

Online Safety Policy

Aims:

St Mary's CE Primary School believes that online safety is an essential element of safeguarding children and adults in the digital world when using technology such as computers, tablets, mobile phones or games consoles. We recognise that we have a duty to provide children and staff with high quality internet access and that there is a clear duty to ensure all staff and children are protected from potential harm online.

Purpose:

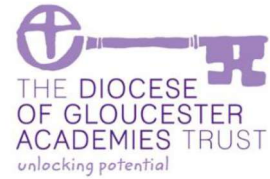
The purpose of the Online Safety Policy is to:

- Clearly identify the key principles expected of all members of the community with regards to the safe and responsible use technology to ensure that the school is a safe and secure environment.
- Safeguard and protect all members of the school community online.
- Raise awareness with all members of the school community regarding the potential risks as well as benefits of technology.
- Enable all staff to work safely and responsibly, to role model positive behaviour online and be aware of the need to manage their own standards and practice when using technology.
- Identify clear procedures to use when responding to online safety concerns that are known by all members of the community.

This policy applies to all staff including the governing body, teachers, support staff, external contractors, visitors, volunteers and other individuals who work for, or provide services on behalf of the school (collectively referred to as 'staff' in this policy) as well as children and parents/carers.

This policy applies to all access to the internet and use of information communication devices, including personal devices, or where children, staff or other individuals have been provided with school issued devices for use off-site, such as a work laptops, tablets or mobile phones.

This policy must be read in conjunction with other relevant school policies including (but not limited to) safeguarding and child protection, anti-bullying, behaviour, Acceptable Use Policies and relevant curriculum policies including computing, Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).



Key Responsibilities:

The key Responsibilities of the SLT are:

- Developing, owning and promoting the online safety vision and culture to all stakeholders, in line with national and local recommendations with appropriate support and consultation throughout the school community.
- Ensuring that online safety is viewed by the whole community as a safeguarding issue and proactively developing a robust online safety culture.
- Supporting the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) by ensuring they have sufficient time and resources to fulfil their online safety role and responsibilities.
- Ensuring there are appropriate and up-to-date policies and procedures regarding online safety including an Acceptable Use Policy which covers appropriate professional conduct and use of technology.
- To ensure that suitable and appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place to protect children from inappropriate content which meet the needs of the school community whilst ensuring children have access to required educational material.
- To work with and support technical staff in monitoring the safety and security of school/setting systems and networks and to ensure that the school/setting network system is actively monitored.
- Ensuring all members of staff receive regular, up-to-date and appropriate training regarding online safety roles and responsibilities and provide guidance regarding safe appropriate communications.
- Ensuring that online safety is embedded within a progressive whole school/setting curriculum which enables all pupils to develop an age-appropriate understanding of online safety and the associated risks and safe behaviours.
- To be aware of any online safety incidents and ensure that external agencies and support are liaised with as appropriate.
- Receiving and regularly reviewing online safeguarding records and using them to inform and shape future practice.
- Ensuring there are robust reporting channels for the school/setting community to access regarding online safety concerns, including internal, local and national support.
- Ensure that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken regarding the safe use of technology, including ensuring the safe and responsible use of devices.
- To ensure a member of the Governing Body is identified with a lead responsibility for supporting online safety.

- Auditing and evaluating current online safety practice to identify strengths and areas for improvement.
- To ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) works with the online safety lead.

