

<b>Title and Description</b>	<b>Online Safety Policy</b>
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2	September 2023	Michele Osborne	Policy updated to reflect current changes in KCSIE 2023. P6 – Section 3.5. Paragraph added with regard to the Smoothwall Filtering & Monitoring System on all devices in school.
3	September 2024	Michele Osborne	Policy updated to reflect KCSIE 2024. P8- Reference to Smoothwall Online Safety Hub added. P9 – Parental responsibility for social media platforms added. P13 – AI section added.
4	September 2025	Michele Osborne	P4 AI Summary of this Policy & Reference to the Online Safety Act 2023 P7 Note added on Generative AI & the curriculum. P8 - New online offences added. P9 Note added to include all forms of social media. P10 Note added about the misuse of AI and BYOD comment removed. P12 Change of wording regarding training. P15 Generative AI Policy added. P15 Policy Reference added.

## Online Safety Policy

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### AI Summary of the Online Safety Policy

The Framwellgate School Durham Online Safety Policy 2025 outlines a comprehensive framework to safeguard students, staff, and the wider school community in their use of digital technologies. It aligns with the Online Safety Act 2023 and incorporates updates from KCSIE 2025, including the integration of Smoothwall Filtering & Monitoring and guidance on generative AI. The policy emphasises education, prevention, and intervention, detailing roles and responsibilities across governance, leadership, staff, and parents. Students are taught online safety through a structured curriculum, with a focus on responsible use, cyberbullying prevention, and digital literacy. Parents are supported via resources and the school's Online Safety Hub.

The policy includes strict guidelines for acceptable use of ICT systems, mobile devices, and social media, with clear disciplinary procedures for misuse. AI use is permitted for academic purposes under ethical guidelines, but prohibited during exams. Staff and governors receive regular training, and all incidents are logged and monitored. The policy promotes British values and encourages respectful, safe online behavior. Appendices provide acceptable use agreements for students, parents, staff, and visitors. Annual reviews ensure the policy remains current and effective in addressing emerging online risks.

## Framwellgate School Durham: Ethos and Values Statement

Like all good schools, we're driven by our values above all else. We define these as:

**Excellence** - Everyone in our community will know and experience success

**The most for those that need the most** - We will meet the needs of all our learners

**Known and valued** - Everyone here will be celebrated for who they are and what they do

**Collective endeavour** - We will achieve success together

**Joy** - Everyone will know and create joy

These five values determine all that we do, and every part of the school flows from them. They set the direction and act as a compass to ensure we continue to grow and develop as a school in the way that we feel best supports all our students.

### 1. Aims

1.1 Framwellgate School Durham aims to:

- have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of students, staff, volunteers and governors
- deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology
- establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate
- ensure that our online safety policy reflects the overall ethos and values of the school
- encourage students to maximise the benefits and opportunities that technology has to offer
- ensure that students learn in an environment where security measures are balanced appropriately with the need to learn effectively
- equip students with the skills and knowledge to use technology appropriately and responsibly
- teach students how to recognise the risks associated with technology and how to deal with them, both within and outside the school environment
- ensure that all users in the school community understand why there is a need for an Online Safety Policy

This online safety policy reflects the principles of the Online Safety Act 2023, particularly regarding the protection of children and young people online.

### 2. Legislation and guidance

- 2.1 This policy is based on the Department for Education's statutory safeguarding guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education, and its advice for schools on preventing and tackling bullying and searching, screening and confiscation. It also refers to the Department's guidance on protecting children from radicalisation.
- 2.2 It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the Education Act 1996 (as amended), the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the Equality Act 2010. In addition, it reflects the Education Act 2011, which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on students' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

2.3 The policy also takes into account our Computing and Digital Literacy Curriculum which complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### **3. Roles and Responsibilities**

#### 3.1 The Local Governing Board

The LGB has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Headteacher to account for its implementation. Through its committee structure, it will monitor senior leaders and staff and discuss online safety, and online safety logs as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

Governors will:

Ensure that they have read and understood this policy

Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 2)

Meet regularly with the DSL/DOS to monitor the effectiveness of online filtering and monitoring systems in line with KCSIE.

