



Booth Wood Primary School

Online Safety Policy

Online Safety Policy Revised by Lewis Sharp September 2023

Signed _____ (Chair of Curriculum Committee)

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years unless changes are required sooner

New technologies inspire children to be creative, communicate and learn. However, while the internet is a great resource, it is important that children and young people are protected from the risks they may encounter. Booth Wood Primary School endeavours to highlight benefits and risks of using technology and provide Safeguarding and education for users to enable them to control their online experience.

Links to other policies and national guidance

The following school policies and procedures should also be referred to:

- Safeguarding policy
- Whistleblowing policy
- Behaviour policy
- Acceptable use policy
- Remote learning policy
- Staff code of conduct
- Data protection

The following local/national guidance should also be read in conjunction with this policy:

- Prevent Strategy, HM Government
- Keeping Children Safe in Education, DfE September 2020
- Teaching Online Safety in Schools, DfE 2019
- Working Together to Safeguard Children, HM Government

Learning and Teaching

We believe that the key to developing safe and responsible behaviours online, not only for pupils but for everyone within our school community, lies in effective education. We know that the internet and other technologies are embedded in our pupils' lives, not just in our school but outside of it as well, and we believe we have a duty to help prepare our pupils to safely benefit from the opportunities the internet brings.

- We will provide a curriculum which has E-Safety related lessons embedded throughout subjects (Jigsaw, Risings Stars)
- We will celebrate and promote E-Safety through a planned programme of assemblies and whole-school activities, including Safer Internet Day, to ensure E-Safety is well embedded
- We will discuss, remind and raise relevant E-Safety messages with pupils routinely and when suitable opportunities arise during lessons; including the need to protect personal information, consider the consequences their actions may have on others, the need to check the accuracy and validity of information they use and to respect and acknowledge ownership of digital materials
- Any internet use will be carefully planned to ensure that it is age appropriate and supports the learning objective for specific curriculum areas
- Pupils will be taught how to use a range of age-appropriate online tools in a safe and effective way

- We will remind pupils about their responsibilities through our Acceptable Use Policy which every pupil will sign
- School will model safe and responsible behaviour when using their own technology during lessons
- We will teach pupils how to search for information and to evaluate the content of websites for accuracy when using them in any curriculum area
- When searching the internet for information, pupils will be guided to use age appropriate search engines. All use will be monitored and pupils will be reminded of what to do if they come across unsuitable content
- Pupils will be taught about the impact of online bullying and how to seek help if they are affected by any form of bullying
- Pupils will be made aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies; i.e. parent or carer, teacher or trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Childline or the CEOP report abuse button

Remote/Home Learning

All home learning must follow and adhere to the home learning policy.

- We will endeavour to ensure that pupils continue to receive a high quality of education beyond the classroom but providing a range of resources via Showbie and our website
- We expect pupils to follow the same principles, as outlined in the school's Acceptable Use Policy, whilst learning at home
- If we communicate with pupils over the coming weeks/months via Showbie, Zoom, Teams etc then it is important that this is only carried out with the approval of the Headteacher. Pupils must uphold the same level of behavioural expectations as they would in a normal classroom setting
- Any significant behavioural issues occurring on any virtual platform must be recorded, reported and appropriate sanction imposed, which may include temporarily suspending access to group online learning. For all minor behavioural incidents these should be addressed using the normal restorative approaches
- Staff should be mindful that when dealing with any behavioural incidents online, opportunities to discuss and repair harm will not be the same as if the child or young person was in school. Therefore, it may be necessary to have a discussion with the parents, regardless of how minor the incident, to ensure the child is emotionally well supported

General Note for Incident in School or Online

- At every stage the child should be involved in or informed of the action taken
- Urgent or serious incidents should be referred straight to the Headteacher
- If necessary, refer to the other related internal policies, e.g. Anti-Bullying, Child Protection, E-Safety etc.
- Normal recording systems for concerns should continue. Entries should be factual and action/follow up recorded also

Staff Training

Our staff receive regular information and training on E-Safety issues, as well as updates when new issues arise.

