



WINGRAVE

Church of England School

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Internet Use Policy

Adopted by the GB at the meeting of the Curriculum, Community & Pupil Committee

Date of meeting: 4th October 2018

Minute number: 14

Signed by : Carol Holman-Smith (Chair of committee)

Signature:

Reviewed by	ML	Review Cycle	2	Legally Required		Website	
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Internet User Policy and Guidance for Staff

Introduction

IT in the 21st Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, schools need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

The subject of Computing covers a wide range of resources including; web-based and mobile learning. It is also important to recognise the constant and fast paced evolution of IT within our society as a whole. Currently the Internet technologies children and young people are using both inside and outside of the classroom include:

- Websites
- Apps
- Email, Instant Messaging and chat rooms
- Social Media, including Facebook and Twitter
- Mobile/ Smart phones with text, video and/ or web functionality
- Other mobile devices including tablets and gaming devices
- Online Games with social media functionality
- Learning Platforms and Virtual Learning Environments
- Blogs and Wikis
- Podcasting
- Video sharing/uploading
- Downloading media content
- On demand TV and video
- Digital Radio and SMART televisions

Whilst exciting and beneficial both in and out of the context of education, much IT, particularly web-based resources, are not consistently policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these Internet technologies and that some have minimum age requirements (13 years in most cases).

At Wingrave Church of England School we understand the responsibility to educate our pupils on eSafety Issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Schools hold personal data on learners, staff and others to help them conduct their day-to-day activities. Some of this information is sensitive and could be used by another person or criminal organisation to cause harm or distress to an individual. The loss of sensitive information can result in media coverage, and potentially damage the reputation of the school. This can make it more difficult for your school to use technology to benefit learners. This has been further reinforced with the introduction of the GDPR Act 2010.

Everybody in the school community has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties and even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise them.

Internet Use Policy

Both this policy and the Acceptable Use Agreement (for all staff, governors, regular visitors [for regulated activities] and pupils) are inclusive of both fixed and mobile internet; technologies provided by the school (such as PCs, laptops, mobile devices, webcams, whiteboards, voting systems, digital video equipment, etc.); and technologies owned by pupils and staff, but brought onto school premises (such as laptops, mobile phones and other mobile devices).

Breaches

A breach or suspected breach of policy by a school employee, contractor or pupil may result in the temporary or permanent withdrawal of school IT hardware, software or services from the offending individual.

For staff any policy breach is grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with the school Disciplinary Procedure or, for Support Staff, in their Probationary Period as stated.

Policy breaches may also lead to criminal or civil proceedings.

The Information Commissioner's powers to issue monetary penalties came into force on 6 April 2010, allowing the Information Commissioner's office to serve notices requiring organisations to pay up to £500,000 for serious breaches of the GDPR Act 2010.

The data protection powers of the Information Commissioner's Office are to:

- Conduct assessments to check organisations are complying with the Act;
- Serve information notices requiring organisations to provide the Information Commissioner's Office with specified information within a certain time period;
- Serve enforcement notices and 'stop now' orders where there has been a breach of the Act, requiring organisations to take (or refrain from taking) specified steps in order to ensure they comply with the law;
- Prosecute those who commit criminal offences under the Act;
- Conduct audits to assess whether organisations' processing of personal data follows good practice,
- Report to Parliament on data protection issues of concern

Incident Reporting

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of IT must be immediately reported to the school's relevant responsible person. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access Secure ID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of IT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to the relevant responsible person. The relevant responsible individual in the school is **Mr M Tomson, Headteacher** unless further action is required at which point a GDPR Officer will be involved.