The key responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead are:

- Acting as a named point of contact on all online safeguarding issues and liaising with other members of staff and other agencies as appropriate.
- Keeping up-to-date with current research, legislation and trends regarding online safety.
- Coordinating participation in local and national events to promote positive online behaviour, e.g. Safer Internet Day.
- Ensuring that online safety is promoted to parents and carers and the wider community through a variety of channels and approaches.
- Work with the school/setting lead for data protection and data security to ensure that practice is in line with current legislation.
- Maintaining a record of online safety concerns/incidents and actions taken as part of the schools safeguarding recording structures and mechanisms.
- Monitor the school/settings online safety incidents to identify gaps/trends and use this data to update the school/settings education response to reflect need
- To report to the school management team, Governing Body and other agencies as appropriate, on online safety concerns and local data/figures.
- Liaising with the local authority and other local and national bodies, as appropriate.
- Working with the school/setting leadership and management to review and update the online safety policies, Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and other related policies on a regular basis (at least annually) with stakeholder input.
- Ensuring that online safety is integrated with other appropriate school policies and procedures.
- Meet regularly with the governor/board/committee member with a lead responsibility for online safety.

The key responsibilities for all members of staff are:

- Contributing to the development of online safety policies.
- Reading the school Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and adhering to them.
- Taking responsibility for the security of school/setting systems and data.
- Having an awareness of a range of different online safety issues and how they may relate to the children in their care.
- Modelling good practice when using new and emerging technologies

- Embedding online safety education in curriculum delivery wherever possible.
- Identifying individuals of concern and taking appropriate action by following school safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Knowing when and how to escalate online safety issues, internally and externally.
- Being able to signpost to appropriate support available for online safety issues, internally and externally.
- Maintaining a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both on and off site.
- Demonstrating an emphasis on positive learning opportunities.
- Taking personal responsibility for professional development in this area.

In addition to the above, the key responsibilities for staff managing the technical environment are:

- Providing a safe and secure technical infrastructure which support safe online practices while ensuring that learning opportunities are still maximised.
- Taking responsibility for the implementation of safe security of systems and data in partnership with the leadership and management team.
- To ensure that suitable access controls and encryption is implemented to protect personal and sensitive information held on school-owned devices.
- Ensuring that the schools filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis and that responsibility for its implementation is shared with the DSL.
- Ensuring that the use of the school/setting's network is regularly monitored and reporting any deliberate or accidental misuse to the DSL.
- Report any breaches or concerns to the DSL and leadership team and together ensure that they are recorded and appropriate action is taken as advised.
- Developing an understanding of the relevant legislation as it relates to the security and safety of the technical infrastructure.
- Report any breaches and liaising with the local authority (or other local or national bodies) as appropriate on technical infrastructure issues.
- Providing technical support and perspective to the DSL and leadership team, especially in the development and implementation of appropriate online safety policies and procedures.
- Ensuring that the school's ICT infrastructure/system is secure and not open to misuse or malicious attack.
- Ensuring that appropriate anti-virus software and system updates are installed and maintained on all setting machines and portable devices.
- Ensure that appropriately strong passwords are applied and enforced for all but the youngest users.

The key responsibilities of children and young people are:

- Contributing to the development of online safety policies.
- Reading the school/setting Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and adhering to them.
- Respecting the feelings and rights of others both on and offline.
- Seeking help from a trusted adult if things go wrong, and supporting others that may be experiencing online safety issues.

At a level that is appropriate to their individual age, ability and vulnerabilities:

- Taking responsibility for keeping themselves and others safe online.
- Taking responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.
- Assessing the personal risks of using any particular technology, and behaving safely and responsibly to limit those risks.

The key responsibilities of parents and carers are:

- Reading the school/setting Acceptable Use Policies, encouraging their children to adhere to them, and adhering to them themselves where appropriate.
- Discussing online safety issues with their children, supporting the school in their online safety approaches, and reinforcing appropriate safe online behaviours at home.
- Role modelling safe and appropriate uses of technology and social media.
- Identifying changes in behaviour that could indicate that their child is at risk of harm online.
- Seeking help and support from the school, or other appropriate agencies, if they or their child encounters online problems or concerns.
- Contributing to the development of the school/setting online safety policies.
- Using school systems, such as learning platforms, and other network resources, safely and appropriately.
- Taking responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.

