



## Red Rose Primary School

### Online Safety Policy Template for Educational Settings

<b>Approved by:</b>	A Brinton - Headteacher V Jowett - Chair of Governors	
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	September 2020	
<b>Next review due:</b>	September 2021- to be reviewed annually by Full Governing Body	

# Red Rose Primary School

## Online–Safety Policy 2020

Modified with grateful permission from Kent County Council

### Why does a School or Setting need an Online Safety Policy?

In today's society, children, young people and adults interact with technologies such as mobile phones, games consoles and the Internet on a daily basis and experience a wide range of opportunities, attitudes and situations. The exchange of ideas, social interaction and learning opportunities involved are greatly beneficial to all, but can occasionally place children, young people and adults in danger.

Online Safety covers issues relating to children and young people as well as adults and their safe use of the Internet, mobile phones and other electronic communications technologies, both in and out of school. It includes education for all members of the school community on risks and responsibilities and is part of the 'duty of care' which applies to everyone working with children.

Schools and other settings must decide on the right balance between controlling access to the internet and technology, setting rules and boundaries and educating students and staff about responsible use. Schools must be aware that children and staff cannot be completely prevented from being exposed to risks both on and offline. Children should be empowered and educated so that they are equipped with the skills to make safe and responsible decisions as well as to feel able to report any concerns. All members of staff need to be aware of the importance of good Online Safety practice in the classroom in order to educate and protect the children in their care. Members of staff also need to be informed about how to manage their own professional reputation online and demonstrate appropriate online behaviours compatible with their role.

Breaches of an Online Safety policy can and have led to civil, disciplinary and criminal action being taken against staff, pupils and members of the wider school community. It is crucial that all settings are aware of the offline consequences that online actions can have.

Schools must be aware of their legal obligations to safeguard and protect children on and offline and the accountability of these decisions will sit with the Head Teacher and the Governing body.

The Online Safety policy is essential in setting out how the school plans to develop and establish its Online Safety approach and to identify core principles which all members of the school community need to be aware of and understand.

Teachers and officers working with child protection officers, multi-agency children's workforce professionals and Kent Police have produced this template to help schools write their own Online Safety policies. The policy template provides a range of statements to make policy review easier and more comprehensive. It should be used to develop the schools Online Safety ethos and whole school approach. This policy template is suitable for all schools and other educational settings (such as Pupil Referral Units, 14-19 settings and Hospital schools etc) and we encourage all establishments to ensure that their Online Safety policy is fit for purpose and individualised for the context of each setting. For simplicity we have used the terms 'school', 'pupils' and 'students' in the document, but wider educational settings are equally relevant.

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- The school has appointed an Online Safety Coordinator.
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- The Online–Safety Policy and its implementation will be reviewed annually.
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- Our Online–Safety Policy has been written by the school, building on the DCC Online–Safety Policy and government guidance.
- 
- Our School Policy has been agreed by the Senior Leadership Team and approved by governors.
- 
- Our school has formed an Online Safety committee as part of the senior leadership team.
- 
- The School has appointed a member of the Governing Body to take lead responsibility for Online Safety.
  
- The School Online Safety Coordinators is Mr D Ross
  
- Policy approved by Head Teacher: Mrs A Brinton
  
- Policy approved by Governing Body: Mr V Jowett (Chair of Governors)

## 1.2 Teaching and learning

- 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 students 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 students who show a responsible and mature approach to its use.

### 1.2.2 How does Internet use benefit education?

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 DCC and DfE;
- access to learning wherever and whenever convenient.

### 1.2.3 How can Internet use enhance learning?

- The school's Internet access will be designed to enhance and extend education.
- Pupils will be taught what Internet use is acceptable and what is not and given clear objectives for Internet use.
- The schools will ensure that the copying and subsequent use of Internet-derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law.
- Access levels to the internet will be reviewed to reflect the curriculum requirements and the age and ability of pupils.
- Staff should guide pupils to online activities that will support the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
- Pupils will be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using Internet material in their own work.

### 1.2.4 How will pupils learn how to evaluate Internet content?

The following statements require adaptation according to the pupils' age:

- Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- Pupils will be taught to use search engines appropriately for their age.
- The evaluation of online materials is a part of teaching and learning in every subject and will be viewed as a whole-school requirement across the curriculum.