#### 3.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

The Headteacher and DSL/DOS should be aware of procedures to be followed in the event of a serious safeguarding allegation made against a member of staff if an incident of online misuse should occur.

#### 3.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Details of the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputies are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

The DSL takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

Supporting the Headteacher in ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school

Working with the Headteacher, Network Manager and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents

Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy and that there are instant and effective system in place to investigate and manage online safety concerns from Smoothwall Alerts and notifications.

Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

Updating and delivering staff training on online safety

Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary

Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the Headteacher and/or governing board

#### 3.4 The Network Manager

The Network Manager is responsible for:

Putting in place appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep students safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material

Ensuring that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly

Conducting a full security check and monitoring the school's ICT systems on a specified basis

Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files

Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged on CPOMS/ by DSL and/ or relevant staff appropriately in line with this policy

Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

Ensuring that servers, wireless systems, and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted.

Providing all users with a username and secure password. The Network Manager will keep an up-to-date record of users and their usernames. Users are responsible for the security of their username and password and must not share this with anyone else.

Ensuring technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on technical systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Agreement (Smoothwall Monitor/Visigo and Smoothwall Filtering reports are used to monitor and record activity).

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### 3.5 All staff and volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

Maintaining an understanding of this policy

Implementing this policy consistently

Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 2), and ensuring that students follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendix 1)

Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy

Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

We have a Smoothwall online filtering and monitoring system on all school devices. The DOS works alongside the IT Network Manager to review the systems to safeguard students and staff. Filtering and monitoring systems are both important parts of safeguarding students and staff from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material.

### 3.6 Parents

Parents are expected to:

Notify a member of staff or the Headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding this policy

Ensure their child has read, understood and agreed to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and internet (appendix 1)

Parents can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the following organisations and websites:

What are the issues?, UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/what-are-issues>

Hot topics, Childnet International: <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics>

Parent factsheet, Childnet International: <http://www.childnet.com/ufiles/parents-factsheet-09-17.pdf>

### 3.7 Visitors and members of the community

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's ICT systems or internet will be made aware of this policy, when relevant, and expected to read and follow it. If appropriate, they will be expected to agree to the terms on acceptable use (appendix 2).

#### 4. Educating students about online safety

4.1 Students will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum. This includes identified harms such as fake news, misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories.

In **Key Stage 3**, students will be taught to:

Understand a range of ways to use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly, and securely, including protecting their online identity and privacy

Recognise the 4 C's of online risks including commerce, inappropriate content, contact and conduct, and know how to report concerns

Students in **Key Stage 4** will be taught:

To understand how changes in technology affect safety, including new ways to protect their online privacy and identity

How to report a range of concerns

The curriculum offer includes aspects of Generative AI and safe use of this in education. This is identified inline with online harms such as fake news, misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories.

\*Disinformation is false information which is intended to mislead.

4.2 The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant. The school will use assemblies to raise students' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite speakers to talk to students about this.

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating students and students to take a responsible approach. The education of students, students' online safety and digital literacy is therefore an essential part of Framwellgate School's online safety provision.

Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid online safety risks and build their resilience and awareness. Online safety should be a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce online safety messages across the curriculum. The online safety curriculum should be broad, relevant and provide progression, with opportunities for creative activities and will be provided in the following ways:

- A planned online safety curriculum should be provided as part of Computing / Personal Development and other relevant lessons and should be regularly revisited and monitored.
- Key online safety messages should be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies and tutorial / pastoral activities
- Students should be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials and content that they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.
- Students should be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Students should be supported in building resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment for debating controversial issues and helping them to understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making
- Students should be helped to understand the need for the student / student Acceptable Use Agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside of school.
- Staff should act as good role models in their use of digital technologies, the internet and mobile devices
- In lessons where internet use is pre-planned, it is best practice that students should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches

- Where students are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit. This is supported by effective Smoothwall filtering and monitoring, NET Support systems on all devices in school.
- It is accepted that from time to time, for good educational reasons, students may need to research topics (e.g. racism, drugs, discrimination) that would normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the Technical Staff (or other relevant designated person) can temporarily remove those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so, should be auditable, with clear reasons for the need and discussed the DSL/DOS and Network Manager or Headteacher.