Online Communication and Safer Use of Technology

Managing the school/setting website

- The school will ensure that information posted on the school website meets the requirements as identified by the Department for Education (DfE).
- The contact details on the website will be the school/setting address, email and telephone number. Staff or pupils' personal information will not be published.
- The School Business Manager will take overall editorial responsibility for online content published and will ensure that information is accurate and appropriate.
- The website will comply with the school's guidelines for publications including accessibility respect for intellectual property rights, privacy policies and copyright.
- The administrator account for the school website will be safeguarded with an appropriately strong password.
- The school will post information about safeguarding, including online safety, on the school website for members of the community.

Publishing images and videos online

- The school will ensure that all images and videos shared online are used in accordance with the school image use policy.
- The school will ensure that all use of images and videos take place in accordance with other policies and procedures.

Managing email

- All members of staff are provided with a specific school email address to use for any official communication.
- The use of personal email addresses by staff for any official school business is not permitted.
- The forwarding of any chain messages/emails etc. is not permitted.
- Any electronic communication which contains any content which could be subject to data protection legislation (e.g. sensitive or personal information) will only be sent using secure and encrypted email.
- Access to school email systems will always take place in accordance to data protection legislation and in line with other appropriate school policies e.g. confidentiality.
- Members of the community must immediately tell a designated member of staff if they receive offensive communication and this will be recorded.
- Whole -class or group email addresses may be used for communication outside of the school.
- Staff will be encouraged to develop an appropriate work life balance when responding to email.
- Email addresses of teachers will not normally be given to parents for the purposes of regular communication with parents.

- 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.
- School email addresses and other official contact details will not be used for setting up personal social media accounts.

Appropriate and safe classroom use of the internet and any associated devices

- Internet use is a key feature of educational access and all children will receive age and ability appropriate education to support and enable them to develop strategies to respond to concerns as part of an embedded whole school curriculum.
- The school internet access will be designed to enhance and extend education.
- Access levels to the internet will be reviewed to reflect the curriculum requirements and the age and ability of pupils.
- All members of staff are aware that they cannot rely on filtering alone to safeguard children and supervision, classroom management and education about safe and responsible use is essential.
- Supervision of pupils will be appropriate to their age and ability.
- At Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils' access to the Internet will be by adult demonstration with occasional directly supervised access to specific and approved online materials which supports the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- 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. Children will be directed to online material and resources which support the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- All school owned devices will be used in accordance with the school Acceptable Use Policy and with appropriate safety and security measure in place.
- Members of staff will always evaluate websites, tools and apps fully before use in the classroom or recommending for use at home.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
- The school will use age appropriate search tools as decided by the school following an informed risk assessment to identify which tool best suits the needs of our community.
- The school will ensure that the use of Internet-derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law and acknowledge the source of information.
- Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.

- The evaluation of online materials is a part of teaching and learning in every subject and will be viewed as a whole-school/setting requirement across the curriculum.
- The school will use the internet to enable pupils and staff to communicate and collaborate in a safe and secure environment.

Social Media Policy

General social media use

- Expectations regarding safe and responsible use of social media will apply to all members of St Mary's School community and exist in order to safeguard both the school and the wider community, on and offline. Examples of social media may include blogs, wikis, social networking sites, forums, bulletin boards, multiplayer online gaming, apps, video/photo sharing sites, chatrooms, instant messenger and many others.
- All members of the school community will be encouraged to engage in social media in a positive, safe and responsible manner at all times.
- Information about safe and responsible use of social media will be communicated clearly and regularly to all members of the school community.
- All members of the school community are advised not to publish specific and detailed private thoughts, concerns, pictures or messages on any social media services, especially content that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory to others.
- The school/setting will control pupil and staff access to social media and social networking sites whilst on site and when using school provided devices and systems.
- The use of social networking applications during school hours for personal use **is not** permitted.
- Any concerns regarding the online conduct of any member of St Mary's School community on social media sites should be reported to the leadership team and will be managed in accordance with policies such as anti-bullying, allegations against staff, behaviour and safeguarding/child protection.
- Any breaches of school policy may result in criminal, disciplinary or civil action being taken and this will depend upon the age of those involved and the circumstances of the wrong committed. Action taken will be in accordance with relevant policies, such as anti-bullying, allegations against staff, behaviour and safeguarding/child protection.

