

# Griffin Park Primary School

## Online safety policy



Approved by:	Lesley Otter-Deputy DDSL	Date: 14.10.25
Ratified by the Governors	25/11/2025	
Next review due by:	14.10.26	

## Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 and 2017 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

## Safeguarding Statement

At Griffin Park we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Griffin Park. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

## Wellbeing Vision

At Griffin Park we recognise the importance of emotional wellbeing. We understand that the wellbeing of our children is affected by the wellbeing of the adults they interact with, therefore it is essential that we help protect and promote the emotional health and wellbeing of each and every member of our school community

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## 1. Aims

Griffin Park Primary school aims to:

Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, 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

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

[Teaching online safety in schools](#)

[Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for head teachers and school staff](#)

[Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

It also refers to the Department's guidance on [protecting children from radicalisation](#).

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 pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

The policy also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

## 3. Roles and responsibilities

### 3.1 The governing board

The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the head teacher to account for its implementation.

The governing board will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, and monitor online safety logs on CPOMS as provided by Lesley Otter, the deputy designated safeguarding lead (DDSL).

All governors will:

Ensure that they have read and understand this policy

Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendix 3)

### 3.2 The head teacher

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

### 3.3 The designated safeguarding lead

Details of the school's DSL and Deputy DSLs are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy as well relevant job descriptions.

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

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

Working with the head teacher, The computing curriculum lead and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents

Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 5) and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy

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 (appendix 4 contains a self-audit for staff on online safety training needs)

Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary

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

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### 3.4 The computing curriculum lead

The computing curriculum lead is responsible for:

Liaising with Crystal (IT Technicians) to ensure appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material

Liaising with Crystal (IT Technicians) and local authority to ensure that the school's computing 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 computing systems on a weekly 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 (see appendix 5) 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.

### 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 computing systems and the internet (appendix 3), and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendices 1 and 2)

Working with the DSL/DDSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 5) 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.

### 3.6 Parents

Parents are expected to:

Notify a member of staff or the head teacher 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 (appendices 1 and 2)

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

What are the issues? - [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Hot topics - [Childnet International](#)

Parent factsheet - [Childnet International](#)

### 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 3).

## 4. Educating pupils about online safety

At Griffin Park Primary School we ensure that children have access to a progressive online safety curriculum across all year groups. :

In **Early Years Foundation Stage**, pupils will be taught to:

> Recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools and they select and use technology for particular purposes

In **Key Stage 1**, pupils will be taught to:

Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private

Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Pupils in **Key Stage 2** will be taught to:

Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly

Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour

Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact

*By the **end of primary school**, pupils will know:*

*That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not.*

*That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous*

*The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them*

*How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met*

*How information and data is shared and used online*

*How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know*

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant.

Griffin Park Primary School will use assemblies to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite different agencies to talk to pupils about this.

## 5. Educating parents about online safety

Griffin Park Primary school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website. This policy will also be shared with parents on the Griffin Park Primary School website.

Online safety will also be covered during parents' evenings.

If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the head teacher and/or the DSL/DDSL.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the head teacher.

## 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. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

### 6.2 Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying

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

Griffin Park Primary School will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be. Class teachers will discuss cyber-bullying with their year groups, and the issue will be addressed in assemblies.

Teaching staff at Griffin Park Primary School 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 pupils, as part of safeguarding training (see section 11 for more detail).

Our school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents so that they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

The DSL/DDSL 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 Examining electronic devices

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 pupils' electronic devices, including mobile phones, iPads and other tablet devices, where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

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

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the staff member in conjunction with the DSL/DDSL 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

Any searching of pupils 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 pupils' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

## 7. Acceptable use of the internet in school

All pupils, parents, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendices 1-3). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.

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.

We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1, 2 and 3.

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

Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile devices into school. Exceptions can be made in certain circumstances where parents/carers have made a prior arrangement with the school. If pupils bring mobile devices into school, they are kept in the school office until home time and they are not permitted to use them during:

Lessons

Clubs before or after school, or any other activities organised by the school

Any use of mobile devices in school by pupils must be in line with the acceptable use agreement (see appendices 1 and 2).

Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil 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**

Staff members using a work device outside 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, as set out in appendix 3.

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. Staff must not use portable storage (e.g. USB sticks) to store school related information. For example, anything containing children's names should not be stored on a portable device and/or taken off school premises. Portable storage may only be used for storing teacher's own work (e.g. planning) but the use of their OneDrive account is recommended for this.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the ICT curriculum lead.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

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

Where a pupil misuses the school's computing systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our policies on behaviour and computing. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's computing 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/staff code of conduct. 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**

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 members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required (for example through emails, e-bulletins and staff meetings).