- As part of the induction process all staff receive information and guidance on the E-Safety Policy, the Acceptable Use Policy, E-Security and reporting procedures
- All staff will be made aware of individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of E-Safety and know what to do in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community
- All staff will be encouraged to incorporate E-Safety activities and awareness within their curriculum areas

Managing ICT Systems and Access

- The school will agree on which users should and should not have internet access and the appropriate level of access and supervision they should receive
- All users will sign an Acceptable Use Policy provided by the school, appropriate to their age and type of access. Users will be made aware that they must take responsibility for their use and behaviour while using the school ICT system or iPad and that such activity will be monitored and checked
- At Key Stage 1 and 2, pupils will access the network using an individual username and a class password on Showbie which the teacher supervises
- All internet access will be undertaken alongside a member of staff or, if working independently, a member of staff will supervise at all times
- Members of staff will access the internet using an individual ID and passcode for their iPad or MacBook that will be kept secure. They will ensure that they log this out after each session and not allow pupils to access the internet through their devices. They will abide by the school's Acceptable Use Policy at all times

Managing Filtering

The school uses Smoothwall filtering to ensure that pupils and staff are safe and able to use the internet with the lowest risk of seeing inappropriate content. This filtering system allows the Computing Coordinator to ban specific phrases and websites

- The school has a clearly defined procedure for reporting breaches of filtering. All staff and pupils are aware of this procedure by reading and signing the Acceptable Use Policy and by attending the appropriate training or online safety lessons
- The school has a procedure in place, which ensures children are safe within school when using the internet. Any concerns are 'flagged' and reported to the IT technician and headteacher. This can then be investigated to ensure the child's well-being is at its best. For example, if a search relates to suicide, this will notify the above mentioned leads and it will be investigated.
- If staff or pupils discover an unsuitable site, it must be reported to the Computing Coordinator immediately
- If users discover a website with potentially illegal content, this should be reported to the Computing coordinator immediately. The school will then report such incidents to appropriate agencies including the Internet Service Provider (ISP), Police, CEOP or the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

- Any amendments to the school filtering policy or black and allow lists will be checked and assessed by the Headteacher and Computing Coordinator prior to being released or blocked
- The evaluation of online content materials is a part of teaching and learning in every subject and will be viewed as a whole school requirement across the curriculum

Email

- Staff and pupils should only use approved email accounts allocated to them by the school and should be aware that any use of the school email system will be monitored and checked
- Staff should not use personal email accounts for professional purposes, especially to exchange any school related information or documents or to email parents/carers
- Staff should not send emails to pupils
- Pupils are encouraged to immediately tell a teacher or trusted adult if they receive any inappropriate or offensive email or content
- Irrespectively of how staff access their school email, from home or within school, school policies still apply
- Chain messages are not permitted to be forwarded on to other school owned email addresses

Social Networking

- Staff will not post content or participate in any conversation which will be detrimental to the image of the school. Staff who hold an account should not have parents or pupils as their 'friends'. Doing so will result in disciplinary action or dismissal
- School blogs or social media sites should be password protected and run from the school website with approval from the Headteacher

Pupils Publishing Content Online

- Pupils will not be allowed to post or create content on sites unless the site has been approved by a member of the teaching staff
- Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on the website, particularly in association with photographs and videos
- Written permission is obtained from the parents/carers before photographs and videos are published
- Any images, videos or sound clips of pupils must be stored on the school network and never transferred to personally owned equipment
- Pupils and staff are not permitted to use portable devices to store images, video or sound clips of pupils

Mobile Phones and Devices

General use of Personal Devices

- Mobile phones and personally owned devices will not be used in any way during lessons or school time. They should be switched off or on silent at all times
- No images or videos will be taken on mobile phones or personally owned devices
- In the case of school productions, Parents/Carers are given the option to purchase a recording of the show and throughout the performance they must follow school protocols which strongly advise against the publication of photographs and videos on social networking sites

