory stick. Staff leading a trip are expected to take relevant pupil information with them but this must be held securely at all times.
- I will ensure that any private social networking sites/blogs etc. that I create, or actively contribute to:
 - do not reveal confidential information about the way the school operates;
 - are not confused with my school responsibilities in any way;
 - do not include inappropriate or defamatory comments about individuals connected with the school community;
 - support the school's approach to online safety which includes not uploading or posting to the internet any pictures, video or text that could upset, offend or threaten the safety of any member of the school community or bring the school into disrepute;
- I will not try to bypass the filtering and security systems in place.
- I will only use my personal ICT in school for permissible activities and I will follow the rules set out in this agreement. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date anti-virus software and are free from viruses.

Promoting Safe Use by Learners

- I will support and promote the school's Online Safety, Data Protection and Behaviour Policies and help pupils to be safe and responsible in their use of ICT and related technologies.
- I will model safe use of the internet in school.
- I will educate young people on how to use technologies safely according to the school teaching programme.
- I will take immediate action in line with school procedures if an issue arises in school that might compromise a learner, user or school safety or if a pupil reports any concerns.

Communication

- I will only use the school's email/Internet/Intranet/Learning Platform and any related technologies for professional purposes or for uses deemed 'acceptable' by the Head teacher or Governing Body.
- I will communicate on-line in a professional manner and tone, I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions. Anonymous messages are not permitted.
- I will not engage in any on-line activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.
- I will not use language that could be calculated to incite hatred against any ethnic, religious or other minority group.
- I will only communicate with pupils and parents using the school's approved, secure email system(s). Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner.
- I am aware that any communication could be forwarded to an employer or governors.
- I will only use chat and social networking sites that are approved by the school.
- I will not use personal email addresses on the school ICT systems unless I have permission to do so.
- I will not have Class Dojo on my own personal device or contact parents/carers after 4:30pm to ensure a healthy work and home life balance is maintained.

Research and Recreation

- I will not browse, upload, download, distribute or otherwise access any materials which are illegal, discriminatory or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others.
- I will not (unless I have permission) make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity.
- I know that all school ICT is primarily intended for educational use and I will only use the systems for personal or recreational use if this is allowed by the school.
- I will not recreationally utilise the school's WIFI including the Filtering and Monitoring system during school time: 8:30am - 4:30pm.

Sharing

- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's file, without their permission.
- I will respect the privacy and ownership of others' work online at all times and will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files without the owner's knowledge and permission, and will credit them if I use it.
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos). If I am unsure about this, I will seek advice.
- Images of pupils and/or staff will only be taken, stored and used for professional purposes using school equipment in line with school procedures.
- I will only take images/video of pupils and staff where it relates to agreed learning and teaching activities and will ensure I have parent/staff permission before I take them.
- If images are to be published on-line or in the media I will ensure that parental/staff permission allows this.
- I will not use my personal equipment to record images/video unless I have permission to do so from the Head teacher or other Senior Manager.
- I will not keep images and/or videos of pupils stored on my personal equipment unless I have permission to do so. If this is the case, I will ensure that these images cannot be accessed or copied by anyone else or used for any purpose other than that for which I have permission.
- Where these images are published (e.g. on the school website/prospectus), I will ensure that it is not possible to identify the people who are featured by name or other personal information.
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community.
- I will not access other colleague's subject leadership files on the server without password permission.
- I will use the Remote Access system at home for its intended educational use as intended by school.

Buying/Selling/Gaming

- I will not use school equipment for on-line purchasing, selling or gaming unless I have permission to do so.

Problems

- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident I become aware of, to the Online Safety Coordinator or Head teacher.
- I will not install any hardware or software on a computer or other device without permission of the Systems Manager.
- I will not try to alter computer settings without the permission of the Systems Manager.
- It is my responsibility to safeguard all children at Seaton St Paul's C of E Junior School and I will ensure I follow the Filtering and Monitoring systems in place to escalate concerns when identified both during the school day and in after school clubs.
- I will not cause damage to ICT equipment in school.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.
- I will not open any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted, due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes.
- I understand this forms part of the terms and conditions set out in my contract of employment.
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors / Directors and / or the Local Authority and in the event of illegal activities the involvement of the police.