Official use of social media

- St Mary's CE Primary School official social media channel is: Facebook: 'WeAreStMarys'
- Official use of social media sites by the school will only take place with clear educational or community engagement objectives with specific intended outcomes e.g. increasing parental engagement.

- Official use of social media sites as communication tools will be risk assessed and formally approved by the Headteacher.
- Official school social media channels will be set up as distinct and dedicated social media site or account for educational or engagement purposes.
- Staff will use school provided email addresses to register for and manage any official approved social media channels.
- All communication on official social media platforms will be clear, transparent and open to scrutiny.
- Any online publication on official social media sites will comply with legal requirements including the Data Protection Act 1998, right to privacy conferred by the Human Rights Act 1998, or similar duty to protect private information and will not breach any common law duty of confidentiality, copyright etc.
- Official social media use will be in line with existing policies including anti-bullying and child protection.
- Images or videos of children will only be shared on official social media sites/channels in accordance with the image use policy.
- Information about safe and responsible use of social media channels will be communicated clearly and regularly to all members of the community.
- Public communications on behalf of the school will, where possible, be read and agreed by at least one other colleague.
- Official social media channels will link back to the school website to demonstrate that the account is official.
- The school will ensure that any official social media use does not exclude members of the community who are unable or unwilling to use social media channels.

Staff personal use of social media

- The safe and responsible use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites will be discussed with all members of staff as part of staff induction and will be revisited and communicated via regular staff training opportunities.
- Safe and professional behaviour will be outlined for all members of staff (including volunteers) as part of the school/setting Acceptable Use Policy.
- All members of staff are advised not to communicate with or add as 'friends' any current or past pupils or current or past pupils' family members via any personal social media sites, applications or profiles. Any pre-existing relationships or exceptions that may compromise this will be discussed with Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Headteacher.

- All communication between staff and members of the school community on school business will take place via official approved communication channels such as staff emails.
- Staff will not use personal social media accounts to make contact with pupils or parents, nor should any contact be accepted, except in circumstance whereby prior approval has been given by the Headteacher/manager.
- Any communication from pupils/parents received on personal social media accounts will be reported to the schools designated safeguarding lead.
- Information and content that staff members have access to as part of their employment, including photos and personal information about pupils and their family members, colleagues etc. will not be shared or discussed on personal social media sites.
- All members of staff are strongly advised to safeguard themselves and their privacy when using social media sites. This will include being aware of location sharing services, setting the privacy levels of their personal sites as strictly as they can, opting out of public listings on social networking sites, logging out of accounts after use and keeping passwords safe and confidential.
- All members of staff are encouraged to carefully consider the information, including text and images, they share and post online and to ensure that their social media use is compatible with their professional role and is in accordance with schools policies and the wider professional and legal framework.
- Members of staff will notify the Leadership Team immediately if they consider that any content shared or posted via any information and communications technology, including emails or social networking sites conflicts with their role in the school/setting.
- Members of staff are encouraged not to identify themselves as employees of St Mary's CE Primary School on their personal social networking accounts. This is to prevent information on these sites from being linked with the school/setting and also to safeguard the privacy of staff members and the wider community.
- Members of staff will ensure that they do not represent their personal views as that of the school on social media.
- School email addresses will not be used for setting up personal social media accounts.
- Members of staff who follow/like the schools social media channels will be advised to use dedicated professional accounts, where possible, to avoid blurring professional boundaries.