## 1.3 Managing Information Systems

- The security of the school information systems and users will be reviewed regularly.
- Virus protection will be updated regularly.
- The school will comply with the terms of the data protection act, and is responsible for registering with the information commissioner's office . <https://ico.org.uk/> advice is available from <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/education/>
- Personal data sent over the Internet or taken off site will be encrypted.
- Portable media may not 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.
- The use of user logins and passwords to access the school network will be used - both in the network logins and also the Google Environment.

### 1.3.2 How will email be managed?

- Pupils may only use approved email accounts for school purposes. The emails are managed through the Google Environment.
- Pupils must immediately tell a designated member of staff if they receive offensive email.
- Pupils must not reveal personal details of themselves or others in email communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission from an adult.
- Staff will only use official school provided email accounts to communicate with pupils and parents/carers, 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.
- We have a dedicated online form for Online safety concerns on our website. This form sends an email to [support@redroseprimaryschool.com](mailto:support@redroseprimaryschool.com). This inbox will be managed by designated and trained staff.
- Staff should not use personal email accounts during school hours or for professional purposes.

### **1.3.3 How will published content be managed?**

- The contact details on the website should be the school address, email and telephone number. Staff or pupils' personal information must not be 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 policies and copyright.

### **1.3.4 Can pupils' images or work be published?**

- Images or videos that include pupils will be selected carefully and will not provide material that could be reused.
- Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on the website, particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before images/videos of pupils are electronically published.
- Pupils' work can only be published with their permission or the parents.
- Written consent will be kept by the school where pupils' images are used for publicity purposes, until the image is no longer in use.
- The School will have a policy regarding the use of photographic images of children which outlines policies and procedures.

### **1.3.5 How will social networking, social media and personal publishing be managed?**

- 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 students 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.
- Staff official blogs, wikis or Twitter feeds should be password protected and run from the school website with approval from the Senior Leadership Team. Members of staff are advised not to run social network spaces for pupil use on a personal basis.
- Personal publishing will be taught via age appropriate sites that are suitable for educational purposes. They will be moderated by the school where possible.
- 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. Pupil will be encouraged to approve and invite known friends only on social networking sites and to deny access to others by making profiles private.
- All members of the school community are advised not to publish specific and detailed private thoughts, especially those that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory.
- Newsgroups will be blocked unless a specific use is approved.

- Concerns regarding students' use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites (in or out of school) will be raised with their parents/carers, particularly when concerning students' 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 safe and professional behaviour will be outlined in the school Acceptable Use Policy.

### **1.3.6 How will filtering be managed?**

Internet filtering must be suitable 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.

Schools installing or managing their own filtering systems and policies must be aware of the responsibility and demand on management time. Thousands of inappropriate sites are created each day and many change URLs to confuse filtering systems. It is the Senior Leadership Team's responsibility to ensure appropriate procedures are in place and all members of staff are suitably trained to supervise Internet access. The filtering system is currently Smoothwall and will be used with the support of ITS.

It is important that schools 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 Policies 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 DCC.

Any material that the school believes is illegal must be reported to appropriate agencies such as IWF, Durham Police or CEOP (see Online Safety contacts and references).

Websites which schools believe should be blocked centrally should be reported to the ICT Service Desk. Teachers should always evaluate any websites/search engines before using them with their students; 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.

Most Durham schools have three possible models for changing the default filtering settings:-

1. Authorised only by the head teacher by contacting the ICT Service desk with their PIN number
2. Other staff can be delegated permission to change the filtering by contacting the service desk with a PIN number
3. Access can be changed directly by authorised people within the school by connecting to a website.

In all cases it is important to establish a protocol for establishing the responsibility for checking a site which needs changes to the filtering.

- If a contentious website is requested (e.g. youtube) it will be discussed by the Online Safety committee.
- For other sites the responsibility for checking the suitability of the site rests with the teacher requesting access.
- The use of YouTube is unblocked for staff use only. Staff should be mindful that videos can change so they should be checked before viewing and also they should be aware of the 'suggested' videos that might not be appropriate.
  
- The school's broadband access will include filtering.
- The school will have system in place to make changes to the filter, including deciding who is responsible for authorising changes.
- The school will work with DCC to review filtering
- 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 (Smoothwall) 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 Senior Leadership Team.
- 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, Durham Police or CEOP
- 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.

