



St. Gregory's Primary School

Online Safety Policy

1. Introduction

At St. Gregory's Primary School, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive online environment for all our pupils, staff, and visitors. With the increasing integration of digital technologies in teaching and learning, including the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), it is essential that we ensure all members of our school community understand the importance of online safety.

This policy outlines how we will protect our students from online risks and promote safe, responsible use of the internet, in line with the JAM Coding computing curriculum.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Mr Wilson (Computing Subject Leader)** is responsible for ensuring that the computing curriculum is designed and delivered with online safety in mind. Subject leader will provide guidance to staff on using AI tools to support teaching while ensuring these technologies are used safely and appropriately.
- **Mr Darbyshire (Headteacher)** holds overall responsibility for the implementation and review of the online safety policy, ensuring that all staff and students are aware of their responsibilities regarding online conduct. Mr Darbyshire will also liaise with parents and carers to ensure that the wider community is kept informed about online safety initiatives.

3. Aims of the Policy

- To safeguard pupils from online dangers, including cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and exploitation.
- To promote positive and responsible use of digital technologies, including AI and coding, as part of the JAM Coding computing curriculum.
- To ensure staff are equipped to educate and support students in using technology safely.
- To provide a framework for regular review and updates of the policy in response to emerging online risks and changes in educational technology.

4. Use of Technology and AI in the Classroom

The integration of internet access, AI tools and coding platforms into lessons provides exciting opportunities for enhancing learning. However, these tools must be used responsibly:

- **Internet Access:** Children will be led in structured lessons to understand how to be a responsible, online digital citizens. Internet use will be routinely monitored using school filtering system.

- **AI in Teaching:** Subject leader will ensure that AI tools used in the classroom adhere to strict online safety guidelines. This includes monitoring AI-based platforms that students engage with and ensuring that they are used to support educational outcomes rather than being a source of distraction or harm.
- **JAM Coding Curriculum:** As part of the JAM Coding curriculum, students will engage with coding platforms and online resources. These tools will encourage collaboration, creativity, and problem-solving. All resources used will be vetted for online safety, and lessons will include discussions on the ethical use of technology.

5. Expectations for Pupils

- Pupils are expected to follow the school's acceptable use policies for digital devices, including not sharing personal information online, not engaging in cyberbullying, and being respectful of others in online spaces.
- Pupils will be taught about the potential risks associated with online activity and the importance of maintaining privacy and security, both in class and through dedicated online safety lessons as part of the computing curriculum.
- Pupils will be encouraged to speak to a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable or notice something inappropriate while online.
- School appointed Digital leaders will support staff in sharing good practice in being a responsible digital citizen and how to recognise threats to their safety and/or well-being.

6. Staff Training and Support

- Staff, including teaching and support staff, will receive regular training on online safety, particularly in relation to the integration of AI tools and coding into the curriculum.
- Subject leader will provide ongoing professional development on how to teach online safety effectively, as well as guidance on the safe and ethical use of AI in teaching.
- All staff are required to report any online safety concerns immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

7. Internet Filtering and Monitoring

- St. Gregory's uses a secure internet filtering system to block access to harmful websites and content. The system is regularly updated to reflect new risks.
- All pupils will use school-approved devices that are systematically monitored by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Benchmark ICT support to ensure safe internet use during school hours.

8. Cyberbullying and Online Behaviour

- Cyberbullying is not accepted at St. Gregory's. Pupils will be educated about the impact of cyberbullying and how to respond if they encounter it.
- Pupils will be encouraged to treat others with respect in both online and offline environments.
- Any reported incidents of cyberbullying will be investigated, and appropriate measures will be taken in accordance with the school's anti-bullying policy.

9. Parental Involvement

- Parents will be regularly informed about online safety practices and encouraged to support their children's learning by promoting safe use of technology at home.
- Parents will be invited to attend information sessions and workshops about online safety and the use of AI tools in education.

10. Review of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually by Mr Darbyshire and Mr Wilson, with feedback from staff, parents, and pupils. The policy will be updated as needed to reflect new technologies and emerging online safety risks.

This Online Safety Policy has been adopted by St. Gregory's Primary School to ensure that all members of the school community can use digital technologies and AI safely and responsibly.

To Be Reviewed annually

Mr Wilson (Computing Subject Leader)

Mr Darbyshire (Headteacher)