## **5. Educating parents about online safety**

5.1 The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website and social media accounts. This policy will also be shared with parents.

If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the DSL or relevant Year Team.

Parents and carers can access the online safety hub which is part of the school website.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with the school.

## **6. Cyber-bullying**

### 6.1 Definition

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. This also includes new offences outlined in the Online Safety Act 2023, including cyber flashing epilepsy trolling, threatening communications, encouraging serious self-harm and sharing intimate images, including deepfakes.

### 6.2 Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that students understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that students know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with students, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be. Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate.

All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) receive training on cyber bullying, its impact and ways to support students, as part of safeguarding training.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the peer on peer abuse policy.

Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among students, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

The DSL will consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material, and will work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

### 6.3 When responding to cyberbullying concerns, the school will:

- Act as soon as an incident has been reported or identified.
- Provide appropriate support for the person who has been cyberbullied and work with the person who has carried out the bullying to ensure that it does not happen again.
- Encourage the person being bullied to keep any evidence (screenshots) of the bullying activity to assist any investigation.
- Take all available steps where possible to identify the person responsible. This may include looking at use of the school systems; identifying and interviewing possible witnesses; contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary
- Work with the individuals and online service providers to prevent the incident from spreading and assist in removing offensive or upsetting material from circulation. This may include supporting reports to a service provider to remove content if those involved are unable to be identified or if those involved refuse to or are unable to delete content.
- Confiscate and search students' electronic devices, such as mobile phones, in accordance with the law and DfE guidance 'Searching, screening and confiscation at school' and Childnet Cyberbullying guidance to ensure that the school's powers are used proportionately and lawfully.
- Request the deletion of locally-held content and content posted online if they contravene school behavioural policies.
- Provide information to staff, parents and students regarding steps they can take to protect themselves online. This may include advising those targeted not to retaliate or reply, providing advice on blocking or removing people from contact lists or helping those involved to think carefully about what private information they may have in the public domain.

### 6.4 Parents should:

- report any bullying to the relevant social media site (e.g. Facebook/Twitter or any social media) and to the Police
- keep any evidence, e.g. the message or a screen print
- block or delete the person being abusive
- change their child's mobile phone number
- check the security settings and privacy settings on their child's account. These need to be updated regularly
- monitor their child's use of the internet, social networking and gaming sites, e.g. review their friend list; do they know who all of the people are? They would warn them against talking to strangers on the street so the same rules apply online
- make sure that their child is careful about who they give their contact details to. They might receive unwanted messages if they are part of a group
- ensure their child knows to tell a parent or teacher immediately if they receive an inappropriate image or video (such as a video of a fight taking place). If your child stores this video on their phone or computer, or even open it and delete it, they could find themselves in trouble with the Police at a later date
- make sure that their child understands that information they share online stays there forever. Deleting a message does not mean that it cannot be recovered by someone else at another time
- ensure that children under 13 do not have Facebook accounts and adhere to legal age requirements of all social media platforms.
- not involve themselves in any disputes by sending a message as they could then find themselves in trouble with the Police. Report any issues to the relevant social media company as well as the Police

The school will not take any responsibility for any issues linked with any form of social media.

The link below is full of great resources, including advice on parental controls, checking privacy settings with children and lists of things to be aware of for different age groups. It also includes a digital magazine for all issues in their area:

- CEOP – [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

#### 6.5 Students should:

- use social media responsibly, e.g. not make rude, abusive or threatening comments to anyone
- only talk to people that they know and only accept friend requests from people they know to be friends
- not give out any personal information, e.g. address, phone number, email address. The same applies to online gaming
- never go and meet anyone they have met online (e.g. Lauren who is 15 could turn out to be Rob who is 45)
- be careful about who they give their contact details to. In being part of a group chat, they might receive unwanted messages, images or videos
- never share passwords or use anyone else's device when they are logged in on their account
- never download anything illegally, e.g. music
- be aware that comments made online or pictures posted are there forever. Deleting a message does not mean that it cannot be recovered by someone else at another time
- be aware that friends of friends may be able to see comments, photos and videos because of their privacy settings
- check their security settings and privacy settings regularly
- tell a parent or another adult if they experience online bullying
- tell a parent or another adult if they receive an inappropriate message, image or video (such as a video of a fight taking place). If they store this video on their phone or computer, or even open it and delete it, they could find themselves in trouble with the Police at a later date
- report any abusive behaviour to the relevant social media site, but ensure they keep the evidence, then block or delete the person who has been abusive
- Not misuse any form of generative AI to generate, copy, share or create imagery of anyone that may be illegal or cause a significant amount of harm. School will contact the Police or Social Services/First Contact where we feel this may have occurred.