Data Security

- The school gives relevant staff access to its Management Information System, with a unique username and password
- It is the responsibility of everyone to keep passwords secure
- Staff are aware of their responsibility when accessing school data
- Staff have been issued with the relevant guidance documents and the Policy for IT Acceptable Use

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- Staff keep all school related data secure. This includes all personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data
- Staff should avoid leaving any portable or mobile IT equipment or removable storage media in unattended vehicles. Where this is not possible, keep it locked out of sight
- Staff should always carry portable and mobile IT equipment or removable media as hand luggage, and keep it under your control at all times
- It is the responsibility of individual staff to ensure the security of any personal or sensitive information contained in documents faxed, copied, scanned or printed. This is particularly important when shared copiers (multi-function print, fax, scan and copiers) are used

Email

The use of email within most schools is an essential means of communication for both staff and pupils. In the context of school, email should not be considered private. Educationally, email can offer significant benefits including; direct written contact between schools on different projects, be they staff based or pupil based, within school or international. We recognise that pupils need to understand how to style an email in relation to their age and how to behave responsibly online.

Staff and governors should use a school email account for all official communication to ensure that children are protected through the traceability of all emails through the school email system. In addition, it is important that governors are protected against possible allegations of inappropriate contact with children. This is to help mitigate the chance of issues occurring and is an essential element of the safeguarding agenda.

Managing email

- The school gives all staff & governors their own email account to use for all school business as a work based tool. This is to protect staff, minimise the risk of receiving unsolicited or malicious emails and avoids the risk of personal profile information being revealed
- Staff & governors should use their school email for all professional communication.
- It is the responsibility of each account holder to keep the password secure. For the safety and security of users and recipients, all mail is filtered and logged; if necessary email histories can be traced. The school email account should be the account that is used for all school business
- Under no circumstances should staff contact pupils, parents or conduct any school business using personal email addresses
- All emails should be written and checked carefully before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper
- Staff sending emails to external organisations, parents or pupils are advised to cc. the Headteacher, line manager or designated line manager
- Pupils may only use school approved accounts on the school system and only under direct teacher supervision for educational purposes
- Emails created or received, as part of your school job will be subject to disclosure in response to a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You must therefore actively manage your email account as follows:
 - Delete all emails of short-term value
 - Organise email into folders and carry out frequent house-keeping on all folders and

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archives

- Staff must inform the Headteacher if they receive an offensive email
- However you access your school email (whether directly, through webmail when away from the office or on non-school hardware) all the school email policies apply.

Sending emails

- Use your own school email account so that you are clearly identified as the originator of a message
- Keep the number and relevance of email recipients, particularly those being copied, to the minimum necessary and appropriate
- Do not send or forward attachments unnecessarily. Whenever possible, send the location path to the shared drive rather than sending attachments
- School email is not to be used for personal advertising

Internet Access

The Internet is an open worldwide communication medium, available to everyone, at all times. Anyone can view information, send messages, discuss ideas and publish material, which makes it both an invaluable resource for education, business and social interaction, as well as a potential risk to young and vulnerable people. All Internet use is logged and the logs are randomly but regularly monitored. Whenever any inappropriate use is detected it will be followed up.

Managing the Internet

- The school provides pupils with supervised access to Internet resources (where reasonable) through the school's fixed and mobile internet connectivity
- Staff will preview any recommended sites, online services, software and apps before use
- Searching for images through open search engines is discouraged when working with pupils
- If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research
- All users must observe software copyright at all times. It is illegal to copy or distribute school software or illegal software from other sources
- All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic resources

Internet Use

- You must not post personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise the intended restricted audience
- Do not reveal names of colleagues, pupils, others or any other confidential information acquired through your job on any social networking site or other online application
- On-line gambling or gaming is not allowed
- It is at the Headteacher's discretion as to what Internet activities are permissible for staff and pupils and how this is disseminated.

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Computer Viruses

- All files downloaded from the Internet, received via email or on removable media such as a memory stick must be checked for any viruses using school provided anti-virus software before being used.
- Never interfere with any anti-virus software installed on school IT equipment.
- If your machine is not routinely connected to the school network, you must make provision for regular virus updates through your IT team.
- If you suspect there may be a virus on any school IT equipment, stop using the equipment and contact your IT support provider immediately. The IT support provider will advise you what actions to take and be responsible for advising others that need to know.

▪ **Monitoring of the Policy and Review**

This policy will be monitored annually by the SLT and changes will be made to ensure that this policy is up to date