Pupils' use of social media

- Safe and responsible use of social media sites will be outlined for children and their parents as part of the Acceptable Use Policy.
- Pupils will be advised to consider the risks of sharing personal details of any kind on social media sites which may identify them and / or their location. Examples would include real/full

- name, address, mobile or landline phone numbers, school attended, Instant messenger contact details, email addresses, full names of friends/family, specific interests and clubs etc.
- Pupils will be advised not to meet any online friends without a parent/carer or other responsible adult's permission and only when they can be present.
 - Pupils will be advised on appropriate security on social media sites and will be encouraged to use safe and passwords, deny access to unknown individuals and be supported in learning how to block and report unwanted communications.
 - Pupils will be encouraged to approve and invite known friends only on social networking sites and to deny access to others by making profiles private/protected.
 - Parents will be informed of any official social media use with pupils and written parental consent will be obtained, as required.
 - Any official social media activity involving pupils will be moderated by the school where possible.
 - The school is aware that many popular social media sites state that they are not for children under the age of 13, therefore the School will not create accounts within school specifically for children under this age.
 - Any concerns regarding pupils' use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites, both at home and at school, will be dealt with in accordance with existing school policies including anti-bullying and behaviour.
 - Any concerns regarding pupils' use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites, both at home and at school, will be raised with parents/carers, particularly when concerning any underage use of social media sites.

Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

Rationale regarding personal devices and mobile phones

- The widespread ownership of mobile phones and a range of other personal devices among children, young people and adults will require all members of St. Mary's CE Primary School community to take steps to ensure that mobile phones and personal devices are used responsibly.
- St. Mary's CE Primary School recognises that personal communication through mobile technologies is an accepted part of everyday life for children, staff and parents/carers but requires that such technologies need to be used safely and appropriately within schools.

Expectations for safe use of personal devices and mobile phones

- All use of personal devices and mobile phones will take place in accordance with the law and other appropriate school policies.
- Electronic devices of all kinds that are brought in on site are the responsibility of the user at all times. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items.
- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages or content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the community and any breaches will be dealt with as part of the discipline/behaviour policy.
- Members of staff should not use personal mobile phones to make phone calls to parents or children.
- All members of St Mary's CE School community will be advised to take steps to protect their mobile phones or devices from loss, theft or damage.
- All members of the school community will be advised to use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised calls or actions cannot be made on their phones or devices if they are lost or stolen. Passwords and pin numbers should be kept confidential. Mobile phones and personal devices should not be shared.
- All members of the school community will be advised to ensure that their mobile phones and personal devices do not contain any content which may be considered to be offensive, derogatory or would otherwise contravene the school's policies.
- School mobile phones and devices must always be used in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy and any other relevant policies.
- School mobile phones and devices used for communication with parents and pupils must be suitably protected via a passcode/password/pin and must only be accessed and used by members of staff.

Pupil's use of personal devices and mobile phones

- Pupils will be educated regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal devices and mobile phones.
- Pupils should not bring mobile phones and personal devices into school. If it is necessary for a pupil to bring a phone into school it will be kept in a secure place by the class teacher, switched off and kept out of sight.
- If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school/setting phone.
- Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office.
- Pupils will be instructed in safe and appropriate use of mobile phones and personal devices and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.

- If a pupil breaches the school policy then the phone or device will be confiscated and will be held in a secure place in the school office. Mobile phones and devices will be released to parents/carers in accordance with the school policy.
- School staff may confiscate a pupil's mobile phone or device if they believe it is being used to contravene the schools behaviour or bullying policy or could contain youth produced sexual imagery (sexting). The phone or device may be searched by a member of the Leadership team with the consent of the pupil or parent/carer and content may be deleted or requested to be deleted, if appropriate. Searches of mobile phone or personal devices will only be carried out in accordance with the school's policy.
- If there is suspicion that material on a pupil's personal device or mobile phone may be illegal or may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence then the device will be handed over to the police for further investigation.

