



Acceptable Use of Communications Policy

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**EQUALITY SCHEME
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR ACCEPTABLE
USE POLICY**

Staff / Committee involved in development:	L + M Committee; Headteacher	
For use by:	Staff, Governors and Parent/Carers	
This policy relates to statutory guidance:	Gov Doc Code of Connection May 2015 Data Protection Act 1998 Electronic Communications Act 2000 Revised Code of Practice for DBS	
Key related Farndon Policies:	Whistle Blowing E-Safety Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Safeguarding Anti-Bullying and Behaviour	
Equality Impact Assessment: Does this document impact on any of the following groups? If YES, state positive or negative impact, and complete an Equality Impact Assessment Form or action plan, and attach.		
Groups:	Yes/ No	Positive/Negative impact
Disability	No	
Race	No	
Gender	No	
Age	No	
Sexual Orientation	No	
Religious and Belief	No	
Gender Reassignment	No	
Marriage & Civil Partnership	No	
Pregnancy & Maternity	No	
Other	No	
Reviewed by	Leadership and Management	
Agreed by		
Next Policy review date	Jan 2026	
A copy of this form, and any related impact assessment form or action plan must be sent to the school office		

1.0 Introduction

The use of electronic equipment, technology and information carries certain risks which can affect the Council in terms of legal liability, reputation and business effectiveness. Use of ICT systems must be in an ethical, professional and lawful manner. In addition, electronic communications within Government Agencies are subject to increasingly stringent standards and it is vital that as a school we comply with standards such as the Government Connect Code of Connection in order to maintain vital services.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the way ICT facilities and resources provided to Staff in order to perform their duties must be used.

3.0 Scope

The scope of this policy extends to all departments, employees, councillors, contractors, vendors and partner agencies who use/access ICT facilities provided or managed by Cheshire West and Chester Council, either directly or on their behalf by CoSocius Ltd.

4.0 Standards of Conduct

4.1 General Use of ICT Systems

Any information created or held on ICT systems will **not** be considered personal by default. It may, however, be deemed to be personal when reviewed by the Information Assurance Team when authorised to identify if it is of a personal private nature. This includes email and internet communications.

Limited personal use of ICT systems is allowed provided it is in the individual's own time and the following conditions are met:-

- The sending and receipt of personal email messages is not excessive and does not interfere with work commitments of the sender.
- The email messages do not constitute misuse of email as detailed in this policy.
- The emails do not relate to any private business activities of the user or his or her relatives, friends or associates.
- Cheshire West and Chester Council's name on the email could in no way be construed as adding weight or influencing the person or organisation receiving the email.
- Staff are advised to consider marking any communication clearly as '**personal private**' in the Subject header. This helps ensure that your personal information is treated accordingly.

When using ICT Systems you must make sure that you communicate in a way that supports the relevant Council policies and procedures that are specific to your role as well as corporately adopted, including those on equalities. You should therefore make sure that you **do not** send/upload/post information online which:

- Damages the organisation's reputation or undermines public confidence in Cheshire West and Chester Council, its staff, councillors, role or services;
- Supports Political activity (other than any required in your role);
- Includes any libellous, offensive or defamatory material about any individual, firm, body or organisation; or
- Could be deemed to harass, bullies or stalk another person.

Cheshire West and Chester Council does not accept any liability for any loss or damage to any items or monies arising from use by any staff or anyone else undertaking personal financial transactions or related order issues over the Internet on any computer.

You should not use personal electronic equipment and technology for work unless you have documented permission from your manager. If permission has been given, the standards of conduct in this policy will apply to your personal equipment when you are using it for work purposes.

If you make an electronic comment on the internet (blogs, social media, twitter etc.) on a personal basis you must be aware that, as an employee of the Council, you are expected to comply with the standards of conduct and behaviour in this and other related policies for example: the Employee Code of Conduct, the Disciplinary Code, the Social Media Responsible Conduct Policy.

Staff indicating their affiliation with the Council, e.g. via an email address or other identifier, in bulletin boards, special interest groups, forums or other public offerings, in the course of their business must clearly indicate that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Cheshire West and Chester Council. Staff should be aware that such a statement does not exempt them from ensuring those views do not reflect negatively on the Council.

You must not claim to represent the views of Cheshire West and Chester Council unless you have permission to do so as part of your job. Similarly, you must not try and pass off your own comments or views as being from someone else by, for example, falsifying your email address or user name or using someone else's.

