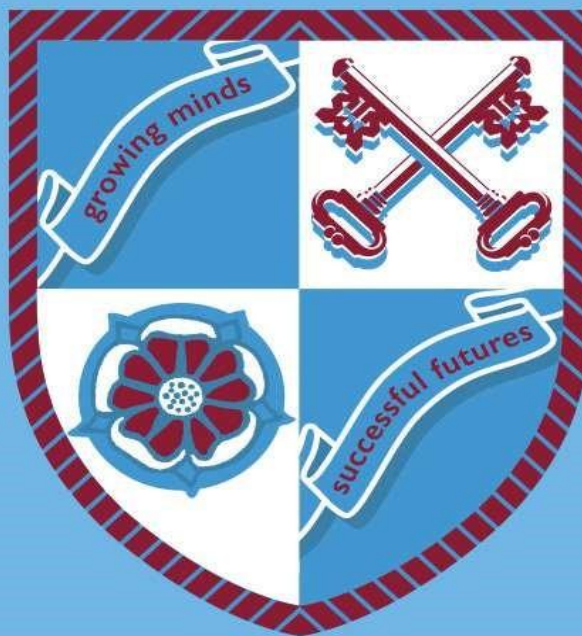




Warblington  
School

Growing minds, successful futures

# E-SAFETY POLICY



**Reviewed by:** Headteacher

**Approved by:** Full Governing Body

**Date:** January 2025

**Next review due:** January 2026

## **Rationale:**

This policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, students / pupils, volunteers, parents / carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of school ICT systems, both in and out of the school.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of students when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour.

This is pertinent to incidents of cyber-bullying or other E-Safety incidents covered by this policy, which may take place outside of the school, but is linked to membership of the school.

The 2011 Education Act increased these powers with regard to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data. In the case of both acts, action can only be taken over issues covered by the published Use Of Reasonable Force Policy.

The school will deal with such incidents within this policy and associated behaviour and anti-bullying policies and will, where known, inform parents / carers of incidents of inappropriate E-Safety behaviour that take place out of school.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The following section outlines the E-Safety roles and responsibilities of individuals and groups within the school,

### **Governors:**

Governors are responsible for the approval of the E-Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. This will be carried out by the Governors receiving regular information about E-Safety incidents and monitoring reports.

A member of the Governing Body has taken on the role of E-Safety Governor the role of the E-Safety Governor will have regular meetings with the E-Safety Co-ordinator /E-safety committee to discuss:

- I. Regular monitoring of E-Safety incident logs.
- II. Regular monitoring of filtering.
- III. Reporting to relevant Governor's meeting.

### **Headteacher and Senior Leaders:**

- The Headteacher has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including E-Safety) of members of the school community, though the day to day responsibility for E-Safety will be delegated to the E-Safety Co-ordinator.

- The Headteacher and another member of the Senior Leadership Team will be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious E-Safety allegation being made against a member of staff. (See flow chart on dealing with E-Safety incidents – included in a later section.
- The Headteacher and Senior Leaders will be responsible for ensuring that the E-Safety Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their E-Safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant.
- The Headteacher and Senior Leaders will ensure that there is a system in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in school who carry out the internal E-Safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also support to those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles.
- The Senior Leadership Team will receive regular monitoring reports from the E-Safety Co-ordinator.

### **E-Safety Coordinator**

- Leads the E-Safety Committee
- Takes day to day responsibility for E-Safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school E-Safety policies / documents.
- Ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an E-Safety incident taking place.
- Provides training and advice for staff
- Liaises with the Local Authority / relevant body.
- Liaises with school technical staff.
- Receives reports of E-Safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future E-Safety developments.
- Meets regularly with E-Safety Committee to discuss current issues, review incident logs and filtering.
- Attends relevant meetings of Governors.
- Reports regularly at Senior Leadership Team meetings

### **Network Manager / Technical staff:**

The Network Manager and Technical Staff employed by Warblington School are responsible for ensuring:

- That the school's technical infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack.

- That the school meets required E-Safety technical requirements and any Local Authority / other relevant body E-Safety Policy / Guidance that may apply.
- That users may only access the networks and devices through a properly enforced password protection policy, in which passwords are regularly changed (Every 120 Days) and using Multi Factor Authentication where appropriate.
- The filtering policy (if it has one), is applied and updated on a regular basis and that its implementation is not the sole responsibility of any single person.
- That they keep up to date with E-Safety technical information to effectively carry out their E-Safety role and to inform and update others as relevant.
- That the use of the Network / Internet / Remote access / Microsoft 365 is regularly monitored in order that any misuse / attempted misuse can be reported to the Headteacher/E-Safety Coordinator for investigation / action / sanction
- That monitoring software / systems are implemented and updated as agreed in school policies.