### **1.3.7 How will videoconferencing be managed?**

Videoconferencing enables users to see and hear each other between different locations. This 'real time' interactive technology has many uses in education.

Equipment ranges from small PC systems (web cameras) to large room-based systems that can be used for whole classes or lectures. Systems include complex standalone equipment and software based systems such as Skype, Google Meet, Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

- All videoconferencing equipment in the classroom must be switched off when not in use and not set to auto answer.
- Videoconferencing contact information will not be put on the school Website.
- The equipment must be secure and if necessary locked away when not in use.
- School videoconferencing equipment will not be taken off school premises without permission.
- Responsibility for the use of the videoconferencing equipment outside school time will be established with care.

#### **Users:**

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- Pupils will ask permission from a teacher before making or answering a videoconference call.
- Videoconferencing will be supervised appropriately for the pupils' age and ability.
- Parents and carers consent should be obtained prior to children taking part in videoconferences.
- Only key administrators should be given access to videoconferencing administration areas or remote control pages.
- Unique log on and password details for the educational videoconferencing services should only be issued to members of staff and kept secure.

**Content:**

- When recording a videoconference lesson, written permission should be given by all sites and participants. The reason for the recording must be given and the recording of videoconference should be clear to all parties at the start of the conference. Recorded material shall be stored securely.
- Videoconferencing is a challenging activity with a wide range of learning benefits. Preparation and evaluation are essential to the whole activity.
- If third party materials are to be included, check that recording is acceptable to avoid infringing the third party intellectual property rights.
- Establish dialogue with other conference participants before taking part in a videoconference. If it is a non school site it is important to check that they are delivering material that is appropriate for your class.

### **1.3.8 How are emerging technologies managed?**

Many emerging communications technologies offer the potential to develop new teaching and learning tools, including mobile communications, Internet access, collaboration and multimedia tools. A risk assessment needs to be undertaken on each new technology for effective and safe practice in classroom use to be developed. The safest approach is to deny access until a risk assessment has been completed and safety has been established.

Virtual online classrooms and communities widen the geographical boundaries of learning. Approaches such as mentoring, online learning and parental access are becoming embedded within school systems. Online communities can also be one way of encouraging a disaffected pupil to keep in touch.

The safety and effectiveness of virtual communities depends on users being trusted and identifiable. This may not be easy, as authentication beyond the school may be difficult as demonstrated by social networking sites and other online tools such as Facebook, YouTube, Skype and Twitter. The registering of individuals to establish and maintain validated electronic identities is essential for safe communication, but is often not possible.

Video conferencing introduces new dimensions; webcams are increasingly inexpensive and, with faster Internet access, enable video to be exchanged across the Internet. The availability of live video can sometimes increase safety - you can see who you are talking to - but if inappropriately used, a video link could reveal security details.

New applications are continually being developed based on the Internet, the mobile phone network, wireless, Bluetooth or infrared connections. Users can be mobile using a phone, games console or personal digital assistant with wireless Internet access. This can offer immense opportunities for learning as well as dangers such as a pupil using a phone to video a teacher's reaction in a difficult situation.

Schools should keep up to date with new technologies, including those relating to mobile phones and handheld devices, and be ready to develop appropriate strategies. For instance text messaging via mobile phones is a frequent activity for many pupils and families; this could be used to communicate a pupil's absence or send reminders for exam coursework. There are dangers for staff however if personal phones are used to contact pupils and therefore a school owned phone should be issued.

The inclusion of inappropriate language or images is difficult for staff to detect. Pupils may need reminding that such use is inappropriate and conflicts with school policy. Abusive messages should be dealt with under the school's behaviour and/or anti-bullying policies.

- 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 or Mobile Phone Policy.

### **1.3.9 How should personal data be protected?**

The quantity and variety of data held on pupils, families and on staff is expanding quickly. While this data can be very useful in improving services, data could be mishandled, stolen or misused.

The Data Protection Act 1998 ("the Act") gives individuals the right to know what information is held about them and provides a framework to ensure that personal information is handled properly. It promotes openness in the use of personal information.

Under the Act every organisation that processes personal information (personal data) must notify the Information Commissioner's Office, unless they are exempt.

