

# West Felton CofE Primary School



## Online Safety Policy

Date policy last reviewed:

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hughes".

Headteacher:

Date: December 2024

Chair of governors

Date:

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## Statement of intent

West Felton CofE Primary School believes that using online services is an important aspect of raising educational standards, promoting pupil achievement, and enhancing teaching and learning. The use of online services is embedded throughout the school; therefore, there are a number of controls in place to ensure the safety of pupils and staff.

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but they can be categorised into four areas of risk:

- **Content:** Being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material, e.g. pornography, fake news, self-harm and suicide, and discriminatory or extremist views.
- **Contact:** Being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users, e.g. peer pressure, commercial advertising, and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit children.
- **Conduct:** Personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, e.g. sending and receiving explicit messages, and cyberbullying.
- **Commerce:** Risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams.

The measures implemented to protect pupils and staff revolve around these areas of risk. Our school has created this policy with the aim of ensuring appropriate and safe use of the internet and other digital technology devices by all pupils and staff.

## 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2021) 'Harmful online challenges and online hoaxes'
- DfE (2021) 'Keeping children safe in education 2021'
- Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and UK Council for Internet Safety (2020) 'Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people'
- DfE (2019) 'Teaching online safety in school'
- DfE (2018) 'Searching, screening and confiscation'
- National Cyber Security Centre (2018) 'Small Business Guide: Cyber Security'
- UK Council for Child Internet Safety (2020) 'Education for a Connected World – 2020 edition'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Social Media Policy
- Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy
- Acceptable Use Agreement
- Data and Cyber-security Breach Prevention and Management Plan
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- PSHE Policy
- RSE and Health Education Policy
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy
- Pupils' Personal Electronic Devices Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Behavioural Policy
- Disciplinary Policy and Procedures
- Data Protection Policy
- Confidentiality Policy

- Photography Policy
  - Device User Agreement
  - Staff ICT and Electronic Devices Policy
  - Prevent Duty Policy
  - Pupil Remote Learning Policy
  - Technology Acceptable Use Agreement for Pupils
  - Technology Acceptable Use Agreement – Staff
2. Roles and responsibilities

**The Westcliffe governing body is responsible for:**

- Ensuring that this policy is effective and complies with relevant laws and statutory guidance.
- Ensuring the DSL's remit covers online safety.
- Reviewing this policy on an annual basis.
- Ensuring their own knowledge of online safety issues is up-to-date.
- Ensuring all staff undergo safeguarding and child protection training, including online safety, at induction.
- Ensuring that there are appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place.
- Ensuring that all relevant school policies have an effective approach to planning for, and responding to, online challenges and hoaxes embedded within them.

**The headteacher is responsible for:**

- Ensuring that online safety is a running and interrelated theme throughout the school's policies and procedures, including in those related to the curriculum, teacher training and safeguarding.
- Supporting the DSL and the deputy DSL by ensuring they have enough time and resources to carry out their responsibilities in relation to online safety.
- Ensuring staff receive regular, up-to-date and appropriate online safety training and information as part of their induction and safeguarding training.
- Ensuring online safety practices are audited and evaluated.
- Supporting staff to ensure that online safety is embedded throughout the curriculum so that all pupils can develop an appropriate understanding of online safety.
- Organising engagement with parents to keep them up-to-date with current online safety issues and how the school is keeping pupils safe.
- Working with the DSL and ICT technicians to conduct half-termly light-touch reviews of this policy.

- Working with the DSL and governing board to update this policy on an annual basis.

