



# Catforth Primary School

## Online Safety Policy

### **Introduction**

This policy should be used in conjunction with the Child Protection Policy and with policies relating to curriculum, data protection, anti-bullying, security and home-school agreements.

The Headteacher has identified Mrs R Knox as the online safety co-ordinator.

This policy has been prepared by the online safety co-ordinator and has been agreed by the Headteacher and Governing Body.

### **Rationale**

The internet and other digital technologies permeate all aspects of life in a modern technological society. Internet use is part of the statutory National Curriculum and is a necessary tool for staff and pupils. It is the entitlement of every pupil to have access to the internet and digital technologies, in order to enrich his/her learning.

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all pupils, all teaching staff, all support staff, all governors and all volunteers.

### **Aims**

Our aims are to ensure that all pupils, including those with special educational needs:

- will use the internet and other digital technologies to support, extend and enhance their learning;
- will develop an understanding of the uses, importance and limitations of the internet and other digital technologies in the modern world including the need to avoid undesirable material;
- will develop a positive attitude to the internet and develop their ICT capability through both independent and collaborative working;
- will use existing, as well as up and coming, technologies safely.

### **Internet use will support, extend and enhance learning**

- Pupils will be given clear objectives for internet use.
- Web content will be subject to age-appropriate filters.
- Internet use will be embedded in the curriculum.

### **Pupils will develop an understanding of the uses, importance and limitations of the internet**

- Pupils will be taught how to effectively use the internet for research purposes.
- Pupils will be taught to evaluate information on the internet.
- Pupils will be taught how to report inappropriate web content.
- Pupils will develop a positive attitude to the internet and develop their ICT capability through both independent and collaborative working.
- Pupils will use the internet to enhance their learning experience.
- Pupils have opportunities to engage in independent and collaborative learning using the internet and other digital technologies.

### **Pupils will use existing technologies safely**

- Pupils will be taught about online safety.

### **Data Protection**

- There is a separate Data Protection policy.

## **E-mail**

- Pupils and staff will only use approved e-mail accounts when using the school network.
- Pupils will tell a member of staff if they receive inappropriate e-mail communications.
- Pupils will only use e-mail for approved activities.

## **Internet Access and Learning Platform**

- Staff will read and sign the NYCC Acceptable Use Policy – ICT and e-Technology before using any school ICT resource.
- Parents will read and sign an internet access consent form and Acceptable Use Policy before their children are given access to internet resources (including the Learning Platform).
- Pupils will be taught to use the internet responsibly and to report any inappropriate content to a responsible adult.

## **Mobile Phones and other handheld technology**

Pupils are only permitted to have mobile phones or other personal handheld technology in school with the permission of the Headteacher. When pupils are using mobile technology (their own or that provided by the school) they will be required to follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). Such items can be confiscated by school staff if they have reason to think that they are being used to compromise the wellbeing and safety of others (Education and Inspections Act 2006, Sections 90, 91 and 94).

## **Systems Security**

- ICT systems security will be regularly reviewed with support from Schools ICT.

## **Web Filtering**

- The school will work with Schools ICT to ensure that appropriate filtering is in place.
- Pupils will report any inappropriate content accessed to an appropriate member of staff. Communication of the online safety policy to pupils
- Pupils will read (or be read) and sign the age-appropriate Internet and Learning Platform Acceptable Use Policy before using these resources.
- Online safety rules will be posted in each room where a computer is used.
- Pupils will be informed that internet and Learning Platform use will be monitored.
- online safety will be included in the curriculum and regularly revisited.

## **Communication of the online safety policy to staff**

- The online safety and acceptable use policies will be given to all new members of staff as part of the staff handbook.
- The online safety and acceptable use policies will be signed by all staff and discussed with them at least annually.
- Staff will be informed that internet and Learning Platform use will be monitored.

## **Communication of the online safety policy to parents/carers**

- The acceptable use policies will be available in the school prospectus and on the school website.
- The school website will include a list of online safety resources and information for parents to access.
- Parents will be asked to sign a home-school agreement when their children join the school. This will include acceptable use policies relating to the internet and other digital technologies.
- The school will communicate and publicise online safety issues to parents through the school newsletter and website.