#### 6.6 Examining electronic devices

- i. School staff have the specific power under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (which has been increased by the Education Act 2011) to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images or files on students' electronic devices, including mobile phones, iPads and other tablet devices, where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so. This should always be reported to the DSL immediately and no images or content to be deleted until a discussion with the DSL has taken place. Where there is a safeguarding concern, the device should be immediately confiscated until it can be investigated further by the DSL or Year Team.

Framwellgate School now allow users to "Bring Your Own Device", but only Sixth Form students and only allow authorised devices to have access to the schools network. All users should understand that the primary purpose of the use of mobile phones or devices by staff in school is for purely educational purposes.

- ii. When deciding whether there is a good reason to examine or erase data or files on an electronic device, staff must reasonably suspect that the data or file in question has been, or could be, used to:

Cause harm, and/or

Disrupt teaching, and/or

Break any of the school rules

- iii. If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the staff member in conjunction with the DSL or other member of the senior leadership team to decide whether they should:
- Delete that material, or
  - Retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline), and/or
  - Report it to the police

iv Any searching of students will be carried out in line with the DfE's latest guidance on screening, searching and confiscation. Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on students' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

## **7. Acceptable use of the internet in school**

- 7.1 In using the school based computers, staff, students and other users click to agree the Acceptable Usage agreement. Staff also sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet. Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.
- 7.2 Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.
- 7.3 We will monitor the websites visited by students, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above.
- More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements.

## **8. Students using mobile devices in school.**

- 8.1 Students may bring mobile devices into school, but are not permitted to use them on site, unless given express permission by a member of staff, eg: to photograph work. This will be supervised by the member of staff who has given permission. Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a student may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device.

## **9. Staff using work devices outside school**

- 9.1 Staff members using a work device outside of school must not install any unauthorised software on the device and must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use (see appendix 2).
- 9.2 Staff must ensure that their work device is secure and password-protected, and that they do not share their password with others. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure the security of their work device when using it outside school. Any USB devices containing data relating to the school must be encrypted. If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the ICT manager. Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

## **10. How the school will respond to issues of misuse**

- 10.1 Where a student misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in the behaviour policy. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.
- 10.2 Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet, or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff disciplinary procedures. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident. The school will consider whether incidents which involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

## **11. Training**

- 11.1 All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation. All staff must read The Use of Generative AI Policy as part of their Induction.
- 11.2 All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year or where deemed necessary as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required (for example through emails, e-bulletins and staff meetings).
- 11.3 The DSL and deputies will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety, at least every 2 years. They will also update their knowledge and skills on the subject of online safety at regular intervals, and at least annually.
- 11.4 Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.
- 11.5 More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

## **12. Contacting students during the school day**

- 12.1 In accordance with the school's procedures, parents/carers should contact students via student reception, e.g. if a parent/carer needs to get an urgent message to a student. If a student contacts a parent/carer to say they are feeling ill or upset, then the parent/carer should contact student reception in order that we can investigate further and respond appropriately.

## **13. Use of social networking and online media**

- 13.1 The school asks its whole community to promote this approach to online behaviour:

- Common courtesy
- Common decency
- Common sense

### 13.2 How do we show common courtesy online?

- We ask for permission before uploading any content about someone else (photographs, images, videos, etc.)
- We do not write or upload hurtful, rude or derogatory comments or materials. To do so is disrespectful and may upset, distress, bully or harass

### 13.3 How do we show common decency online?

- We do not post comments that can be considered intimidating, racist, sexist, homophobic or defamatory. This is cyberbullying and may be harassment or libel
- When such comments exist online, we do not forward the emails, tweets, posts or videos. By creating or forwarding such materials we are all liable under the law

### 13.4 How do we show common sense online?

- We think before we click
- We think before we upload comments, photographs or videos
- We think before we download or forward any materials
- We think carefully about the information we share with others online, we check where it is saved and we check our privacy settings
- We make sure we understand any changes in in use for any of the websites we use

- We block harassing communications and report any abuse – initial abusive messages should be saved as evidence before blocking the sender

### Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity

All schools and local authorities have a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for students and staff. Schools could be held responsible, indirectly for acts of their employees in the course of their employment. Staff members who harass, engage in online bullying, discriminate on the grounds of sex, race or disability, or who defame a third party may render the school liable to the injured party. Reasonable steps to prevent predictable harm must be in place.