- The sending of abusive or inappropriate text, picture or video message is forbidden

Pupils' use of Personal Devices

- Pupils who do not follow the school policy relating to the use of mobile phones will not be permitted to bring their mobile phone into school

Notes Regarding Screening, Searching and Confiscation

The Education Act 2011 allows staff to lawfully search electronic devices, without consent or parental permission, if there is a suspicion that the pupil has a device prohibited by school rules, or the staff member has a good reason to suspect the device may be used to:

- Cause harm
- Disrupt teaching
- Break school rules
- Commit an offense
- Cause personal injury or damage to property

Staff Use of Personal Devices

- Staff are not permitted to use their own mobile phones or devices for contacting children or their families within or outside of the setting in a professional capacity
- Staff will not use personal devices such as mobile phones or cameras to take photos or videos of pupils and will only use equipment provided by school for this purpose
- If a member of staff breaches the school policy then disciplinary action may be taken
- Mobile phones and personally owned devices will be switched off or switched to silent mode and bluetooth communication should be hidden or switch off. Mobile phones or devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been granted by a member of the senior leadership team or Headteacher in emergency circumstances

CCTV

- The school may use CCTV in some areas of school property as a security measure
- Cameras will only be used in appropriate areas and there is clear signage indicating where it is in operation

General Data Protection (GDPR) and E-Safety

Data must always be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently; collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes; limited to what is necessary for the purposes for which it is processed; accurate and kept up to date; held securely; only retained for as long as is necessary for the reasons it was collected.

- GDPR is relevant to E-Safety since it impacts on the way in which personal information should be secured on school networks, computers and storage devices; and the security required for accessing, in order to prevent unauthorised access and dissemination of personal material.
- Staff need to ensure that care is taken to ensure the safety and security of personal data regarding all of the school population and external stakeholders, particularly, but not exclusively: pupils, parents, staff and external agencies.
- Personal and sensitive information should only be sent by e mail when on a secure network. Personal data should only be stored on secure devices.

- In the event of a data breach, the school will notify the Trust's Data Protection Officer (DPO) immediately, who may need to inform the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

Authorising Internet Access

- All staff must read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy before using any of the school ICT resources
- All visitors and students will be asked to read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy if they are to be given access to the schools internet
- The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who have been granted access to the internet provision

Support for Parents

- Parents attention will be drawn to the school's E-Safety policy and safety advice in newsletters, the school website and E-Safety workshops
- The school website will be used to provide parents with timely and meaningful information about their children's school lives and work to support the raising of achievement. The website will also provide links to appropriate online safety websites

Radicalisation Procedures and Monitoring

It is important for us to be constantly vigilant and remain fully informed about the issues which affect the region in which we teach. Staff are reminded to suspend any professional disbelief that instances of radicalisation 'could not happen here' and to refer any concerns through the appropriate channels. Regular monitoring and filtering is in place to ensure that there is access to appropriate material on the internet and key word reporting is in place to ensure safety of all staff and pupils.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is likely to: violate a child's dignity, make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.

Online sexual harassment, which might include non-consensual sharing of sexual images and videos and sharing sexual images and videos. Both are often referred to as 'sexting'; inappropriate sexual comments on social media; exploitation; coercion and threats.

Any reports of online sexual harassment will be taken seriously and the policy and Children's Social Care may be notified.

Our school also follows and adheres to the national guidance.

Responses to Incident of Concern

An important element of E-Safety is the ability to identify and deal with incidents of concern including the confidentiality of information. All staff, volunteers, students and pupils have a responsibility to report E-Safety incidents or concerns so that they may be dealt with effectively and in a timely manner in order to minimise any impact. The school has incident reporting procedures in place and record incidents of an E-Safety nature.

Sanctions

Misuse of the internet may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges, and in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion, in accordance with the school's

Behaviour or Discipline Policy. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