**The DSLs are responsible for:**

- Taking the lead responsibility for online safety in the school.
- Acting as the named point of contact within the school on all online safeguarding issues.
- Undertaking training so they understand the risks associated with online safety and can recognise additional risks that pupils with SEND face online.
- Liaising with relevant members of staff on online safety matters, e.g. the SENCO and ICT technicians.
- Ensuring online safety is recognised as part of the school's safeguarding responsibilities and that a coordinated approach is implemented.
- Ensuring safeguarding is considered in the school's approach to remote learning.
- Ensuring appropriate referrals are made to external agencies, as required.
- Keeping up-to-date with current research, legislation and online trends.
- Coordinating the school's participation in local and national online safety events, e.g. Safer Internet Day.
- Establishing a procedure for reporting online safety incidents and inappropriate internet use, both by pupils and staff.
- Ensuring all members of the school community understand the reporting procedure.
- Maintaining records of reported online safety concerns as well as the actions taken in response to concerns.
- Monitoring online safety incidents to identify trends and any gaps in the school's provision, and using this data to update the school's procedures.
- Reporting to the governing board about online safety on a termly basis.
- Working with the headteacher and ICT technicians to conduct half-termly light-touch reviews of this policy.
- Working with the headteacher and governing board to update this policy on an annual basis.

**ICT technicians are responsible for:**

- Providing technical support in the development and implementation of the school's online safety policies and procedures.
- Implementing appropriate security measures as directed by the headteacher.
- Ensuring that the school's filtering and monitoring systems are updated as appropriate.
- Working with the DSL and headteacher to conduct half-termly light-touch reviews of this policy.

**All staff members are responsible for:**

- Taking responsibility for the security of ICT systems and electronic data they use or have access to.
- Modelling good online behaviours.
- Maintaining a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology.
- Having an awareness of online safety issues.
- Ensuring they are familiar with, and understand, the indicators that pupils may be unsafe online.
- Reporting concerns in line with the school's reporting procedure.
- Where relevant to their role, ensuring online safety is embedded in their teaching of the curriculum.

**Pupils are responsible for:**

- Adhering to our Acceptable Use Agreement and other relevant policies.
- Seeking help from school staff if they are concerned about something they or a peer have experienced online.
- Reporting online safety incidents and concerns in line with the procedures within this policy.

### **3. Managing online safety**

All staff will be aware that technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues affecting young people, particularly owing to the rise of social media and the increased prevalence of children using the internet.

The DSLs have overall responsibility for the school's approach to online safety, with support from deputies and the headteacher where appropriate, and will ensure that there are strong processes in place to handle any concerns about pupils' safety online.

The importance of online safety is integrated across all school operations in the following ways:

- Staff receive regular training
- Staff receive regular email updates regarding online safety information and any changes to online safety guidance or legislation
- Online safety is integrated into learning throughout the curriculum
- Assemblies are conducted termly on the topic of remaining safe online

#### **Handling online safety concerns**

Any disclosures made by pupils to staff members about online abuse, harassment or exploitation, whether they are the victim or disclosing on behalf of another child, will be handled in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Concerns regarding a staff member's online behaviour are reported to the headteacher, who decides on the best course of action in line with the relevant policies, e.g. the Staff Code of Conduct, Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy, and Disciplinary Policy and Procedures. If the concern is about the headteacher, it is reported to the chair of governors (Mrs. Eve Whitmore).

Concerns regarding a pupil's online behaviour are reported to a DSL, who investigates concerns with relevant staff members, e.g. the headteacher and ICT technicians, and manages concerns in accordance with relevant policies depending on their nature, e.g. the Behavioural Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Where there is a concern that illegal activity has taken place, the headteacher contacts the police.

The school avoids unnecessarily criminalising pupils, e.g. calling the police, where criminal behaviour is thought to be inadvertent and as a result of ignorance or normal developmental curiosity, e.g. a pupil has taken and distributed indecent imagery of themselves. The DSL will decide in which cases this response is appropriate and will manage such cases in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

All online safety incidents and the school's response are recorded on CPOMS.