School provides the following measures to ensure reasonable steps are in place to minimise risk of harm to students and staff:

- Ensuring that personal information is not published
- Training is provided including: acceptable use; social media risks; checking of settings; data protection and reporting issues or concerns
- Clear reporting guidance, including responsibilities, procedures and sanctions are in place
- No reference should be made in social media to students / students, parents / carers or school staff where consent is not given
- Staff do not engage in online discussion on personal matters relating to members of the school community
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are in place as they may be regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information

Any online actions that impact on the school that could potentially bring the school into disrepute will be responded to at the discretion of the Headteacher.

## **14. School practice**

14.1 The school uses social networking sites to share information with students and parents (e.g. school Facebook site and departmental/staff Twitter pages). These sites are authorised by the school in advance of use and are therefore closely regulated.

## **15. Links with other policies**

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy
- Staff disciplinary procedures
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure
- The Use of Generative AI Policy

## **16. Monitoring arrangements**

16.1 The DSL ensures any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy. Incidents will be logged on CPOMS if they relate to students. If the incident relates to a member of staff, it will be logged on CPOMS Staff Safe unless directed otherwise by the Headteacher.

16.2 This policy will be reviewed annually by the Director of Safeguarding and then shared with the governing board.

## 17. AI – Artificial Intelligence

Our school completely recognises the benefits of technology, especially in supporting students with special educational needs (SEN). However, we must ensure that we comply with guidelines on plagiarism and exam malpractice to maintain academic integrity. Additionally, student wellbeing and safe use of the internet are at the forefront of our considerations, where at the same time we are committed to developing our students' IT skills and curiosity of the world.

Use of AI for Academic Purposes:

AI can be used as an aid for academic purposes, such as research, homework, and assignments. However, it is essential to note that students should not solely rely on AI to complete their work. The use of AI must be in line with academic integrity guidelines, and students must cite the sources used.

1. Teachers and staff should monitor the use of AI and provide guidance where necessary.
2. Prohibition of AI During Exams: AI must not be used during exams, as this constitutes exam malpractice. Students must not use AI to answer exam questions or seek assistance during the exam. Teachers and staff should ensure that students are aware of this and the consequences of violating it.
3. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement: The use of AI must not result in plagiarism or copyright infringement. Students must understand the concept of plagiarism and be able to use AI ethically. Teachers and staff must educate students on how to use AI without violating plagiarism guidelines and copyright laws.
4. Safeguarding and Safe Internet Use: The school recognises the importance of student wellbeing and safe use of the internet. Students should only use AI in a safe and responsible manner. Teachers and staff must educate students on the safe use of AI and the internet. The school's child protection and safeguarding policies must be followed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students.
5. Developing Students' IT Skills and Curiosity: The school is committed to developing students' IT skills and curiosity about the world. AI can be used to develop these skills, and teachers and staff should encourage its use where appropriate.
6. Sanctions for Inappropriate Usage: Inappropriate usage of AI will be in line with the school's behaviour and The Use of Generative AI policy. Any breaches of the policy will result in disciplinary action, which may include suspension or exclusion.

## Appendix 1: Acceptable Use Agreement (students and parents/carers)

### Acceptable Use Policy for Students

**Our computers have internet access to help our learning.**

**These rules will help keep us and our computer equipment safe.**

When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, I will not:

- Use them for a non-educational purpose
- Use them without a teacher being present, or without a teacher's permission
- Access any inappropriate websites
- Access social networking sites (unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity)
- Use chat rooms
- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher
- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Give my personal information (including my name, address or telephone number) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carer, or without adult supervision

In addition:

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit.