Staff use of personal devices and mobile phones

- Members of 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. Any pre-existing relationships which could compromise this will be discussed with leaders/managers.
- Staff will not use personal devices such as mobile phones, tablets or cameras to take photos or videos of children and will only use work-provided equipment for this purpose.
- Staff will not use any personal devices directly with children and will only use work-provided equipment during lessons/educational activities.
- Members of staff will ensure that any use of personal phones and devices will always take place in accordance with the law e.g. data protection as well as relevant school policy and procedures e.g. confidentiality, data security, Acceptable Use etc.
- Staff personal mobile phones and devices will be switched off/switched to 'silent' mode during lesson times.
- Bluetooth or other forms of communication should be "hidden" or switched off during lesson times.
- Personal mobile phones or devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been given by a member of the Leadership Team in emergency circumstances.
- Staff will ensure that any content bought on site via mobile phones and personal devices are compatible with their professional role and expectations.
- If a member of staff breaches the school policy then disciplinary action will be taken.

- If a member of staff is thought to have illegal content saved or stored on a mobile phone or personal device or have committed a criminal offence then the police will be contacted.
- Any allegations against members of staff involving personal use of mobile phone or devices will be responded to following the school/settings allegations management policy.

Visitors' use of personal devices and mobile phones

- Parents/carers and visitors must use mobile phones and personal devices in accordance with the school/settings acceptable use policy.
- Use of mobile phones or personal devices by visitors and parents/carers to take photos or videos must take place in accordance with the school image use policy.
- The school will ensure appropriate signage and information is displayed and provided to inform visitors of expectations of use.
- Staff will be expected to challenge concerns when safe and appropriate and will always inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any breaches of use by visitors.

Use of Images Policy

The overriding priority is to ensure that photography does not lead, either directly or indirectly to anything that may potentially endanger the safety of the children at the school.

Privacy

We believe that every child and parent is entitled to their own privacy and can therefore choose not to feature in photographs or videos recorded at the school.

Projecting the right image

Photographs taken at the school should not do anything that may cause embarrassment to the school, the children or the staff.

Sharing children's achievements

It is natural for every parent to want to share their children's activities and achievements at school with their friends and family. The school is keen to allow this as much as possible, while keeping this in balance with the first three principles.

Consent



When a child joins the school, their parent or guardian is asked for consent for the child to appear in photos on the school website or in local media. Parents may withdraw consent at any time, or grant consent if they had previously declined.

School Website

The school endeavours to publish on the school website a selection of photos and videos of school events and general school life. Any material published to the website must be assessed to ensure it meets the following rules:

1. It must not feature any child whose parent or guardian has not given consent.
2. It must not offer any means of identifying a child by name.
3. It must not in any way embarrass the school, children or staff involved.

Photos intended for the school website should be taken by a member of staff or another person authorized by the Headteacher or School Business Manager. These photos and videos must be approved by a member of the SLT prior to publication on the website.

Procedures for parents, carers and governors

Parents/carers are permitted to take photographs and record videos at designated school events as long as they agree to the conditions stated in the parents Acceptable Use Policy and the conditions of the Online Safety Policy.

These events include:

- Musical Events
- Sports Day
- Plays
- Class Assemblies
- PTfA events such as the Summer Fayre and Christmas Fayre.

At these events photos may only be taken at times specified by the Headteacher and any images must not be shared on social media. Photographs are for personal use only and they must not be published on any internet site. Failure to adhere to these conditions may result in the withdrawal of permission to use cameras at future events. Parents are not permitted to take photographs of children in classrooms or

around the school. All visitors to the school including parents must keep their mobile phones in bags or pockets whilst walking around the school.

Online Safety

Reducing online risks

- St Mary's CE Primary School is aware that the Internet is a constantly changing environment with new apps, tools, devices, sites and material emerging at a rapid pace.
- Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the school leadership team will ensure that appropriate risk assessments are carried out before use in school is allowed.
- The school will ensure that appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place to prevent staff and pupils from accessing unsuitable or illegal content.
- 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 always possible to guarantee that access to unsuitable material will never occur via a school computer or device.
- The school will audit technology use to establish if the online safety (e-Safety) policy is adequate and that the implementation of the policy is appropriate.
- Methods to identify, assess and minimise online risks will be reviewed regularly by the schools leadership team.