#### **4. Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullying can include the following:

- Threatening, intimidating or upsetting text messages
- Threatening or embarrassing pictures and video clips sent via mobile phone cameras
- Silent or abusive phone calls or using the victim's phone to harass others, to make them think the victim is responsible
- Threatening or bullying emails, possibly sent using a pseudonym or someone else's name
- Menacing or upsetting responses to someone in a chatroom
- Unpleasant messages sent via instant messaging
- Unpleasant or defamatory information posted to blogs, personal websites and social networking sites, e.g. Facebook

Cyberbullying against pupils or staff is not tolerated under any circumstances. Incidents of cyberbullying are dealt with quickly and effectively wherever they occur in line with the Anti-bullying Policy.

#### **5. Peer-on-peer sexual abuse and harassment**

Pupils may also use the internet and technology as a vehicle for sexual abuse and harassment. Staff will understand that this abuse can occur both in and outside of school and off and online, and will remain aware that pupils are less likely to report concerning online sexual behaviours, particularly if they are using websites that they know adults will consider to be inappropriate for their age.

The following are examples of online harmful sexual behaviour of which staff will be expected to be aware:

- Threatening, facilitating or encouraging sexual violence
- Upskirting, i.e. taking a picture underneath a person's clothing without consent and with the intention of viewing their genitals, breasts or buttocks
- Sexualised online bullying, e.g. sexual jokes or taunts
- Unwanted and unsolicited sexual comments and messages
- Consensual or non-consensual sharing of sexualised imagery

Staff will be aware that creating, possessing, and distributing indecent imagery of other children, i.e. individuals under the age of 18, is a criminal offence, even where the imagery is created, possessed, and distributed with the permission of the child depicted, or by the child themselves.

The school responds to all concerns regarding online peer-on-peer sexual abuse and harassment, regardless of whether the incident took place on the school premises or using school-owned equipment. Concerns regarding online peer-on-peer abuse are reported to the DSL, who will investigate the matter in line with the Peer-on-peer Abuse Policy and the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **6. Grooming and exploitation**

Grooming is defined as the situation whereby an adult builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child with the intention of manipulating, exploiting and/or abusing them.

Staff will be aware that grooming often takes place online and that pupils who are being groomed are commonly unlikely to report this behaviour for many reasons, including the following:

- The pupil believes they are talking to another child, when they are actually talking to an adult masquerading as someone younger with the intention of gaining their trust to abuse them.
- The pupil does not want to admit to talking to someone they met on the internet for fear of judgement, feeling embarrassed, or a lack of understanding from their peers or adults in their life.
- The pupil may have been manipulated into feeling a sense of dependency on their groomer due to the groomer's attempts to isolate them from friends and family.
- Talking to someone secretly over the internet may make the pupil feel 'special', particularly if the person they are talking to is older.
- The pupil may have been manipulated into feeling a strong bond with their groomer and may have feelings of loyalty, admiration, or love, as well as fear, distress and confusion.

Due to the fact pupils are less likely to report grooming than other online offences, it is particularly important that staff understand the indicators of this type of abuse. The DSL will ensure that online safety training covers online abuse, the importance of looking for signs of grooming, and what the signs of online grooming are, including:

- Being secretive about how they are spending their time.
- Having an older boyfriend or girlfriend, usually one that does not attend the school and whom their close friends have not met.
- Having money or new possessions, e.g. clothes and technological devices, that they cannot or will not explain.

### **Child sexual exploitation (CSE) and child criminal exploitation (CCE)**

Although CSE often involves physical sexual abuse or violence, online elements may be prevalent, e.g. sexual coercion and encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways through the internet. In some cases, a pupil may be groomed online to become involved in a wider network of exploitation, e.g. the production of child pornography or forced child prostitution and sexual trafficking.

CCE is a form of exploitation in which children are forced or manipulated into committing crimes for the benefit of their abuser, e.g. drug transporting, shoplifting and serious violence. While these crimes often take place in person, it is increasingly common for children to be groomed and manipulated into participating through the internet.