## **Online safety Complaints**

- Instances of pupil internet misuse should be reported to a member of staff.
- Staff will be trained so they are able to deal with online safety incidents. They must log incidents reported to them and if necessary refer the matter to a senior member of staff.
- Instances of staff internet misuse should be reported to, and will be dealt with by, the Headteacher.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the consequences of internet misuse.

## **Whole-School Responsibilities for Internet Safety**

### **Headteacher**

- Responsible for online safety issues within the school but may delegate the day-to-day responsibility to a Senior Leader as the online safety co-ordinator.
- Ensure that the online safety co-ordinator is given appropriate time, support and authority to carry out their duties effectively.
- Ensure that developments at Local Authority level are communicated to the online safety co-ordinator.
- Ensure that the Governing Body is informed of online safety issues and policies.
- Ensure that appropriate funding is allocated to support online safety activities throughout the school.

### **Online safety co-ordinator (ideally as part of a wider child protection role)**

- Primary responsibility: establish and maintain a safe ICT learning environment (under the direction of Senior Management).
- Establish and maintain a school-wide online safety programme.
- Respond to online safety policy breaches in an appropriate and consistent manner in line with protocols set out in policies, and maintain an incident log.
- Establish and maintain a staff professional development programme relating to online safety.
- Develop a parental awareness programme.
- Develop an understanding of relevant legislation and take responsibility for their professional development in this area.

### **Governing Body**

- Appoint an online safety Governor who will ensure that online safety is included as part of the regular review of child protection and health and safety policies.
- Support the Headteacher and/or designated online safety co-ordinator in establishing and implementing policies, systems and procedures for ensuring a safe ICT learning environment.
- Ensure that appropriate funding is authorised for online safety solutions, training and other activities as recommended by the Headteacher and/or designated online safety coordinator (as part of the wider remit of the Governing Body with regards to school budgets).
- Promote online safety to parents and provide updates on online safety policies within the statutory 'security' section of the annual report.

### **Network Manager/Technical Support Staff**

- Provide a technical infrastructure to support online safety practices.
- Ensure that appropriate processes and procedures are in place for responding to the discovery of illegal materials, or suspicion that such materials are, on the school's network.
- Ensure that appropriate processes and procedures are in place for responding to the discovery of inappropriate but legal materials on the school's network.
- Develop an understanding of relevant legislation.
- Report network breaches of acceptable use of ICT facilities to the Headteacher and/or the online safety co-ordinator.
- Maintain a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both within and outside school.
- Take responsibility for their professional development in this area.

### **Teaching and Support Staff**

- Contribute to the development of online safety policies.
- Adhere to acceptable use policies.
- Take responsibility for the security of data.
- Develop an awareness of online safety issues, and how they relate to pupils in their care.
- Model good practice in using new and emerging technologies.
- Include online safety regularly in the curriculum.
- Deal with online safety issues they become aware of and know when and how to escalate incidents.
- Maintain a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both within and outside school.
- Take responsibility for their professional development in this area.

**Wider School Community**

- This group includes: non-teaching staff; volunteers; student teachers; other adults using school internet or other technologies.
- Contribute to the development of online safety policies.
- Adhere to acceptable use policies.
- Take responsibility for the security of data.
- Develop an awareness of online safety issues, and how they relate to pupils in their care.
- Model good practice in using new and emerging technologies.
- Know when and how to escalate online safety issues.
- Maintain a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both within and outside school.
- Take responsibility for their professional development in this area.

**Parents and Carers**

- Contribute to the development of online safety policies.
- Read acceptable use policies and encourage their children to adhere to them.
- Adhere to acceptable use policies when using the school internet Learning Platform.
- Discuss online safety issues with their children, support the school in its online safety approaches and reinforce appropriate behaviours at home.
- Take responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.
- Model appropriate uses of new and emerging technologies.
- Liaise with the school if they suspect, or have identified, that their child is conducting risky behaviour online.

Date of Policy; May 2017

Policy updated; Annually