Internet use throughout the wider school community

- The school will liaise with local organisations to establish a common approach to online safety.
- The school will work with the local community's needs (including recognising cultural backgrounds, languages, religions and ethnicity) to ensure internet use is appropriate.
- The school will provide an Acceptable Use Policy for any guest/visitor who needs to access the school computer system or internet on site

Authorising internet access

- The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to the school's devices and systems.
- All staff, pupils and visitors will read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy before using any school resources.
- Parents will be informed that pupils will be provided with supervised Internet access which is appropriate to their age and ability.

- Parents will be asked to read the Acceptable Use Policy for pupil access and discuss it with their child, where appropriate.
- When considering access for vulnerable members of the 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).

Engagement and education of children and young people

- An online safety curriculum will be established and embedded throughout the whole school, to raise awareness regarding the importance of safe and responsible internet use amongst pupils.
- Education about safe and responsible use will precede internet access.
- Pupils will be supported in reading and understanding the Acceptable Use Policy in a way which suits their age and ability.
- All users will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored.
- Online safety will be included in the PSHE, SRE, Citizenship and Computing programmes of study, covering both safe school and home use.
- Online safety education and training will be included as part of the transition programme across the Key Stages and when moving between establishments.
- Acceptable Use expectations and Posters 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 within all subject areas.
- External support will be used to complement and support the schools internal online safety education approaches.
- The school will reward positive use of technology by pupils.

Engagement and education of children and young people considered to be vulnerable

- St Mary's CE Primary School is aware that some children may be considered to be more vulnerable online due to a range of factors.
- The School will ensure that differentiated and ability appropriate online safety education is given, with input from specialist staff as appropriate eg. PAIL, SENCO.

Engagement and education of staff

- The online safety policy will be formally provided to and discussed with all members of staff as part of induction and will be reinforced and highlighted as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

- Staff will be made aware that our Internet traffic can be monitored and traced to the individual user. Discretion and professional conduct is essential when using school systems and devices.
- 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 in a variety of ways, on a regular (at least annual) basis.
- 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.
- Members of staff with a responsibility for managing filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by the Leadership Team and will have clear procedures for reporting issues or concerns.
- The school will highlight useful online tools which staff should use according to the age and ability of the pupils.

Engagement and education of parents and carers

- St Mary's CE Primary School recognises that parents/carers have an essential role to play in enabling children to become safe and responsible users of the internet and digital technology.
- Parents' attention will be drawn to the school online safety policy and expectations in newsletters, letters, and school prospectus 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 well attended events e.g. parent evenings, transition events, fetes and sports days.
- Parents will be requested to read online safety information as part of the Home School Agreement.
- Parents will be encouraged to read the school Acceptable Use Policy 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.
- Parents will be encouraged to role model positive behaviour for their children online.

Managing Information Systems

Managing personal data online

- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998.
- Full information regarding the schools approach to data protection and information governance can be found in the schools information security policy.

Security and Management of Information Systems

- 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 (such as via portable media storage) will be encrypted or accessed via appropriate secure remote access systems.
- 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 network manager will review system capacity regularly.
- The appropriate use of user logins and passwords to access the school network will be enforced for all but the youngest users.
- All users will be expected to log off or lock their screens/devices if systems are unattended.
- The school will log and record internet use on all school owned devices.

Password policy

- All users will be informed not to share passwords or information with others and not to login as another user at any time.
- Staff and pupils must always keep their password private and must not share it with others or leave it where others can find it.
- All members of staff will have their own unique username and private passwords to access school systems. Members of staff are responsible for keeping their password private.
- We require staff and pupils to use STRONG passwords for access into our system.
- We require staff and pupils to change their passwords regularly.