Do not send (or forward) email containing derogatory statements, subjective comments likely to cause offence, gossip, hoaxes, joke or chain mail content to other people inside or outside Cheshire West and Chester Council. Staff guilty of such activity will be treated with the same possible action as if they were the originator of the content.

The sending of unwanted messages with malicious intent can constitute harassment and would be dealt with as a disciplinary matter.

You must not use social media, the internet, intranet, media, or social media sites to make complaints about your employment, even if areas on these sites are considered 'private'. If you want to make a complaint about any aspect of your employment with Cheshire West and Chester Council you must use the appropriate employment procedure (e.g. Grievance, Fair Treatment at Work, Public Interest Disclosure/Whistleblowing).

Data which involves images of people is covered by strict rules which prevent the use of sensitive data on children and vulnerable adults. You should therefore check any available guidance relating to your job and work area before using this type of data.

You must not post images whose copyright you are not aware. Staff should not assume that because an image is available online it is copyright free and can be used without attribution or payment.

You must make sure that any data stored and/or processed using Cheshire West and Chester Council ICT systems complies with the laws on data protection and copyright, is shared only with the intended recipient(s) and only when permission has been given or the information is already widely in the public domain.

The Data Protection Act (1998) requires controls to be put in place to prevent unauthorised access to personal data. This statutory requirement strengthens the need for a high level of appropriate access controls to be developed and implemented.

You must not email, upload or post confidential or sensitive data relating to individuals, partner organisations or any aspect of Cheshire West and Chester Council business on the internet or other public service (i.e. DropBox,) without permission from your manager.

When sending email consider if the full email thread is required, ensure that you remove any unnecessary information from the email chain before forwarding on to others.

When emailing multiple customers together, think about your target audience and consider if there is a need to separate your message. When emailing to groups of external email address the Blind Copy (Bcc) function should be used.

You must maintain security of information by, for example, locking your monitor when leaving your desk regardless of the length of time and by logging off if you will not be using the system for a longer period.

You should not leave any mobile equipment unattended unless it is absolutely necessary and if you do so you must ensure that it is secure and protected from risk of theft or use by others. Staff should not leave mobile equipment unattended on their desk for any length of period and should secure them in a drawer.

You must keep your passwords confidential (don't share them with anyone else) and comply with password security arrangements. The main requirements being:

- At least eight characters - Contain characters from three of the four categories: uppercase; lowercase; 0 through to 9; or special characters (*&^%\$£"! etc.).
- Are more complex than a single dictionary word (such passwords are easier for hackers to crack). ○ Do not contain two of the same characters consecutively.
- Never reveal or share your passwords to anyone and
 - Never use the 'remember password' function.
 - Never write your passwords down or store them where they are open to theft.
 - Never store your passwords in a computer system without encryption.
- Do not use any part of your username within the password.
- Do not use the same password to access different Council systems.
- Do not use the same password for systems inside and outside of work.

You should not try to use or access any part of the Council ICT systems, data or networks which you do not have permission to access or deliberately do anything which would disrupt or damage them in any way.

You must not process or store Council information on non-authorised equipment unless approval has been given by the relevant ICT Security Team or you are using an ICT service which has been approved for use.

All organisation or personal data stored on laptops or removable media must be **encrypted** including USB sticks.

You must not download or install any software, hardware or other devices to Council ICT systems or equipment unless you have relevant authorisation to do so. All installed software must have the appropriate licenses and must be used in accordance with licence agreements.

If you manage or maintain a system it's important to prevent unauthorised access and to ensure that you maintain the confidentiality and integrity of any information, you should:-

- Consider if authorisation is required from the data owner before granting, modifying or changing access to systems or account permissions.

- Ensure that you only give access based on business need. This should be regularly reviewed and access revoked if appropriate.
- Ensure you follow any procedures that are in place to control the allocation and revoking of access rights.

When sending, transferring, taking information offsite or sharing any data you must ensure that you follow the Council data sharing process and policies. Appropriate safeguards and controls (e.g. Encryption) must be used.

In conjunction with your position or work-related responsibilities you must be aware of any legislation or mandated controls with which the Council or its partner organisations must comply with, these may include but are not limited to:

- Data Protection Act (DPA)1998
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)2000
- Regulations on the Reuse of Public Sector Information (RPSI) 2005
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000
- Computer Misuse Act 1990
- Electronic Communications Act 2000
- Police and Criminal Evidence Act
- Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988
- Safeguarding of Organisational Records
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Defamation Act 1996
- PCI compliance
- PSN Code of connection

It is a criminal offence to use a mobile device whilst driving and a conviction will attract a fixed penalty and a license endorsement. If, in connection with your employment, you are caught driving while using a mobile phone or other device you may be subject to disciplinary action and will be responsible for the payment of any fines/penalties imposed on you. Although hands free device are allowed, use should be kept to a minimum to ensure you are not distracted whilst driving.

