



## St Charles Catholic Primary School Online Safety Policy

This Policy was adopted by The Governing Body of St Charles Catholic Primary School on:

Date: March 2019

Signed by: N Pearce

It will be reviewed on: March 2022

### Mission Statement

*"Let all that you do be done in Love.*

*Love is made possible with respect."* St Charles Borromeo

At St Charles' we pray, love and learn together as one school family, with Christ at our centre. We create and experience joy every day in our home, our school and our parish.

### Vision

Children will leave St. Charles':

- With a love for learning.
- With Christ in their hearts.
- With outstanding manners.
- Showing care and respect for all.
- Having achieved their best.
- With a sense of pride and confidence.
- With a deep sense of responsibility.
- With life-long skills to enhance their future.

### Values:

Everyone at St. Charles' will be:

- Compassionate
- Aspirational
- Determined
- Enthusiastic
- Humble
- Friendly
- Trustworthy

## **Aims**

St Charles Catholic 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

## **Legislation and guidance**

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. 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.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

### **The Local Governing Body**

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

The Headteachers termly report to governors will include reference to any online safety incidents.

### **The Headteacher**

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

### **The Designated Safeguarding Lead**

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, ICT manager and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 4) 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 3 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 headteacher and/or governing board

#### **The ICT manager (Primary World)**

The ICT manager is responsible for:

- Putting in place 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
- 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 regular 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 4) 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

#### **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 pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (appendix 1)
- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 4) 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

### **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)

### **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).

### **Educating pupils about online safety**

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum.

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

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 pupils' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite speakers to talk to pupils about this.

### **Educating parents about online safety**

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

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 headteacher and/or the DSL.

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

## **Cyber-bullying**

### **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.)

### **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.

The 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 tutor groups, and the issue will be addressed in assemblies.

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 pupils as part of safeguarding training.

The 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 specific incident of cyber bullying, the school will follow the process 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 will consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material, and will work with external services if it deemed necessary to do so.

### **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 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.

### **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 and 2). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use, if relevant.

Use of the schools internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individuals role. More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1 and 2.

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

We recognise that mobile phones are part of everyday life for many children and that they can play an important role in helping pupils to feel safe and secure. However, we also know that they can prove a distraction in school and can provide a means of bullying or intimidating others. Therefore:

Pupils are not permitted to have mobile phones at school or on trips. If in the rare event of a parent wishing for his/her child to bring a mobile phone to school to contact the parent after school:

- The phone must be handed in, switched off, to the office first thing in the morning and collected from them by the child at home time (Any phone is left at the owner's own risk)
- Mobile phones brought to school without permission will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day
- Where mobile phones are used in or out of school to bully or intimidate others, then the Headteacher does have the power to intervene 'to such an extent as it is reasonable to regulate the behaviour of pupils when they are off the school site'

### **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 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.

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

Where a pupil 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.

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.



## **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.

## **Monitoring arrangements**

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board.

## **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



## Appendix 1: 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 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

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

- I will not use it during lessons, tutor group time, clubs or other activities organised by the school, without a teacher's permission
- I will use it responsibly, and will not access any inappropriate websites or other inappropriate material or use inappropriate language when communicating online

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.

**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:**

**Acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet: agreement for staff, governors, volunteers and visitors**

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

**Appendix 2: acceptable use agreement (staff, governors, volunteers and visitors)**

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

- Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature
- 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
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details

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.

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 3: Online safety training needs – self audit for staff

Online safety training needs audit	
<b>Name of staff member/ volunteer:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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 schools acceptable use agreement for staff, volunteers, governors and visitors?	
Are you familiar with the schools acceptable use agreement for pupil and parents?	
Do you regularly change your passwords for accessing the schools systems?	
Are you familiar with the schools approach to tackling cyber-bullying?	
Are there any areas of online safety in which you would like further training?  Please record them here	

Appendix 4 Online safety incident report log

**Online safety incident report log**

Date	Where the incident	Description of	Action taken	Name and signature
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