The Data Protection Act 1998 applies to anyone who handles or has access to information concerning individuals. Everyone in the workplace has a legal duty to protect the privacy of information relating to individuals. The Act sets standards (eight data protection principles), which must be satisfied when processing personal data (information that will identify a living individual). The Act also gives rights to the people the information is about i.e. subject access rights let individuals find out what information is held about them. The eight principles are that personal data must be:

- Processed fairly and lawfully
- Processed for specified purposes
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Accurate and up-to-date
- Held no longer than is necessary
- Processed in line with individual's rights
- Kept secure
- Transferred only to other countries with suitable security measures.

Schools will already have information about their obligations under the Act, and this section is a reminder that all data from which people can be identified is protected.

For advice and guidance relating to a contravention of the Act, contact Paul Hodgkinson:

[paul.hodgkinson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:paul.hodgkinson@durham.gov.uk)

Information Commissioner's Office: <http://ico.org.uk/>

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- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998.

## **1.4 Policy Decisions**

### **1.4.1 How will Internet access be authorised?**

- 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 Information Systems Code of Conduct' or School Acceptable Use Policy before using any school ICT resources.
- Parents will be asked to read the School Acceptable Use Policy for pupil access and discuss it with their child, where appropriate.
- All visitor to the school site who require access to the schools network or internet access will be asked to read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy.
- 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).

### **According to Setting Type**

- At Key Stage 1 pupils' access to the Internet will be by adult demonstration with occasional directly supervised access to specific and approved online materials.
- 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.

### **1.4.2 How will risks be assessed?**

- 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 KCC 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 is adequate and that the implementation of the Online–Safety policy is appropriate.
- 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 Kent Police.
- Methods to identify, assess and minimise risks will be reviewed regularly.

### **1.4.3 How will the school respond to any incidents of concern?**

Internet technologies and electronic communications provide children and young people with exciting opportunities to broaden their learning experiences and develop creativity in and out of school. However it is also important to consider the risks associated with the way these technologies can be used. An Online Safety

Policy should recognise and seek to develop the skills that children and young people need when communicating and using technologies enabling them to keep safe and secure and act with respect for others.

Online Safety risks can be experienced unintentionally or deliberately by people acting inappropriately or even illegally. Any potential concerns must be dealt with at a personal level. Teachers are the first line of defence; their observation of behaviour is essential in recognising concerns about pupils and in developing trust so that issues are reported.

Staff should also help develop a safe culture by observing each other's behaviour online and discussing together any potential concerns. Incidents of concern may include unconsidered jokes and comments or inappropriate actions. Any illegal activity would need to be reported to the school Designated Child Protection Coordinator.

Incidents should be reported and logged. These will be logged as an Online Safety incident via CPOMS.

Where there is cause for concern or fear that illegal activity has taken place or is taking place involving the use of computer equipment, schools should determine the level of response necessary for the offence disclosed. The decision to involve Police should be made as soon as possible, after contacting the Children Safeguard Team or Online Safety officer, if the offence is deemed to be out of the remit of the school to deal with.

- 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 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 Child Protection Coordinator will be informed of any Online Safety incidents involving Child Protection concerns, which will then be escalated appropriately.
- 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 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 Children's Safeguard Team or Online Safety officer 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 Area Children's Officer or the County Online Safety Officer.
- If an incident of concern needs to be passed beyond the school then the concern will be escalated to the Online Safety officer to communicate to other school in Durham.

#### **1.4.4 How will Online–Safety complaints be handled?**

- Complaints about Internet misuse will be dealt with under the School's complaints procedure.
- Any complaint about staff misuse will be referred to the head teacher.
- All e–Safety complaints and incidents will be recorded by the school, including any actions taken.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure.
- Parents and pupils will need to work in partnership with the school to resolve issues.
- 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.

- Discussions will be held with the local Police Safer Schools Partnership Coordinators and/or Children's Safeguard Team to establish procedures for handling potentially illegal issues.
- Any issues (including sanctions) will be dealt with according to the school's disciplinary, behaviour and child protection procedures.
- 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.

#### **1.4.5 How is the Internet used across the community?**

- The school will liaise with local organisations to establish a common approach to e-Safety.
- The school will be sensitive to Internet-related issues experienced by pupils out of school, e.g. social networking sites, and offer appropriate advice.
- The school will provide appropriate levels of supervision for students who use the internet and technology whilst on the school site.
- The school will provide an AUP for any guest who needs to access the school computer system or internet on site.