✂ -----

Staff/Volunteer Acceptable Use Agreement

I will use the school network in a responsible way and observe all the restrictions as explained in the staff ICT Acceptable Use Agreement. I agree to use ICT by these rules when:

- ✓ I use school ICT systems at school or at home when I have permission to do so
- ✓ I use my own ICT (where permitted) in school
- ✓ I use my own ICT out of school to access school sites or for activities relating to my employment by the school

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Staff/Volunteer Name | | | |
| Job Title (where applicable) | | | |
| Signed | | Date: | |

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1.5 Appendix E – Social Networking Facebook Guidance for Parents

SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES - FACEBOOK

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

There are many children of Primary School age who have Facebook Profiles despite the permitted minimum age to use the site being 13, according to the site terms and conditions.

Our school is committed to promoting the safe and responsible use of the Internet and as such we feel it is our responsibility to raise this particular issue as a concern. Whilst children cannot access Facebook or other social networking sites at school, they could have access to it on any other computer or mobile technology. Websites such as Facebook offer amazing communication and social connections, however they are created with their audience in mind and this is specifically 13 years old. Possible risks for children under 13 using the site may include:

- Facebook use 'age targeted' advertising and therefore your child could be exposed to adverts of a sexual or other inappropriate nature, depending on the age they stated they were when they registered;
- Children may accept 'friend requests' from people they don't know in real life which could increase the risk of inappropriate contact or behaviour;
- Facebook is one of the social networking sites used by those attempting to radicalise young people;
- Language, games, groups and content posted or shared on Facebook is not moderated, and therefore can be offensive, illegal or unsuitable for children;
- Photographs shared by users are not moderated and therefore children could be exposed to inappropriate images or even post their own;
- Underage users might be less likely to keep their identities private and lying about their age can expose them to further risks regarding privacy settings and other options;
- Facebook could be exploited by bullies and for other inappropriate contact;
- Facebook cannot and does not verify its members therefore it important to remember that if your child can lie about who they are online, so can anyone else!

We feel that it is important to point out to parents the risks of underage use of such sites, so you can make an informed decision as to whether to allow your child to have a profile or not. These profiles will have been created away from school and sometimes by a child, their friends, siblings or even parents. We will act (such as reporting aged profiles) if a problem comes to our attention that involves the safety or wellbeing of any of our children.

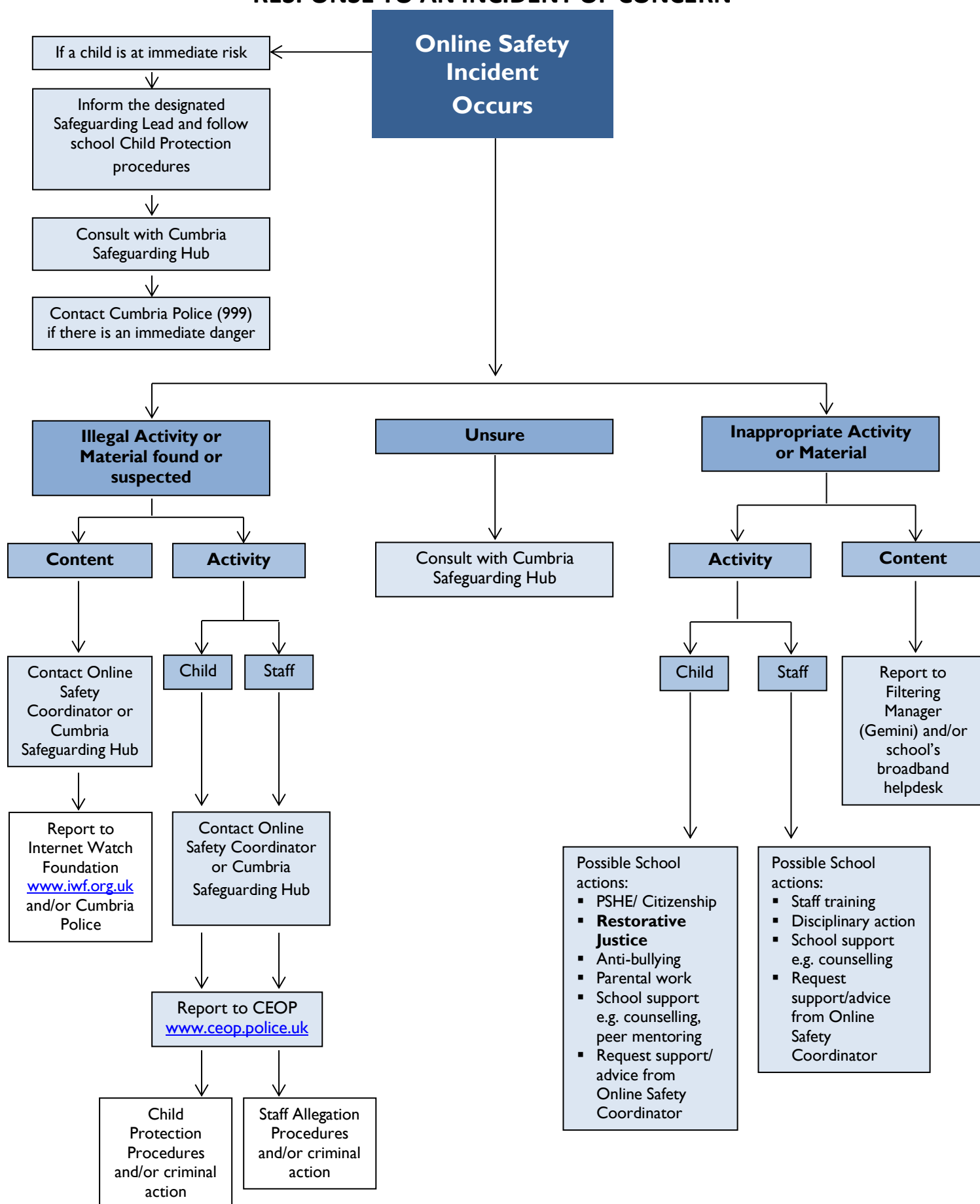
Should you decide to allow your children to have a Facebook profile we strongly advise you to:

- Check their profile is set to private and that only 'friends' can see information that is posted;
- Monitor your child's use and talk to them about safe and appropriate online behaviour such as not sharing personal information and not posting offensive messages or photos;
- Ask them to install the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) application from www.facebook.com/clickceop on their profile. This places a bookmark on their profile to CEOP and the 'Report Abuse' button which has been known to deter offenders;
- Have a look at the advice for parents from Facebook www.facebook.com/help/?safety=parents;
- Set up your own profile so you understand how the site works and ask them to add you as a friend on their profile so you can keep track of what they are posting online;
- Make sure your child understands the following rules:
 - Always keep your profile private;
 - Never accept friends you don't know in real life;
 - Never post anything which could reveal your identity;
 - Never post anything you wouldn't want your parents to see;
 - Never agree to meet someone you only know online without telling a trusted adult;
 - Always tell someone if you feel threatened or someone upsets you.

We recommend that all parents visit the CEOP ThinkUKnow website for more information on keeping your child safe online [Click here to access](#).

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1.6 Appendix F – Response to an Incident of Concern

RESPONSE TO AN INCIDENT OF CONCERN

Review school Online Safety Policy and procedures; record actions in Online Safety incident log and implement any changes in the future.

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1.7 Appendix G – Filtering and Monitoring Standards

Filtering and Monitoring Standards

Filtering systems: block access to harmful sites and content.

Monitoring systems: identify when a user accesses or searches for certain types of harmful content on school and college devices (it doesn't stop someone accessing it). Your school is then alerted to any concerning content so you can intervene and respond.

All staff responsibilities include:

All staff will have responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and provide a safe environment in which to learn, Governing Bodies should be doing all that they reasonably can to limit children's exposure to inappropriate content whilst utilising the school's IT Systems.

Members of staff will be made aware of the school's monitoring and filtering policy procedures:

- *at induction;*
- *through the school's Online Safety Policy and procedures;*
- *through the Acceptable Use Agreement;*

Pupils will be made aware of the school's password security procedures:

- *in Computing and/or Online Safety lessons*
- *through the Acceptable Use Agreement*

Filtering and Monitoring Procedures:

All members of staff need to utilise their safeguarding training to monitor what's on pupil's screens whilst they are utilising the school's IT Systems, which includes both Laptops and iPads both in lesson times and after school Computing clubs. All children should be supervised when using internet access and reminders about Acceptable Use Agreements/how to stay safe online in place.

How to report safeguarding and technical concerns, such as if:

- They witness or suspect unsuitable material has been accessed
- They are able to access unsuitable material
- They are teaching topics that could create unusual activity on the filtering logs
- There is failure in the software or abuse of the system
- There are perceived unreasonable restrictions that affect teaching and learning or administrative tasks
- They notice abbreviations or misspellings that allow access to restricted material

If a child is in immediate risk inform the DSL (Mrs Lynn Carini) and follow the Child Protection and Procedures Policy.