4.2 Personal Use of ICT Systems

Personal use of Council ICT systems will be permitted on a limited basis, subject to the standards of conduct outlined in this policy. Cheshire West and Chester Council reserves the right to restrict personal use of its ICT systems.

Personal use of email and telephones: It is accepted that you may occasionally need to make an important personal call or to send an important personal email during working time but these should be kept to a minimum. Personal calls/emails/texts must, wherever possible, be conducted in your own time. (**Note:** This also applies to personal calls/emails/texts using your own personal equipment during working time).

Personal calls/text messages on telephones: The Council reserves the right to charge for personal use of any other ICT systems provided for business use.

Personal use of the internet: This is permitted in your own time i.e. outside normal working hours or any additional working hours approved by your line manager. You must ensure that you are recording this as non-working time in the 'flexi scheme' (Scheme of Flexible Working Hours). If you require use of the internet for personal purposes during working time you must get consent from your manager.

Personal use of social media sites: All social media sites accessed by staff are recorded and logged. Cheshire West and Chester Council reserves the right to restrict social media access. Social Media sites must not be left running 'in the background', whilst at work. These provisions also apply to personal computers and mobile devices.

- Any personal use of ICT systems must not expose security controls, systems or data to risk. You must not:
- Allow non-employees (including family members) to use ICT equipment (including mobile devices, phones and tablets); or
- Attach any personal equipment to ICT systems without the approval of the Information Assurance and Security Team.
- Store any business critical, personal or sensitive personal information in locations or systems that have not been approved.

You must not knowingly access or try to access inappropriate internet sites, materials or downloads. This includes pornographic, illegal or other sites which would breach the Employee Code of Conduct, Disciplinary Code or equality standards and covers all Council ICT Systems or personal equipment when it is used for work purposes or in work time.

4.3 Use of Social Media

When you are using social media you must behave in accordance with the details set out in the Social Media Responsible Conduct Policy (ISP-07). Acceptable use of social media includes:-

- Being aware at all times that, while contributing to the organisation's social media activities, you are representing the Council. Staff who use social media as part of their job must adhere to the principles as set out in the Social Media Responsible Conduct Policy.
- When using social media sites you must not publish or post any information that you have received or have access to as a result of your employment unless you have been given permission to do so as this is confidential to your work.
- You must not use social media sites in any way that may undermine public confidence in the Council or your role within the Council, bring the organisation into disrepute, or would be discriminatory or defamatory e.g. publish or post any information including comments, jokes, illegal or prohibited images or other materials which would put the Council at risk of legal action.
- You should avoid informal personal contact with service users you work with directly or indirectly, or their carers, through social media sites (e.g. do not add them as a 'friend', 'follow' them or link with them), or using your own personal electronic equipment (e.g. email, text, calls).
- You must not use social media to harass, bully, stalk or behave in any other way that could damage your working relationships with your colleagues, members of the public or elected members.
- Be aware that personal use of social media, while not acting on behalf of Cheshire West and Chester Council, could potentially damage the organisation if an individual is recognised as being an employee. Any communications that employees make in a personal capacity through social media must therefore adhere to the principles as set out in the Social Media Guidelines.
- Whilst in work, employees are allowed limited access to social media websites from Council computers/devices or using their own equipment, in their own time and in accordance with this policy.

4.0 Monitoring

The Council records the use of its systems to measure system security, performance, whether employees are meeting the standards of conduct in this policy and for the prevention and detection of crime. This is covered in the Monitoring and Investigation Policy.

The Council logs all staff internet, Lync and email activity, and reserves the right to access, retrieve and delete:

- all email including in draft form, sent or received;
- all private and shared directories;
- all use of intra/internet and other communication techniques using organisational ICT systems e.g. Twitter, blogs etc; and
- all software on computer equipment.

Use of the telephone, fax systems and mobile telephones will also be logged and may be in some cases be recorded.

5.0 Failure to follow the standards of conduct

If you fail to follow the standards of conduct set out in this policy, use of ICT systems may be withdrawn from you and/or disciplinary action taken against you, up to and including dismissal.