#### **1.4.6 How will Cyberbullying be managed?**

Cyberbullying can be defined as "The use of Information Communication Technology, particularly mobile phones and the internet to deliberately hurt or upset someone" DCSF 2007

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 mobiles 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 and carers 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 a number of statutory obligations on schools with regard 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 headteachers 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 should 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.

For more information please read “Preventing and Tackling Bullying: Advice for School Leaders, Staff and Governing Bodies”

<http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/advice/f0076899/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

DfE and Childnet have produced resources and guidance that can be used to give practical advice and guidance on cyberbullying: <http://www.digizen.org/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 school’s policy on anti-bullying and behaviour.
- 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/carers 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/carers 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 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 to the schools anti-bullying, behaviour policy or Acceptable Use Policy.
  - Parent/carers of pupils will be informed.
  - The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.

#### **1.4.7 How will Learning Environment be managed?**

An effective learning environment can offer schools a wide range of benefits to teachers, pupils and parents, as well as support for management and administration. It can enable pupils and teachers to collaborate in and across schools, sharing resources and tools for a range of topics. It enables the creation and management of digital content and pupils can develop online and secure e-portfolios to showcase examples of work. The Learning Environment in Red Rose Primary School is Google Education. This is being used for working in school, setting of homework and running ‘Home Learning’ in times when pupils, classes or school are being self isolated.

The Learning Environment (LE) must be used subject to careful monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). As usage grows throughout the school then more issues could arise regarding content, inappropriate use and behaviour online by users. The SLT has a duty to annually review and update the policy regarding the use of the Learning Environment, and all users must be informed of any changes made.

- SLT and staff will regularly monitor the usage of the LE by pupils and staff in all areas, in particular message and communication tools and publishing facilities.

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- Pupils/staff will be advised about acceptable conduct and use when using the LE.
- Only members of the current pupil, parent/carers and staff community will have access to the LE.
- All users will be mindful of copyright issues and will only upload appropriate content onto the LE.
- When staff, pupils etc leave the school their account or rights to specific school areas will be disabled or transferred to their new establishment.
  - Any concerns about content on the LE may be recorded and dealt with in the following ways:
    - The user will be asked to remove any material deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.
    - The material will be removed by the site administrator if the user does not comply.
    - Access to the LE for the user may be suspended.
    - The user will need to discuss the issues with a member of SLT before reinstatement.
    - A pupil's parent/carer may be informed.
    - A visitor may be invited onto the LE by a member of the SLT. In this instance there may be an agreed focus or a limited time slot.
- Pupils may require editorial approval from a member of staff. This may be given to the pupil to fulfil a specific aim and may have a limited time frame.

#### **1.4.8 How will mobile phones and personal devices be managed?**

Mobile phones and other personal devices such as Games Consoles, Tablets, PDAs and MP3 Players etc. are considered to be an everyday item in today's society and even children in early years settings may own and use personal devices to get online regularly. Mobile phones and other internet enabled personal devices can be used to communicate in a variety of ways with texting, camera phones and internet accesses all common features.

However, mobile phones can present a number of problems when not used appropriately:

- They are valuable items which may be stolen or damaged;
- Their use can render pupils or staff subject to cyberbullying;
- Internet access on phones and personal devices can allow pupils to bypass school security settings and filtering.
- They can undermine classroom discipline as they can be used on "silent" mode;
- Mobile phones with integrated cameras could lead to child protection, bullying and data protection issues with regard to inappropriate capture, use or distribution of images of pupils or staff.

A policy which prohibits pupils from taking mobile phones to school could be considered to be unreasonable and unrealistic for schools to achieve. Many parents/carers would also be concerned for health and safety reasons if their child were not allowed to carry a phone and many staff also use mobile phones to stay in touch with family.

Due to the widespread use of personal devices it is essential that schools take steps to ensure mobile phones and devices are used responsibly at school and it is essential that pupil use of mobile phones does not impede teaching, learning and good order in classrooms. Staff should be given clear boundaries on professional use.

The use of mobile phones and personal devices is a school decision, however the following points have been provided to support schools in creating effective policies.

- The use of mobile phones and other personal devices by students and staff in school will be decided by the school and covered in the school Acceptable Use or Mobile Phone Policies.