Where staff have any concerns about pupils with relation to CSE or CCE, they will bring these concerns to the DSL without delay, who will manage the situation in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

### **Radicalisation**

Radicalisation is the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. This process can occur through direct recruitment, e.g. individuals in extremist groups identifying, targeting and contacting young people with the intention of involving them in terrorist activity, or by exposure to violent ideological propaganda. Children who are targets for radicalisation are likely to be groomed by extremists online to the extent that they believe the extremist has their best interests at heart, making them more likely to adopt the same radical ideology.

Staff members will be aware of the factors which can place certain pupils at increased vulnerability to radicalisation, as outlined in the Prevent Duty Policy. Staff will be expected to exercise vigilance towards any pupils displaying indicators that they have been, or are being, radicalised. All regularly complete Prevent training.

Where staff have a concern about a pupil relating to radicalisation, they will report this to the DSL without delay, who will handle the situation in line with the Prevent Duty Policy.

### **7. Mental health**

The internet, particularly social media, can be the root cause of a number of mental health issues in pupils, e.g. low self-esteem and suicidal ideation.

Staff will be aware that online activity both in and outside of school can have a substantial impact on a pupil's mental state, both positively and negatively. The DSLs will ensure that training is available to help ensure that staff members understand popular social media sites and terminology, the ways in which social media and the internet in general can impact mental health, and the indicators that a pupil is suffering from challenges in their mental health. Concerns about the mental health of a pupil will be dealt with in line with the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Policy.

### **8. Online hoaxes and harmful online challenges**

For the purposes of this policy, an "online hoax" is defined as a deliberate lie designed to seem truthful, normally one that is intended to scaremonger or to distress individuals who come across it, spread on online social media platforms.

For the purposes of this policy, "harmful online challenges" refers to challenges that are targeted at young people and generally involve users recording themselves participating in an online challenge, distributing the video through social media channels and daring others to do the same. Although many online challenges are harmless, an online challenge becomes harmful when it could potentially put the participant at risk of harm, either directly as a result of partaking in the challenge itself or indirectly as a result of the distribution of the video online – the latter will usually depend on the age of the pupil and the way in which they are depicted in the video.

Where staff suspect there may be a harmful online challenge or online hoax circulating amongst pupils in the school, they will report this to the DSL immediately.

The DSLs will conduct a case-by-case assessment for any harmful online content brought to their attention, establishing the scale and nature of the possible risk to pupils, and whether the risk is one that is localised to the school or the local area, or whether it extends more widely across the country. Where the harmful content is prevalent mainly in the local area, the DSLs will consult with the LA about whether quick local action can prevent the hoax or challenge from spreading more widely.

Prior to deciding how to respond to a harmful online challenge or hoax, the DSLs and the headteacher will decide whether each proposed response is:

- In line with any advice received from a known, reliable source, e.g. the UK Safer Internet Centre, when fact-checking the risk of online challenges or hoaxes.
- Careful to avoid needlessly scaring or distressing pupils.
- Not inadvertently encouraging pupils to view the hoax or challenge where they would not have otherwise come across it, e.g. where content is explained to younger pupils but is almost exclusively being shared amongst older pupils.
- Proportional to the actual or perceived risk.
- Helpful to the pupils who are, or are perceived to be, at risk.
- Appropriate for the relevant pupils' age and developmental stage.
- Supportive.
- In line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Where the DSL's assessment finds an online challenge to be putting pupils at risk of harm, e.g. it encourages children to participate in age-inappropriate activities that could increase safeguarding risks or become a child protection concern, they will ensure that the challenge is directly addressed to the relevant pupils, e.g. those within a particular age range that is directly affected or even to individual children at risk where appropriate.

The DSL and headteacher will only implement a school-wide approach to highlighting potential harms of a hoax or challenge when the risk of needlessly increasing pupils' exposure to the risk is considered and mitigated as far as possible.