6.0 Retention of Data

As a school we ensure that we comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 requirements. Staff are made aware that failure to do so could result in enforcement action from the ICO.

All personal data is stored in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 for the information provided for DBS check, electronically or otherwise. A copy of the DBS code of practice is made available to individuals at the point of requesting them to complete the DBS application form, or asking consent to use their information to access any service DBS provides. (School refers to and complies with the 'Revised Code of Practice for Disclosure and Barring Service Registered Persons' Home Office guidance updated November 2015)

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Date: Jan 2024

Acceptable ICT Use Agreement: Parents

Rules for Responsible Computer and Internet Use

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within schools and outside school. These technologies provide powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. They can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

In school we have access to the internet. This is a powerful tool which opens up new opportunities for everyone and promotes effective learning. We at Farndon Primary are aware that young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times. However, the school and parents have a duty of care to protect children and ensure that internet use is responsible and safe.

- **The school strongly recommends that children do not use social network sites such as Facebook and Twitter at home, as these sites carry an age-restriction and pose a risk to children. Social networks have no place in our school and so school staff should not be approached online or invited to join. Children should be encouraged to only use the School's Virtual Learning Environment where they can share information, blog and chat in a safe environment.**

As the parent / carer of the above students / pupils, I give permission for my son / daughter to have access to the internet and to ICT systems at school.

I know that my son / daughter has signed an Acceptable Use Agreement and has received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and ICT systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that my son's / daughter's activity on the ICT systems will be monitored and that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use Policy.

I will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home and will inform the school if I have concerns over my child's online safety.

As a parent, I support school policies on ICT and I will ensure that I monitor my child's use of the internet (including social media) outside of school. **I will act as a positive role model to my child, by ensuring that I use social media responsibly.**

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Pupil Name: _____

Signed _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____

On Line Safety Rules

These On Line Safety Rules help to protect pupils and the school by describing acceptable and unacceptable computer use.

- The school owns the computer network and can set rules for its use
- It is a criminal offence to use a computer or network for a purpose not permitted by the school
- Irresponsible use may result in the loss of network or Internet access
- Network access must be made via the user's authorised account and password, which must not be given to any other person
- All network and Internet use must be appropriate to education
- Copyright and intellectual property rights must be respected
- Messages shall be written carefully and politely, particularly as email could be forwarded to unintended readers
- Anonymous messages and chain letters are not permitted
- Users must take care not to reveal personal information through email, personal publishing, blogs or messaging
- The school ICT systems may not be used for private purposes, unless the head teacher has given specific permission
- Use for personal financial gain, gambling, political activity, advertising or illegal purposes is not permitted

Appendix C

Policy: How will infringements be handled?

Whenever a student or staff member infringes the e-Safety Policy, the final decision on the level of sanction will be at the discretion of the school management and will reflect the school's behaviour and disciplinary procedures.

The following are provided as **exemplification** only:

STUDENT	
Category A infringements	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use of non-educational sites during lessons <input type="checkbox"/> Unauthorised use of email <input type="checkbox"/> Unauthorised use of mobile phone (or other new technologies) in lessons e.g. to send texts to friends <input type="checkbox"/> Use of unauthorised instant messaging / social networking sites 	<p>Refer to class teacher / tutor</p> <p>Escalate to: Senior Leader / E-Safety Coordinator</p>
Category B infringements	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Continued use of non-educational sites during lessons after being warned <input type="checkbox"/> Continued unauthorised use of email after being warned <input type="checkbox"/> Continued unauthorised use of mobile phone (or other new technologies) after being warned <input type="checkbox"/> Continued use of unauthorised instant messaging / chatrooms, social networking sites, NewsGroups <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Filesharing software e.g. Napster, Vanbasco, BitTorrent, LiveWire, etc <input type="checkbox"/> Trying to buy items over online <input type="checkbox"/> Accidentally corrupting or destroying others' data without notifying a member of staff of it <input type="checkbox"/> Accidentally accessing offensive material and not logging off or notifying a member of staff of it 	<p>Refer to Class teacher/ E-safety Coordinator</p> <p>Escalate to: removal of Internet access rights for a period / removal of phone until end of day / contact with parent</p>