- 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.
- School staff may confiscate a phone or device if they believe it is being used to contravene the schools behaviour or bullying policy. The phone or device might be searched by the Senior Leadership team with the consent of the pupil or parent/carer. If there is suspicion that the material on the mobile may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence the phone will be handed over to the police for further investigation.
- Mobile phones and personal devices will not be used during lessons or formal school time. They should be switched off at all times.
- Mobile phones will not be used during lessons or formal school time unless as part of an approved and directed curriculum based activity with consent from a member of staff.
- The Bluetooth function of a mobile phone should be switched off at all times and not be used to send images or files to other mobile phones.
- Electronic devices of all kinds that are brought in to school are the responsibility of the user. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items. Nor will the school accept responsibility for any adverse health effects caused by any such devices either potential or actual.
- Mobile phones and personal devices are not permitted to be used in certain areas within the school site such as changing rooms, toilets and swimming pools.

#### **Pupils Use of Personal Devices**

- 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.
- Phones and devices must not be taken into examinations. Pupils found in possession of a mobile phone during an exam will be reported to the appropriate examining body. This may result in the student's withdrawal from either that examination or all examinations.
- If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school phone. Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office.
- Students should protect their phone numbers by only giving them to trusted friends and family members. Students will be instructed in safe and appropriate use of mobile phones and personal devices and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.
- Pupils need to store any mobile phones in the office during the school day.

#### **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/carers is required.
- Mobile Phone and devices will be switched off or switched to 'silent' mode, Bluetooth communication should be "hidden" or switched off and mobile phones or devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been given by a member of Senior Leadership Team in emergency circumstances.
- If members of staff have an educational reason to allow children to use mobile phones or personal device as part of an educational activity then it will only take place when approved by the Senior Leadership Team.
- 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.
- If a member of staff breaches the school policy then disciplinary action may be taken.

## 1.5 Communication Policy

### 1.5.1 How will the policy be introduced to pupils?

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

KCC has produced posters covering e–Safety rules which are available to display in every room with a computer to remind pupils of the e–Safety rules at the point of use.

The pupil and parent agreement form should include a copy of the school e–Safety rules appropriate to the age of the pupil.

Consideration must be given as to the curriculum place for teaching e–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 e–Safety programmes include:

- Think U Know: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
  - SW Grid for Learning: <https://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/resources/digital-literacy/>
  - Childnet: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)
  - Kidsmart: [www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk)
  - Orange Education: [www.orange.co.uk/education](http://www.orange.co.uk/education)
  - Safe: [www.safesocialnetworking.org](http://www.safesocialnetworking.org)
- 
- 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. This carried out in the first week of each half term and through Internet Safety day activities.
  - 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 training will be part of the transition programme across the Key Stages and when moving between establishments.
  - Online Safety rules or copies of the student Acceptable Use Policy 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.

### 1.5.2 How will the policy be discussed with staff?

It is important that all staff feel confident to use new technologies in teaching and the School Online–Safety Policy will only be effective if all staff subscribe to its values and methods.

Staff should be given opportunities to discuss the issues and develop appropriate teaching strategies. It would be unreasonable, for instance, if cover or supply staff were asked to take charge of an Internet activity without preparation.

Particular consideration must be given when members of staff are provided with devices by the school which may be accessed outside of the school network. Schools must be clear about the safe and appropriate uses of their school provided equipment and have rules in place about use of the equipment by third parties. Staff must be made aware of their responsibility to maintain confidentiality of school information.

ICT use is widespread and all staff including administration, midday supervisors, caretakers, governors and volunteers should be included in awareness raising and training. Induction of new staff should include a discussion about the school Online–Safety Policy.

- The Online–Safety Policy will be formally provided to and discussed with all members of staff.
- To protect all staff and pupils, the school will implement Acceptable Use Policies.
- 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.

### **1.5.3 How will parents' support be enlisted?**

Internet use in pupils' homes is increasing rapidly, encouraged by low cost access and developments in mobile technology. Unless parents are aware of the dangers, pupils may have unrestricted and unsupervised access to the Internet in the home. The school may be able to help parents plan appropriate, supervised use of the Internet at home and educate them about the risks. Parents should also be advised to check whether their child's use elsewhere in the community is covered by an appropriate use policy.

One strategy is to help parents to understand more about ICT , perhaps by running courses and parent awareness sessions (although the resource implications will need to be considered).