## **9. Cyber-crime**

Cyber-crime is criminal activity committed using computers and/or the internet. There are two key categories of cyber-crime:

- Cyber-enabled – these crimes can be carried out offline; however, are made easier and can be conducted at higher scales and speeds online, e.g. fraud, purchasing and selling of illegal drugs, and sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Cyber-dependent – these crimes can only be carried out online or by using a computer, e.g. making, supplying or obtaining malware, illegal hacking, and 'booting', which means overwhelming a network, computer or website with internet traffic to render it unavailable.

The school will factor into its approach to online safety the risk that pupils with a particular affinity or skill in technology may become involved, whether deliberately or inadvertently, in cyber-crime. Where there are any concerns about a pupil's use of technology and their intentions with regard to using their skill and affinity towards it, the DSL will consider a referral to the Cyber Choices programme, which aims to intervene where children are at risk of committing cyber-crime and divert them to a more positive use of their skills and interests.

The DSL and headteacher will ensure that pupils are taught, throughout the curriculum, how to use technology safely, responsibly and lawfully, and will ensure that pupils cannot access sites or areas of the internet that may encourage them to stray from lawful use of technology, e.g. the 'dark web', on school-owned devices or on school networks through the use of appropriate firewalls.

#### **10. Online safety training for staff**

The headteacher ensures that all safeguarding training given to staff includes a specific course on online safety, including how the internet can facilitate abuse and exploitation. All staff will be made aware that pupils are at risk of abuse, by their peers and by adults, online as well as in person, and that, often, abuse will take place concurrently via online channels and in daily life.

Information about the school's full responses to online safeguarding incidents can be found in the Anti-bullying Policy, the Peer-on-peer Abuse Policy and the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

#### **11. Online safety and the curriculum**

Online safety is embedded throughout the curriculum; however, it is particularly addressed in the following subjects:

- PSHE and RSE
- ICT

Online safety teaching is always appropriate to pupils' ages and developmental stages.

Pupils are taught the underpinning knowledge and behaviours that can help them to navigate the online world safely and confidently regardless of the device, platform or app they are using. The underpinning knowledge and behaviours pupils learn through the curriculum include the following:

- How to evaluate what they see online
- How to recognise techniques used for persuasion
- What healthy and respectful relationships, including friendships, look like
- Body confidence and self-esteem
- Consent, e.g. with relation to the sharing of indecent imagery or online coercion to perform sexual acts
- Acceptable and unacceptable online behaviour
- How to identify online risks
- How and when to seek support

- How to identify when something is deliberately deceitful or harmful
- How to recognise when something they are being asked to do puts them at risk or is age-inappropriate

The online risks pupils may face online are always considered when developing the curriculum.

The headteacher and IT subject leader is involved with the development of the school's online safety curriculum. Pupils will be consulted on the online safety curriculum, where appropriate, due to their unique knowledge of the kinds of websites they and their peers frequent and the kinds of behaviours in which they engage online.

The school recognises that, while any pupil can be vulnerable online, there are some pupils who may be more susceptible to online harm or have less support from family and friends in staying safe online, e.g. pupils with SEND and LAC. Relevant members of staff, e.g. the SENCO and designated teacher for LAC, work together to ensure the curriculum is tailored so these pupils receive the information and support they need.

The school will also endeavour to take a more personalised or contextualised approach to teaching about online safety for more susceptible children, and in response to instances of harmful online behaviour from pupils.

Class teachers review external resources prior to using them for the online safety curriculum, to ensure they are appropriate for the cohort of pupils. When reviewing these resources, the following questions are asked:

- Where does this organisation get their information from?
- What is their evidence base?
- Have they been externally quality assured?
- What is their background?
- Are they age-appropriate for pupils?
- Are they appropriate for pupils' developmental stage?

External visitors may be invited into school to help with the delivery of certain aspects of the online safety curriculum. The headteacher and DSL decide when it is appropriate to invite external groups into school and ensure the visitors selected are appropriate, for example, the NSPCC.