Filtering and Monitoring

- The governors/proprietors will ensure that the school has age and ability appropriate filtering and monitoring in place whilst using school devices and systems to limit children's exposure to online risks.
- The school's internet access strategy will be dependent on the need and requirements of our community and will therefore be designed to suit the age and curriculum requirements of our pupils, with advice from technical, educational and safeguarding staff.
- All monitoring of school owned/provided systems will take place to safeguard members of the community.
- All users will be informed that use of school systems can be monitored and that all monitoring will be in line with data protection, human rights and privacy legislation.
- The school uses educational filtered secure broadband connectivity which is appropriate to the age and requirement of our pupils.
- The school will have a clear procedure for reporting breaches of filtering which all members of the school community will be made aware of.
- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL will be reported to the School Designated Safeguarding Lead and will then be recorded and escalated as appropriate.
- The School filtering system will block all sites on the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) list.
- Changes to the school filtering policy will be risk assessed by staff with educational and technical experience prior to any changes and where appropriate with consent from the Leadership Team.
- All changes to the school filtering policy will be logged and recorded.
- The Leadership Team will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are effective and appropriate.
- Any material that the school believes is illegal will be reported to appropriate agencies.

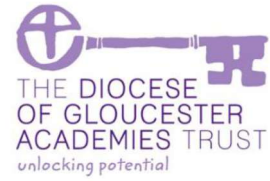
Management of applications (apps) used to record children's progress.

- The Headteacher is ultimately responsible for the security of any data or images held of children.
- Apps/systems which store personal data will be risk assessed prior to use.
- Only school issued devices will be used for apps that record and store children's personal details, attainment or photographs. Personal staff mobile phones or devices will not be used to access or upload content to any apps which record and store children's personal details, attainment or images.
- Devices will be appropriately encrypted if taken off site to prevent a data security breach in the event of loss or theft.

- Users will be advised on safety measures to protect all members of the community such as using strong passwords, logging out of systems etc.
- Parents will be informed of the schools expectations regarding safe and appropriate use (e.g. not sharing passwords or sharing images) prior to being given access.

Responding to Online Incidents and Safeguarding Concerns

- All members of the community will be made aware of the range of online risks that are likely to be encountered including sexting, online/cyber bullying etc. This will be highlighted within staff training and educational approaches for pupils.
- All members of the school community will be informed about the procedure for reporting online safety concerns, such as breaches of filtering, sexting, cyberbullying, illegal content etc.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be informed of any online safety incidents involving child protection concerns, which will then be recorded.
- The DSL will ensure that online safety concerns are escalated and reported to relevant agencies.
- Complaints about Internet misuse will be dealt with under the School's complaints procedure.
- Complaints about online/cyber bullying will be dealt with under the School's anti-bullying policy and procedure
- Any complaint about staff misuse will be referred to the head teacher
- Any allegations against a member of staff's online conduct will be discussed with the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer).
- Pupils, parents and staff will be informed of the schools complaints procedure.
- Staff will be informed of the complaints and whistleblowing procedure.
- All members of the school community will need to be aware of the importance of confidentiality and the need to follow the official school procedures for reporting concerns.
- All members of the school community will be reminded about safe and appropriate behaviour online and the importance of not posting any content, comments, images or videos online which cause harm, distress or offence to any other members of the school community.
- The school will manage online safety incidents in accordance with the school discipline/behaviour policy where appropriate.
- The school will inform parents/carers 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 as 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 Local Authority and/or police.



- 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 the police.
- If the school is unsure how to proceed with any incidents of concern, then the incident will be escalated to the Local Authority.
- Parents and children will need to work in partnership with the school to resolve issues.

Policy Review

The Online Safety Policy shall be reviewed at least every year by the Teaching & Learning Committee, with any recommended changes approved by the full Governing Body.

The next review is due on, or prior to,