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.

Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.

Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

## **12. Monitoring arrangements**

The DSL/DDSLs log behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety on CPOMS.

This policy will be reviewed every year by the DSL/DDSL. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

## **13. 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

ICT and internet acceptable use policy

## Appendix 1: EYFS and KS1 acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents/carers)

### ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

**Name of pupil:**

**When I use the school's ICT systems (like computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:**

Ask a teacher or adult if I can do so before using them

Only use websites that a teacher or adult has told me or allowed me to use

Tell my teacher immediately if:

- I click on a website by mistake
- I receive messages from people I don't know
- I find anything that may upset or harm me or my friends

Use school computers for school work only

I will be kind to others and not upset or be rude to them

Look after the school ICT equipment and tell a teacher straight away if something is broken or not working properly

Only use the username and password I have been given

Try my hardest to remember my username and password

Never share my password with anyone, including my friends.

Never give my personal information (my name, address or telephone numbers) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer

Save my work on the school network

Check with my teacher before I print anything

Log off or shut down a computer when I have finished using it

**I agree that Griffin Park Primary school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.**

**Signed (pupil):**

**Date:**

**Parent/carer agreement:** 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 pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

**Signed (parent/carer):**

**Date:**

## Appendix 2: KS2 acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents/carers)

### ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR PUPILS AND PARENTS/CARERS

**Name of pupil:**

**I will read and follow the rules in the acceptable use agreement policy**

**When I use the school's ICT systems (like computers) and get onto the internet in school I will:**

Always use the school's ICT systems and the internet responsibly and for educational purposes only

Only use them when a teacher is present, or with a teacher's permission

Keep my username and passwords safe and not share these with others

Keep my private information safe at all times and not give my name, address or telephone number to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carers

Tell a teacher (or sensible adult) immediately if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others

Always log off or shut down a computer when I'm finished working on it

**I will not:**

Access any inappropriate websites including: social networking sites, chat rooms and gaming sites

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

Log in to the school's network using someone else's details

Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carers, or without adult supervision

**If I bring a personal mobile phone or other personal electronic device into school:**

I will not use it during lessons, time, clubs or other activities organised by the school or permission

**I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and that there will be consequences if I don't follow the rules.**

**Signed (pupil):**

**Date:**

**Parent/carers' agreement:** 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 pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

**Signed (parent/carers):**

**Date:**

## Appendix 3: acceptable use agreement (staff, governors, volunteers and visitors)

### ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S ICT SYSTEMS AND INTERNET: AGREEMENT FOR STAFF, GOVERNORS, VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS

**Name of staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor:**

**When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, or outside school on a work device (if applicable), I will not:**

- Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature (or create, share, link to or send such material)
- Use them in any way which could harm the school's reputation
- Access social networking sites or chat rooms
- Use any improper language when communicating online, including in emails or other messaging services
- Install any unauthorised software, or connect unauthorised hardware or devices to the school's network
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Take photographs of pupils without checking with teachers first
- Share confidential information about the school, its pupils or staff, or other members of the community
- Access, modify or share data I'm not authorised to access, modify or share
- Promote private businesses, unless that business is directly related to the school

I will only use the school's ICT systems and access the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, for educational purposes or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of my role.

I agree that the school will monitor the websites I visit and my use of the school's ICT facilities and systems.

I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that work devices are secure and password-protected when using them outside school, and keep all data securely stored in accordance with this policy and the school's data protection policy.

I will let the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and ICT manager know if a pupil informs me they have found any material which might upset, distress or harm them or others, and will also do so if I encounter any such material.

I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly, and ensure that pupils in my care do so too.

**Signed (staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor):**

**Date:**

## Appendix 4: online safety training needs – self audit for staff

ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING NEEDS AUDIT	
Name of staff member/volunteer:	Date:
Question	Yes/No (add comments if necessary)
Do you know the name of the person who has lead responsibility for online safety in school?	
Do you know what you must do if a pupil approaches you with a concern or issue?	
Are you familiar with the school's acceptable use agreement for staff, volunteers, governors and visitors?	
Are you familiar with the school's acceptable use agreement for pupils and parents?	
Do you regularly change your password for accessing the school's ICT systems?	
Are you familiar with the school's approach to tackling cyber-bullying?	
Are there any areas of online safety in which you would like training/further training?	