Before conducting a lesson or activity on online safety, the class teacher and headteacher consider the topic that is being covered and the potential that pupils in the class have suffered or may be suffering from online abuse or harm in this way. The headteacher advises the staff member on how to best support any pupil who may be especially impacted by a lesson or activity. Lessons and activities are planned carefully so they do not draw attention to a pupil who is being or has been abused or harmed online, to avoid publicising the abuse.

During an online safety lesson or activity, the class teacher ensures a safe environment is maintained in which pupils feel comfortable to say what they feel and ask questions, and are not worried about getting into trouble or being judged.

If a staff member is concerned about anything pupils raise during online safety lessons and activities, they will make a report in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

If a pupil makes a disclosure to a member of staff regarding online abuse following a lesson or activity, the staff member will follow the reporting procedure outlined in the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **12. Use of technology in the classroom**

A wide range of technology is used during lessons, including the following:

- Computers
- Laptops
- Tablets/iPads
- Email
- Cameras

Prior to using any websites, tools, apps or other online platforms in the classroom, or recommending that pupils use these platforms at home, the class teacher always reviews and evaluates the resource. Class teachers ensure that any internet-derived materials are used in line with copyright law.

Pupils are supervised when using online materials during lesson time – this supervision is suitable to their age and ability.

## **13. Use of smart technology**

While the school recognises that the use of smart technology can have educational benefits, there are also a variety of associated risks which the school will ensure it manages.

Pupils will be educated on the acceptable and appropriate use of personal devices and will use technology in line with the school's Technology Acceptable Use Agreement for Pupils.

Staff will use all smart technology and personal technology in line with the school's Staff ICT and Electronic Devices Policy.

At West Felton CofE Primary School, Pupils are only allowed smart devices in two scenarios:

- 1) If they need it after school e.g. they are going home with a different parent to the one who dropped them off. In this instance, devices are handed in at registration and are secured in the Headteacher's office until 3:15pm
- 2) We allow our Y6 pupils to bring in their devices during Golden Time on a Friday between 2:15 and 3:00pm. In this instance, devices are handed in at registration and are secured in the Headteacher's office until 2:15pm. Y6 pupils know and understand the rules of use. They are not connected to the schools Wifi, they are not to make recordings of any kind and they are not permitted to send any messages of any sort.

Where it is deemed necessary, we reserve the right to withdraw this privilege.

We will hold assemblies, where appropriate, which address any specific concerns related to the misuse of smart technology and outline the importance of using smart technology in an appropriate manner.

The school will seek to ensure that it is kept up to date with the latest devices, platforms, apps, trends and related threats.

The school will consider the 4C's (content, contact, conduct and commerce) when educating pupils about the risks involved with the inappropriate use of smart technology and enforcing the appropriate disciplinary measures.

#### **14. Educating parents**

We aim to work in partnership with parents to ensure pupils stay safe online at school and at home. Parents are provided with information about the school's approach to online safety and their role in protecting their children. Parents are sent a copy of the Acceptable Use Agreement during Safer Internet Week and are encouraged to go through this with their child to ensure their child understands the document and the implications of not following it.

Parents will be made aware of the various ways in which their children may be at risk online, including, but not limited to:

- Child sexual abuse, including grooming.
- Exposure to radicalising content.
- Sharing of indecent imagery of pupils, e.g. sexting.
- Cyberbullying.
- Exposure to age-inappropriate content, e.g. pornography.
- Exposure to harmful content, e.g. content that encourages self-destructive behaviour.

Parents will be informed of the ways in which they can prevent their child from accessing harmful content at home, e.g. by implementing parental controls to block age-inappropriate content.

Parental awareness regarding how they can support their children to be safe online is raised in the following ways:

- Twilight training sessions
- Newsletters and information packs
- Online resources

#### **15. Filtering and monitoring online activity**

The Westcliffe governing body ensures the school's ICT network has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place. The governing body ensures 'over blocking' does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what pupils can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.