### **Teaching and Support Staff:**

Are responsible for ensuring that:

- They have an up-to-date awareness of E-Safety matters and of the current school E-Safety policy and practices.
- They have read, understood and signed the Staff Acceptable Use of ICT Policy.
- They report any suspected misuse or problem to the Headteacher / E-Safety Coordinator for investigation / action / sanction.
- All digital communications with students / pupils / parents / carers should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems.
- E-Safety issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum and other activities.
- Students understand and follow the E-Safety and acceptable use policies.
- Students have a good understanding of digital communications, collaboration and research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations.
- They monitor the use of digital technologies, mobile devices, cameras etc in lessons and other school activities (where allowed) and implement current policies with regard to these devices.
- In lessons where internet use is pre-planned students should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead:**

Should be trained in E-Safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection / safeguarding issues to arise from:

- Sharing of personal data
- Access to illegal / inappropriate materials
- Inappropriate online contact with adults / strangers
- Potential or actual incidents of grooming
- Cyber-bullying
- Mapping and reviewing the E-Safety curricular provision – ensuring relevance, breadth and progression
- Monitoring network / internet / incident logs
- Consulting stakeholders – including parents / carers and the students / pupils about the E-Safety provision
- Monitoring improvement actions identified through use of the 360 degree safe self-review tool.

### **Students:**

Are responsible for using the school digital technology systems in accordance with the Student Acceptable Use Policy:

- Have a good understanding of digital communications, collaboration and research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations.
- Need to understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so
- Will be expected to know and understand policies on the use of mobile devices and digital cameras. They should also know and understand policies on the taking / use of images and on cyber-bullying.
- Should understand the importance of adopting good E-Safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's E-Safety Policy covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school

### **Parents / Carers:**

Parents / Carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the internet / mobile devices in an appropriate way. The school will take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, school website, and information about national / local E-Safety campaigns / literature. Parents and carers will be encouraged to support the school in promoting good e-safety practice and to follow guidelines on the appropriate use of:

- Digital and video images taken at school events
- Access to parents' sections of the website and online student / pupil records
- Their children's personal devices in the school (where this is allowed)
- Developing healthy habits and responsible use of devices and digital communications.

### **Community Users:**

Community Users who access school systems / Website as part of the wider school provision will be expected to sign a Community User AUA before being provided with access to school systems.

## **Policy Statements**

### **Education – students:**

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating students to take a responsible approach. The education of students in E-Safety is therefore an essential part of the school's E-Safety provision. Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid E-Safety risks and build their resilience.

E-Safety should be a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce e-safety messages across the curriculum. The E-Safety curriculum should be broad, relevant and provide progression, with opportunities for creative activities and will be provided in the following ways:

- A planned E-Safety curriculum will be provided as part of Computing / SRE/Enrichment / other lessons and will be regularly revisited
- Key E-Safety messages will be reinforced as part of a planned programme of assemblies and tutorial / pastoral activities
- Students will be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials / content they access online and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.
- Students will be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Students will be helped to understand the need for the student Acceptable Use Agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside school
- Staff will act as good role models in their use of digital technologies the internet and mobile devices.

- In lessons where internet use is pre-planned, it is best practice that students will be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.
- Where students are allowed to freely search the internet, staff will be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit.
- It is accepted that from time to time, for good educational reasons, students may need to research topics (e.g. racism, drugs, and discrimination) that would normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the Technical Staff (or other relevant designated person) can temporarily remove those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so, will be auditable, with clear reasons for the need.

### **Education – parents / carers:**

Many parents and carers have only a limited understanding of E-Safety risks and issues, yet they play an essential role in the education of their children and in the monitoring / regulation of the children's online behaviours. Parents may underestimate how often children and young people come across potentially harmful and inappropriate material on the internet and may be unsure about how to respond.