STUDENT	
Category C infringements	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Deliberately corrupting or destroying someone's □ data, violating privacy of others or posts inappropriate messages, videos or images on a social networking site. □ Sending an email or MSN message that is regarded as harassment or of a bullying nature (one-off) □ Trying to access offensive or pornographic material (one-off) □ Purchasing or ordering of items online □ Transmission of commercial or advertising material 	<p>Refer to Class teacher / E-safety Coordinator / Head teacher / removal of Internet and/or Learning Platform access rights for a period</p> <p>Escalate to: contact with parents / removal of equipment</p> <p>Other safeguarding actions if inappropriate web material is accessed: Ensure appropriate technical support filters the site</p>
Category D infringements	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Continued sending of emails or MSN messages □ regarded as harassment or of a bullying nature after being warned □ Deliberately creating accessing, downloading or disseminating any material deemed offensive, obscene, defamatory, racist, homophobic or violent □ Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the conditions of the Data Protection Act, revised 1988 □ Bringing the school name into disrepute 	<p>Refer to Head Teacher / Contact with parents</p> <p>Other possible safeguarding actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure and preserve any evidence • Inform the sender's e-mail service provider. • Liaise with relevant service providers/ instigators of the offending material to remove • Report to Police / CEOP where child abuse or illegal activity is suspected

STAFF	
Category A infringements (Misconduct)	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive use of Internet for personal activities not related to professional development e.g. online shopping, personal email, instant messaging etc. • Use of personal data storage media (e.g. USB memory sticks) without considering access and appropriateness of any files stored. • Not implementing appropriate safeguarding procedures. • Any behaviour on the World Wide Web that compromises the staff members professional standing in the school and community. • Misuse of first level data security, e.g. wrongful use of passwords. • Breaching copyright or license e.g. installing unlicensed software on network. 	<p>Referred to: Head teacher / Deputy Head</p> <p>Escalate to:</p> <p><i>Warning given</i></p>
Category B infringements (Gross Misconduct)	Possible Sanctions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious misuse of, or deliberate damage to, any school / Council computer hardware or software; • Any deliberate attempt to breach data protection or computer security rules; • Deliberately creating ,accessing, downloading and disseminating any material deemed offensive, obscene, defamatory, racist, homophobic or violent; • Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the conditions of the Data Protection Act, revised 1988; 	<p>Referred to Head teacher / Governors;</p> <p>Other safeguarding actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remove the PC to a secure place to ensure that there is no further access to the PC or laptop. <p>Instigate an audit of all ICT equipment by an outside agency, such as the schools ICT managed service providers - to ensure there is no risk of pupils accessing inappropriate materials in the school. Identify the precise details of the material.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bringing the school name into disrepute 	<p><i>Escalate to:</i></p> <p><i>report to LA /LSCB, Personnel, Human resource.</i></p> <p>Report to Police / LADO where child abuse suspected.</p>

If a member of staff commits an exceptionally serious act of gross misconduct

The member of staff should be instantly suspended. Normally though, there will be an investigation before disciplinary action is taken for any alleged offence. As part of that the member of staff will be asked to explain their actions and these will be considered before any disciplinary action is taken.

School will involve external support agencies as part of these investigations e.g. an ICT technical support service to investigate equipment and data evidence and the Local Authority Human Resources team.

Child abuse images found

In the case of Child abuse images being found, the member of staff should be **immediately suspended** and the Police should be called along with the LADO within the Local Authority.

Anyone may report any inappropriate or potentially illegal activity or abuse with or towards a child online to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP). Staff may also refer to Allegations of Abuse Against Staff and Whistle Blowing policies.

How will staff and students be informed of these procedures?

- They will be fully explained and included within the school's E-safety / Acceptable Use Policy. All staff will be required to sign the school's E-safety acceptable use agreement form;
- Pupils will be taught about responsible and acceptable use and given strategies to deal with incidents so they can develop 'safe behaviours'. Pupils will sign an age appropriate E-safety / acceptable use agreement form;
- The school's E-safety policy will be made available and explained to parents, and parents will sign an acceptance form when their child starts at the school.

Acceptable ICT Use Agreement: All Staff and Governors

Rules for Responsible Computer and Internet Use

Covers use of all digital technologies in school: i.e. email, Internet, intranet, network resources, learning platform, software, communication tools, equipment and systems.