The headteacher and ICT technicians undertake a risk assessment to determine what filtering and monitoring systems are required. The filtering and monitoring systems the school implements are appropriate to pupils' ages, the number of pupils using the network, how often pupils access the network, and the proportionality of costs compared to the risks. ICT technicians undertake checks on the filtering and monitoring systems to ensure they are effective and appropriate.

Requests regarding making changes to the filtering system are directed to the headteacher. Prior to making any changes to the filtering system, ICT technicians and the Headteacher conduct a risk assessment. Any changes made to the system are recorded by ICT technicians. Reports of inappropriate websites or materials are made to an ICT technician immediately, who investigates the matter and makes any necessary changes.

Deliberate breaches of the filtering system are reported to the Headteacher and ICT technicians, who will escalate the matter appropriately. If a pupil has deliberately breached the filtering system, they will be disciplined in line with the Behavioural Policy. If a member of staff has deliberately breached the filtering system, they will be disciplined in line with the Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

If material that is believed to be illegal is accessed, inadvertently or deliberately, this material will be reported to the appropriate agency immediately, e.g. the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), CEOP and/or the police.

The school's network and school-owned devices are appropriately monitored. All users of the network and school-owned devices are informed about how and why they are monitored. Concerns identified through monitoring are reported to the DSL who manages the situation in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

## **16. Network security**

Technical security features, such as anti-virus software, are kept up-to-date and managed by ICT technicians. Firewalls are switched on at all times. ICT technicians review the firewalls on a weekly basis to ensure they are running correctly, and to carry out any required updates.

Staff and pupils are advised not to download unapproved software or open unfamiliar email attachments, and are expected to report all malware and virus attacks to ICT technicians.

All members of staff have their own unique usernames and private passwords to access the school's systems. Users inform ICT technicians if they forget their login details, who will arrange for the user to access the systems under different login details. Users are not permitted to share their login details with others and are not allowed to log in as another user at any time. If a user is found to be sharing their login details or otherwise mistreating the password system, the headteacher is informed and decides the necessary action to take.

Users are required to lock access to devices and systems when they are not in use.

Full details of the school's network security measures can be found in the Data and Cyber-security Breach Prevention and Management Plan.

## **17. The school website**

The headteacher and Business Manager are responsible for the overall content of the school website – they will ensure the content is appropriate, accurate, up-to-date and meets government requirements.

The website complies with guidelines for publications including accessibility, data protection, respect for intellectual property rights, privacy policies and copyright law. Personal information relating to staff and pupils is not published on the website. Images and videos are only posted on the website if the provisions in the Photography Policy are met.

## **18. Remote learning**

All remote learning is delivered in line with the school's Pupil Remote Learning Policy.

The school will risk assess the technology used for remote learning prior to use and ensure that there are no privacy issues or scope for inappropriate use. The school will consult with parents prior to the period of remote learning about what methods of delivering remote teaching are most suitable – alternate arrangements will be made where necessary.

The school will ensure that all school-owned equipment and technology used for remote learning has suitable anti-virus software installed, can establish secure connections, can recover lost work, and allows for audio and visual material to be recorded or downloaded, where required.

During the period of remote learning, the school will maintain regular contact with parents to:

- Reinforce the importance of children staying safe online.
- Ensure parents are aware of what their children are being asked to do, e.g. sites they have been asked to use and staff they will interact with.
- Encourage them to set age-appropriate parental controls on devices and internet filters to block malicious websites.
- Direct parents to useful resources to help them keep their children safe online.

The school will not be responsible for providing access to the internet off the school premises and will not be responsible for providing online safety software, e.g. anti-virus software, on devices not owned by the school.

## **19. Monitoring and review**

The school recognises that the online world is constantly changing; therefore, the headteacher, the DSLs, and ICT technicians conduct half-termly light-touch reviews of this policy to evaluate its effectiveness.

The Westcliffe governing body, headteacher and DSL review this policy in full on an annual basis and following any online safety incidents.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is date.

Any changes made to this policy are communicated to all members of the school community.