The school will therefore seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through:

- Curriculum activities
- Letters, newsletters, web site
- Parents / Carers evenings / sessions
- High profile events / campaigns e.g. Safer Internet Day
- Reference to the relevant web sites / publications e.g. [www.swgfl.org.uk](http://www.swgfl.org.uk)  
[www.saferinternet.org.uk/](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/) <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers> (see appendix for further links / Parentzone resources)

### **Education – The Wider Community:**

The school will endeavour to provide opportunities for local community groups and members of the community to gain from the school's E-Safety knowledge and experience through:

- Working with the Local Partnership Board to affect an overarching strategy within the feeder schools.
- Providing family learning courses in use of new digital technologies, digital literacy and E-Safety where possible.

- E-Safety messages targeted towards grandparents and other relatives as well as parents.
- The school website will provide E-Safety information for the wider community.

### **Education & Training – Staff / Volunteers:**

It is essential that all staff receive E-Safety training and understand their responsibilities, as outlined in this policy. Training will be offered as follows:

- A planned programme of formal E-Safety training will be made available to staff. This will be regularly updated and reinforced. An audit of the E-Safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly. Through the school CPD Programme.
- All new staff should receive E-Safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school E-Safety policy and Acceptable Use Agreements.
- The E-Safety Coordinator will receive regular updates through attendance at external training events (e.g. from SWGfL / LA / other relevant organisations) and by reviewing guidance documents released by relevant organisations.
- This E-Safety policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff / team meetings / INSET days.
- The E-Safety Coordinator will provide advice / guidance / training to individuals as required.

### **Training – Governors / Directors:**

Governors should take part in E-Safety training / awareness sessions, with particular importance for those who are members of any subcommittee / group involved in technology / E-Safety / health and safety / child protection. This may be offered in a number of ways:

- Attendance at training provided by the Local Authority / National Governors Association / or other relevant organisation (e.g. SWGfL).
- Participation in school training / information sessions for staff or parents (this may include attendance at assemblies / lessons).

## **Technical – infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring:**

The school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure / network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that policies and procedures approved within this policy are implemented. It will ensure that the relevant people named in the above sections will be effective in carrying out their e-safety responsibilities:

- School technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school meets recommended technical requirements
- There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school technical systems
- Servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted.
- All users will have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices.
- All users will be provided with a username and secure password by the ICT Technician who will keep an up-to-date record of users and their usernames.
- Users are responsible for the security of their username and password and will be required to change their password regularly. Including, where appropriate, maintaining the security of any Multi Factor Authentication token (e.g. Mobile device).
- The “master / administrator” passwords for the school ICT system, used by the Network Manager (or other person) must also be available to the Headteacher or other nominated senior leader and kept in a secure place (e.g. school safe). Including, where appropriate, any Multi Factor Authentication token.
- Warblington School is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations.
- Internet access is filtered for all users.
- School technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school technical systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Agreement.
- An appropriate system is in place for users to report any actual / potential technical incident / security breach to the relevant person, as agreed).
- Appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, routers, wireless systems, workstations, mobile devices etc from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school systems and data. These are tested regularly. The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up-to-date virus software.

- An agreed protocol within the ICT policy is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (e.g. trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems.
- An agreed protocol within the ICT policy is in place regarding the extent of personal use that users (staff / students / pupils / community users) and their family members are allowed on school devices that may be used out of school.
- An agreed protocol within the ICT policy is in place that allows staff to / forbids staff from downloading executable files and installing programmes on school devices.
- An agreed protocol within the ICT policy is in place regarding the use of removable media (e.g. memory sticks / CDs / DVDs) by users on school devices. Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured.

### **Use of digital and video images:**

The school will inform and educate users about these risks and will implement policies to reduce the likelihood of the potential for harm:

- When using digital images, staff will inform and educate students about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images. In particular, they should recognise the risks attached to publishing their own images on the internet e.g. on social networking sites.
- In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner’s Office, parents / carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use (as such use is not covered by the Data Protection Act). To respect everyone’s privacy and in some cases protection, these images should not be published / made publicly available on social networking sites, nor should parents / carers comment on any activities involving other students / pupils in the digital / video images.
- Staff and volunteers are allowed to take digital / video images to support educational aims, but must follow school policies concerning the sharing, distribution and publication of those images. Those images should only be taken on school equipment, the personal equipment of staff should not be used for such purposes.
- Care should be taken when taking digital / video images that students / pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Students / pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include students / pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.

- Students' / Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a website or blog, particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of students / pupils are published on the school website.
- Student's / Pupil's work can only be published with the permission of the student / pupil and parents or carers.

### **Data Protection:**

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 2018 which states that personal data must be:

- Fairly and lawfully processed
- Processed for limited purposes
- Adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Accurate
- Kept no longer than is necessary
- Processed in accordance with the data subject's rights
- Secure
- Only transferred to others with adequate protection.