I will immediately let a teacher or other member of staff know if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others. I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly

I agree that my child can use the school's ICT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for students using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Parent/Carer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 2: Acceptable Use Agreement (staff, governors, volunteers and visitors)

### Acceptable ICT Usage declaration

This document is in relation to:

- Any equipment loan and/or use of school IT or communications equipment
- School mobile devices
- Personal mobile devices used to access school work and/or emails

You are required to sign this document and a record of this declaration will be kept in school.

When logging on to the school network you must read and agree to the terms of usage each time you log on. This is deemed as the School's Acceptable ICT Usage Statement and by clicking OK you agree to be bound by the conditions as stated within this document.

Failure to abide by the requirements within this document could lead to disciplinary action. If you are unsure about ICT usage at any time, please speak to the Network Manager or academy Business Director in the first instance.

Laptops and school mobile devices are owned by the school and are only to be used by staff to enhance their professional activities including teaching, research, administration and management. Please be aware that laptops and mobile devices are only to be used by the member of staff they are issued to, and may be subject to random checks by senior management.

Use of personal devices to photograph or record students is strictly prohibited. Only school devices loaned to staff may be used for this purpose, and only in order to enhance professional activities. Staff must ensure that permission has been previously received by the relevant students, prior to their photographs being taken.

When using social media, you must protect your personal information, and comply with the school's social media guidance.

It is required that all school equipment including computers, laptops and mobile devices:

- Should only be used for activities appropriate to staff professional needs.
- May only be used for personal use at the written discretion of the head teacher without damaging the integrity of the school and school systems.
- Must never be used for accessing social media, other than to enhance professional activities.
- Must never be used for purchasing inappropriate materials such as pornographic, racist or offensive material, or for personal financial gain, gambling, political purposes, advertising, or accessing chat rooms.
- Should **only be used by the named person** signing this declaration. The person signing this declaration is solely responsible for any material accessed via the equipment, and to this end, will face disciplinary action should inappropriate use occur.
- Should only be accessible via a password, known only to the user and senior management of the school.

Please note

- The equipment remains the property of Framwellgate School Durham
- Insurance cover provides protection from the standard risks but excludes accidental damage and theft from an un-attended car. If the equipment is stolen from an un-attended car, you will be responsible for its replacement.
- Only software licensed by the school, authorised by the Head teacher or their representative and installed by the school's IT support team may be used.
- Anti-virus software which is installed on laptops must be updated on a weekly basis, with advice available from IT support on the routines and schedule of this operation.

- Should any faults occur the school's IT support team must be advised as soon as possible so that they may undertake any necessary repairs. Under no circumstances should staff attempt to fix suspected hardware/software faults.
- Training on how to access school systems will be provided by the IT support team.

When using personal devices to access school work and/or emails, the individual member of staff is personally responsible for the security of all school information accessed by that device. The member of staff should ensure:

- The device is password protected to an adequate level
- School work/emails are only accessible by them
- The device is secured and protected through industry standard methods
- Any potential data breach or theft of equipment is reported to the school data protection link officer and network manager within 24 hours
- Any school advice in relation to data management, security and protection is implemented

I declare the following:

- I understand that abuse of the network computers, printers, internet and any school device will not be tolerated. Abuse will result in my account privileges being suspended or revoked, and could lead to disciplinary action.
- I understand that the equipment is to be used primarily for school business and private use shall be ancillary and not significant otherwise tax liabilities may be incurred.
- I will use the schools equipment and facilities primarily for business use, and for personal use only with explicit written permission from the head teacher.
- I will only use school equipment to photograph and record students, and students' work, and in order to enhance professional activities.
- I will ensure I seek the relevant permissions prior to taking photographs of students and their work.
- I will protect my personal information on social media, and will comply with the school's social media guidance.
- I will use only those facilities I am authorised to use.
- I understand that my usage of these facilities may be monitored in accordance with telecommunications (lawful Business Practice – Interception of Communications Ref. 2000)
- I understand this declaration applies to all other mediums and equipment provided to me by Framwellgate School Durham.
- I am personally responsible for accessing school work/emails on my personal device(s) and I will ensure that all information is protected and kept secure

I confirm that I have read and understand the requirements of the school as set out in this declaration, and confirm I will adhere to these guidelines.

Name (in print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_