If they have accessed unsuitable content/material then report it to the DSL and ensure you log the breaches of filtering or inappropriate content on the Online Safety document in Head Teacher's office. This report will be forwarded to Gemini and Cumbria's Filtering and Monitoring system. Where appropriate incidents will be referred to the parents and the local authority this includes illegal content being reported to appropriate agencies such as Cumbria Police, Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) or the Internet Watch Foundation.

In school as advised in the KCSIE (2023) the Designated Safeguarding lead takes the responsibility for managing and reviewing filtering and monitoring systems at least annually alongside Miss Crellin and Gemini (School's IT Provider). This includes the DSL following up on any safeguarding concerns and checking the system is effective and functioning as expected.

Following the procedures outlined in Appendix F – Response to an Incident of Concern.

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1.8 Appendix H – Online Safety Incident Log

SEATON CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL - ONLINE SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

Details of Online Safety incidents to be recorded by the Online Safety Coordinator. This incident log will be monitored termly by the Head teacher, member of SLT or Chair of Governors.

| Date | Time | Name of Pupil or Staff Member | Male or Female | Room and Computer/ Device No. | Details of Incident (including Evidence) | Actions and Reasons |
|------|------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| | | | | | | |
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1.9 Appendix I – Online Safety Links

ONLINE SAFETY LINKS

The following links may help those who are developing or reviewing a school Online Safety Policy and procedures.

- CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre): [Click here to access](#)
- Childline: [Click here to access](#)
- Childnet: [Click here to access](#)
- Internet Watch Foundation (IWF): [Click here to access](#)
- Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children Board (Cumbria LSCB): [Click here to access](#)
- Kidsmart: [Click here to access](#)
- Think U Know website: [Click here to access](#)
- Virtual Global Taskforce — Report Abuse: [Click here to access](#)
- EE Safety Education: [Click here to access](#)
- O2 Safety Education: [Click here to access](#)
- Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) [Click here to access](#)
- INSAFE [Click here to access](#)
- Anti-Bullying Network - [Click here to access](#)
- Cyberbullying.org - [Click here to access](#)
- Learning Curve Education: [Click here to access](#)
- UK Safer Internet Centre: [Click here to access](#)
- UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS): [Click here to access](#)
- Wise Kids: [Click here to access](#)
- Teem: [Click here to access](#)
- Know the Net: [Click here to access](#)
- Family Online Safety Institute: [Click here to access](#)
- e-safe Education: [Click here to access](#)
- Facebook Advice to Parents: [Click here to access](#)
- Test your online safety skills: [Click here to access](#)

The above internet site links were correct at the time of publishing. School staff are advised to check the content of each site prior to allowing access to pupils.

Department for Education/Home Office guidance for schools

PREVENT Duty statutory guidance for Public Bodies: England and Wales – March 2015

The PREVENT Duty – non-statutory Departmental advice for Schools and Childcare Providers – DfE – June 2015

How Social Media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq – Home Office advice to schools – June 2015

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1.10 Appendix J – Legal Framework

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964

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

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

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.

Public Order Act 1986 (sections 17 — 29)

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.

Malicious Communications Act 1988 (section 1)

This legislation makes it a criminal offence to send an electronic message (email) that conveys indecent, grossly offensive, threatening material or information that is false; or is of an indecent or grossly offensive nature if the purpose was to cause a recipient to suffer distress or anxiety.

Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988

Copyright is the right to prevent others from copying or using his or her “work” without permission. The material to which copyright may attach (known in the business as “work”) must be the author’s own creation and the result of some skill and judgement. It comes about when an individual expresses an idea in a tangible form. Works such as text, music, sound, film and programs all qualify for copyright protection. The author of the work is usually the copyright owner, but if it was created during the course of employment it belongs to the employer.

It is an infringement of copyright to copy all or a substantial part of anyone’s work without obtaining the author’s permission. Usually a licence associated with the work will allow a user to copy or use it for limited purposes. It is advisable always to read the terms of a licence before you copy or use someone else’s material. It is also illegal to adapt or use software without a licence or in ways prohibited by the terms of the software licence.

The Computer Misuse Act 1990 (sections 1 - 3)

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.

UK citizens or residents may be extradited to another country if they are suspected of committing any of the above offences.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

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.

Criminal Justice Act 2003

Section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 came into effect in April 2005, empowering courts to impose tougher sentences for offences motivated or aggravated by the victim's sexual orientation in England and Wales.

Sexual Offences Act 2003

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). This can include images taken by and distributed by the child themselves (often referred to as "Sexting"). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison.

The offence of grooming 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 etc. fall in this category of trust).

Any sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 13 commits the offence of rape.