- I will only use the school's digital technology resources and systems for Professional purposes or for uses deemed 'reasonable' by the Head and Governing Body.
- I will not reveal my password(s) to anyone.
- I will follow 'good practice' advice in the creation and use of my password. If my password is compromised, I will ensure I change it. I will not use anyone else's password if they reveal it to me and will advise them to change it.
- I will not allow unauthorised individuals to access email / Internet / intranet / network, or other school systems, *or any Local Authority (LA) system I have access to.*
- I will ensure all documents, data etc., are printed, saved, accessed and deleted / shredded in accordance with the school's network and data security protocols.
- I will not engage in any online activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.
- I will only use the approved email system(s) for any school business; Microsoft 365
- I will only use the approved *communication systems* with pupils or parents/carers, and only communicate with them on appropriate school business.
- I will not browse, download or send material that is considered offensive or of an extremist nature by the school.
- I will report any accidental access to, or receipt of inappropriate materials, or filtering breach or equipment failure to the *Computing Lead / Headteacher*
- I will not download any software or resources from the Internet that can compromise the network or might allow me to bypass the filtering and security system or are not adequately licensed.
- I will check copyright and not publish or distribute any work including images, music and videos, that is protected by copyright without seeking the author's permission.
- I will not connect any device (including USB flash drive), to the network that does not have up-to-date anti-virus software, and I will keep any 'loaned' equipment up-to-date, using the school's *recommended anti-virus and other ICT 'defence' systems.*
- I will not use personal digital cameras or camera phones or digital devices for taking, editing and transferring images or videos of pupils or staff and will not store any such images or videos at home.
- I will follow the school's policy on use of mobile phones / devices at school and *will not take into classrooms / only use in staff areas at break times.*
- I will only use school approved equipment for any storage, editing or transfer of digital images / videos and ensure I only save photographs and videos of children and staff on the *appropriate system or staff-only drive within school.*
- I will use the school's Learning Platform in accordance with school protocols.

- I will ensure that any private social networking sites / blogs etc that I create or actively contribute to are not confused with my professional role.
- I will ensure, where used, I know how to use any social networking sites / tools securely, so as not to compromise my professional role.
- I agree and accept that any computer or laptop loaned to me by the school, is provided solely to support my professional responsibilities and that I will notify the school of any “significant personal use” as defined by HM Revenue & Customs.
- I will ensure any confidential data that I wish to transport from one location to another is protected by encryption and that I follow school data security protocols when using any such data at any location.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any information seen by me with regard to staff or pupil information, held within the school’s information management system, will be kept private and confidential, EXCEPT when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.
- I will alert *the School’s* child protection officer / appropriate senior member of staff if I feel the behaviour of any child may be a cause for concern.
- I understand it is my duty to support a whole-school safeguarding approach and will report any behaviour of other staff or pupils, which I believe may be inappropriate or concerning in any way, to *senior member of staff / designated Child Protection lead*.
- I understand that all Internet and network traffic / usage can be logged and this information can be made available *to the Head / Safeguarding Lead* on their request.
- I will only use any LA system I have access to in accordance with their policies.
- *Staff that have a teaching role only:* I will embed the school’s on-line safety / digital literacy / counter extremism curriculum into my teaching.

User Signature

I agree to abide by all the points above.

I understand that I have a responsibility for my own and others e-safeguarding and I undertake to be a ‘safe and responsible digital technologies user’.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that I remain up-to-date and read and understand the school’s most recent e-safety policies.

I understand that failure to comply with this agreement could lead to disciplinary action.

Signature Date

Full Name (printed)

Job title / Role

Authorised Signature (Head Teacher / Deputy)

I approve this user to be set-up on the school systems relevant to their role

Signature Date

Full Name (printed)

Acceptable ICT Use Agreement: Pupils
Rules for Responsible Computer and Internet Use

These rules will keep me safe and help me to be fair to others.

- I will only use the school's computers for schoolwork and homework.
- I will only edit or delete my own files and not look at, or change, other people's files without their permission.
- I will keep my logins and passwords secret.
- I will not bring files into school without permission or upload inappropriate material to my workspace.
- I am aware that some websites and social networks have age restrictions and I should respect this.
- I will not attempt to visit Internet sites that I know to be banned by the school.
- I will only e-mail people I know, or a responsible adult has approved.
- The messages I send, or information I upload, will always be polite and sensible.
- I will not open an attachment, or download a file, unless I know and trust the person who has sent it.
- I will not give my home address, phone number, send a photograph or video, or give any other personal information that could be used to identify me, my family or my friends, unless a trusted adult has given permission. I will never arrange to meet someone I have only ever previously met on the Internet, unless my parent/carer has given me permission and I take a responsible adult with me.
- If I see anything I am unhappy with or I receive a message I do not like, I will not respond to it but I will show a teacher / responsible adult.

I have read and understand these rules and agree to them.

Signed: _____ Date: _____