- Parents' attention will be drawn to the school Online–Safety Policy in newsletters, the 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 e–Safety at other attended events e.g. parent evenings and sports days.
- Parents will be requested to sign an Online–Safety/Internet agreement as part of the Home School Agreement.
- Parents will be encouraged to read the school Acceptable Use Policy for pupils and discuss it's implications with their children.

## Red Rose Primary School

- Information and guidance for parents on e–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 Contacts and References section”.

Appendix: Further Details on Using Home Learning

### Online safety in Red Rose Primary School - particularly in the situation of Remote Learning.

It will be more important than ever that we, at Red Rose Primary School, provide a safe environment, including online. We will continue to ensure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place to protect children when they are online on the school’s IT systems or recommended resources. We will endeavour to support all families in setting up and accessing the Google Classroom to allow the efficient flow of work, feedback and communications between school, pupils and parents. This will be supported through training and support from staff within the school between each other and also to parents and pupils.

For more information on this:

The [UK Council for Internet Safety provides information to help governing boards and proprietors assure themselves](#) that any new arrangements continue to effectively safeguard children online.

The [UK Safer Internet Centre’s professional online safety helpline](#) also provides support for the children’s workforce with any online safety issues they face. Local authorities may also be able to provide support.

### Children and online safety away from school and college

We will do all that we reasonably can to keep all of our children safe. Under the present circumstances, the majority of children will not be physically attending Red Rose Primary School. We will continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns should be dealt with as per the child protection policy and where appropriate referrals should still be made to children’s social care and as required, the police.

The Department for Education is providing separate guidance on providing education remotely. It will set out 4 key areas that leaders should consider as part of any remote learning strategy. This includes the use of technology. Recently published [guidance from the UK Safer Internet Centre on safe remote learning](#) and from the [London Grid for Learning on the use of videos and livestreaming](#) could help plan online lessons and/or activities and plan them safely.

We will consider the safety of our pupils when they are asked to work online. The starting point for online teaching should be that the same principles as set out in our staff behaviour policy. This policy should amongst other things include acceptable use of technologies, staff pupil/student relationships and communication including the use of social media.

As we have already had our Google Classroom environment established, we are working in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements.

As our normal working practice policy, we encourage pupils to report any incident, concern or worry to us via the ‘Report a Concern’ button on the Online Safety page of our school website. Other places that staff, pupils and parents can find support are:

**Aim High Be Proud**

*Respect Excellence Determination Responsibility Opportunity Support for Others Equality*

[www.redroseprimaryschool.com](http://www.redroseprimaryschool.com)

## Red Rose Primary School

- [Childline](#) - for support
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content
- [CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse

We will be in regular contact with parents and carers. Any communications will be used to reinforce the importance of children being safe online. It will be especially important for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and be clear who from the school or college (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online.

Parents and carers may choose to supplement the activities with support from online companies and in some cases individual tutors. We support this but we do emphasise the importance of securing online support from a reputable organisation/individual who can provide evidence that they are safe and can be trusted to have access to children. Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

- [Internet matters](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [London Grid for Learning](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Net-aware](#) - for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC
- [Parent info](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- [Thinkuknow](#) - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - advice for parents and carers

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[www.redroseprimaryschool.com](http://www.redroseprimaryschool.com)

**Online Safety Contacts and References**

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre): [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

Childline: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

Childnet: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

Click Clever Click Safe Campaign: <http://clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk>

Cybermentors: [www.cybermentors.org.uk](http://www.cybermentors.org.uk)

Digizen: [www.digizen.org.uk](http://www.digizen.org.uk)

Durham EDS – Online Safety, Teaching and learning advice Tel: 0191 3834370

Durham Safeguarding Children Board (DLSCB): [www.durham-lscb.gov.uk](http://www.durham-lscb.gov.uk)

ICT Service Desk – Changes to filtering Tel: 03000 261100

Internet Watch Foundation (IWF): [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk)

Kent e–Safety in Schools Guidance: [www.kenttrustweb.org.uk?esafety](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk?esafety)

Kidsmart: [www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk)

Schools e–Safety Blog: [www.kenttrustweb.org.uk?esafetyblog](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk?esafetyblog)

Teach Today: <http://en.teachtoday.eu>

Think U Know website: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Virtual Global Taskforce – Report Abuse: [www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com](http://www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com)

**Schools and Settings e–Safety Policy Template 2015 Disclaimer**

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Schools and Settings e–Safety Policy Template 2015