N.B. Schools should have a copy of The Home Office "Children & Families: Safer from Sexual Crime" document as part of their child protection packs. [Click here to access](#).

Communications Act 2003 (section 127)

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.

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.

Education and Inspections Act 2006

Education and Inspections Act 2006 outlines legal powers for schools which relate to Cyber-bullying/ Bullying:

- Head teachers have the power "to such an extent as is reasonable" to regulate the conduct of pupils off site.

- School staff are able to confiscate items such as mobile phones etc. when they are being used to cause a disturbance in class or otherwise contravene the school behaviour/anti-bullying procedures.

Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008

Section 63 offence to possess “extreme pornographic image”

63 (6) must be “grossly offensive, disgusting or otherwise obscene”

63 (7) this includes images of “threats to a person life or injury to anus, breasts or genitals, sexual acts with a corpse or animal whether alive or dead” must also be “explicit and realistic”. Penalties can be up to 3 years imprisonment.

The Prevent Duty 2015

The Prevent Duty is the duty in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities (Schools) in the exercise of their functions, to ‘have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.’

In order for schools to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of schools’ wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

Data Protection Act 2018 / GDPR

The Data Protection Act 2018 came into force on 25 May 2018. The Act, which replaces the 1998 Act, provides a legal framework for data protection in the UK. It is supplemented by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the legal framework that sets guidelines for the collection and processing of personal information of individuals within the European Union (EU).

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) significantly updates previous Data Protection law to reflect changes in technology and the way organisations collect and use information about people in the 21st century. It regulates the processing of personal data, and gives rights of privacy protection to all living persons.

Data Controllers are responsible for, and need to be able to demonstrate that they comply with the principles set out in Article 5 of the GDPR which requires that:

- Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals.
- Personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
- Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
- Personal data shall be accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- Personal data shall be kept for no longer than is necessary.
- Personal data shall be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of it.

The first principle of data protection is **fair, lawful and transparent processing**, and is the foundation on which everything else is built.

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1.11 Appendix K – Glossary of Terms

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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|--------------------------|---|
| Becta | British Educational Communications and Technology Agency (Government agency promoting the use of information and communications technology) – <i>NOTE: Becta Closed in 2011</i> |
| CEOP | Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (part of UK Police, dedicated to protecting children from sexual abuse, providers of the Think U Know programmes). |
| CLEO | The Regional Broadband Consortium of Cumbria and Lancashire – is the provider of broadband and other services for schools and other organisations in Cumbria and Lancashire |
| CPD | Continuous Professional Development |
| DfE | Department for Education |
| FOSI | Family Online Safety Institute |
| HSTF | Home Secretary’s Task Force on Child Protection on the Internet |
| ICO | Information Commissioners Office |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology |
| ICTMark | Quality standard for schools provided by Naace Click here to access |
| INSET | In Service Education and Training |
| IP address | The label that identifies each computer to other computers using the IP (internet protocol) |
| ISP | Internet Service Provider |
| ISPA | Internet Service Providers’ Association |
| IWF | Internet Watch Foundation |
| JANET | Provides the broadband backbone structure for Higher Education and for the National Education Network. |
| KS1 | Key Stage 1 (2, 3, 4 or 5) – schools are structured within these multiple age groups e.g. KS3 = years 7 to 9 (age 11 to 14) |
| LA | Local Authority |
| LAN | Local Area Network |
| Learning Platform | A learning platform brings together hardware, software and supporting services to support teaching, learning, management and administration. |
| LSCB | Local Safeguarding Children Board |
| MIS | Management Information System |
| MLE | Managed Learning Environment |
| NEN | National Education Network – works with the Regional Broadband Consortia (e.g. CLEO in Cumbria) to provide the safe broadband provision to schools across Britain. |
| Ofcom | Office of Communications (Independent communications sector regulator) |
| Ofsted | Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills |
| PDA | Personal Digital Assistant (handheld device) |
| PHSE | Personal, Health and Social Education |

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| RBC | Regional Broadband Consortia (e.g. CLEO) have been established to procure broadband connectivity for schools in England. There are 13 RBCs covering most local authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. |
| SEF | Self Evaluation Form – used by schools for self-evaluation and reviewed by Ofsted prior to visiting schools for an inspection |
| TUK | Think U Know – educational E-Safety programmes for schools, young people and parents. |
| URL | Uniform Resource Locator (URL) it is the global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web. |
| VLE | Virtual Learning Environment (a software system designed to support teaching and learning in an educational setting, |
| WAP | Wireless Application Protocol |