The school will ensure that:

- It will hold the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and it will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that data held is accurate, up to date and that inaccuracies are corrected without unnecessary delay.
- All personal data will be fairly obtained in accordance with the "Privacy Notice" and lawfully processed in accordance with the "Conditions for Processing".
- It has a Data Protection Policy
- It has a GDPR Policy
- It is registered as a Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act (DPA)
- Responsible persons are appointed / identified - Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO) and Information Asset Owners (IAOs)
- Risk assessments are carried out

- It has clear and understood arrangements for the security, storage and transfer of personal data
- Data subjects have rights of access and there are clear procedures for this to be obtained
- There are clear and understood policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data
- There is a policy for reporting, logging, managing and recovering from information risk incidents
- There are clear Data Protection clauses in all contracts where personal data may be passed to third parties
- There are clear policies about the use of cloud storage / cloud computing which ensure that such data storage meets the requirements laid down by the Information Commissioner's Office.

**Staff must ensure that they:**

- At all times take care to ensure the safe keeping of personal data, minimising the risk of its loss or misuse.
- Use personal data only on secure password protected computers and other devices, ensuring that they are properly "logged-off" at the end of any session in which they are using personal data.
- Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices.

**When personal data is stored on any portable computer system, memory stick or any other removable media:**

- The data must be encrypted and password protected at file level or packaged in an encrypted and password format
- The device must be password protected where appropriate (many memory sticks / cards and other mobile devices cannot be password protected)
- The device must offer approved virus and malware checking software
- The data must be securely deleted from the device, in line with school policy (below) once it has been transferred or its use is complete

**Communications:**

A wide range of rapidly developing communications technologies has the potential to enhance learning. The following table shows how the school currently considers the benefit of using these technologies for education outweighs their risks / disadvantages:

<b>TECHNOLOGIES</b>	<b>ALLOWED</b>	<b>NOT ALLOWED</b>
Mobile phones may be brought to school	√	
Use of mobile phones in lessons		√
Use of mobile phones in social time in school		√
Taking photos on mobile phones / cameras	Only when permission granted	
Use of other mobile devices e.g. tablets, gaming devices	Only When permission Granted	
Use of personal email addresses in school, or on school network		√
Use of school email for personal emails		√
Use of messaging apps	Only when permission granted	
Use of social media	Only with permission	
Use of blogs or other online services	Only when permission granted	

**When using communication technologies, the school considers the following as good practice:**

- The official school email service may be regarded as safe and secure and is monitored. Users should be aware that email communications are monitored. Staff and students should therefore use only the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or using school services (e.g. by remote access).
- Users must immediately report to the nominated person – in accordance with the school policy, the receipt of any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, discriminatory, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such communication. )
- Any digital communication between staff and students or parents / carers (email, chat, etc) must be professional in tone and content. These communications may only take place on official (monitored) school systems.
- Personal email addresses, text messaging or social media accounts must not be used for these communications.
- Students should be taught about E-Safety issues, such as the risks attached to the sharing of personal details. They should also be taught strategies to deal with inappropriate communications and be reminded of the need to communicate appropriately when using digital technologies.
- Personal information should not be posted on the school website and only official email addresses should be used to identify members of staff.

## **Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity:**

**The school provides the following measures to ensure reasonable steps are in place to minimise risk of harm to pupils, staff and the school through limiting access to personal information:**

- Training to include acceptable use; social media risks; checking of settings; data protection; reporting issues.
- Clear reporting guidance, including responsibilities, procedures and sanctions
- Risk assessment, including legal risk

### **School staff should ensure that:**

- No reference should be made in social media to students, parents / carers or school staff
- They do not engage in online discussion on personal matters relating to members of the school community
- Personal opinions should not be attributed to the school or local authority
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information.

The school's use of social media for professional purposes will be checked regularly by the E- Safety officer and E-Safety committee to ensure compliance with the Social Media, Data Protection, Communications, Digital Image and Video Policies.

### **Unsuitable / inappropriate activities:**

Some internet activity e.g. accessing child abuse images or distributing racist material is illegal and would obviously be banned from school and all other technical systems. Other activities e.g. cyber-bullying would be banned and could lead to criminal prosecution. There are however a range of activities which may, generally, be legal but would be inappropriate in a school context, either because of the age of the users or the nature of those activities.

The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in school or outside school when using school equipment or systems. The school policy restricts usage as follows:

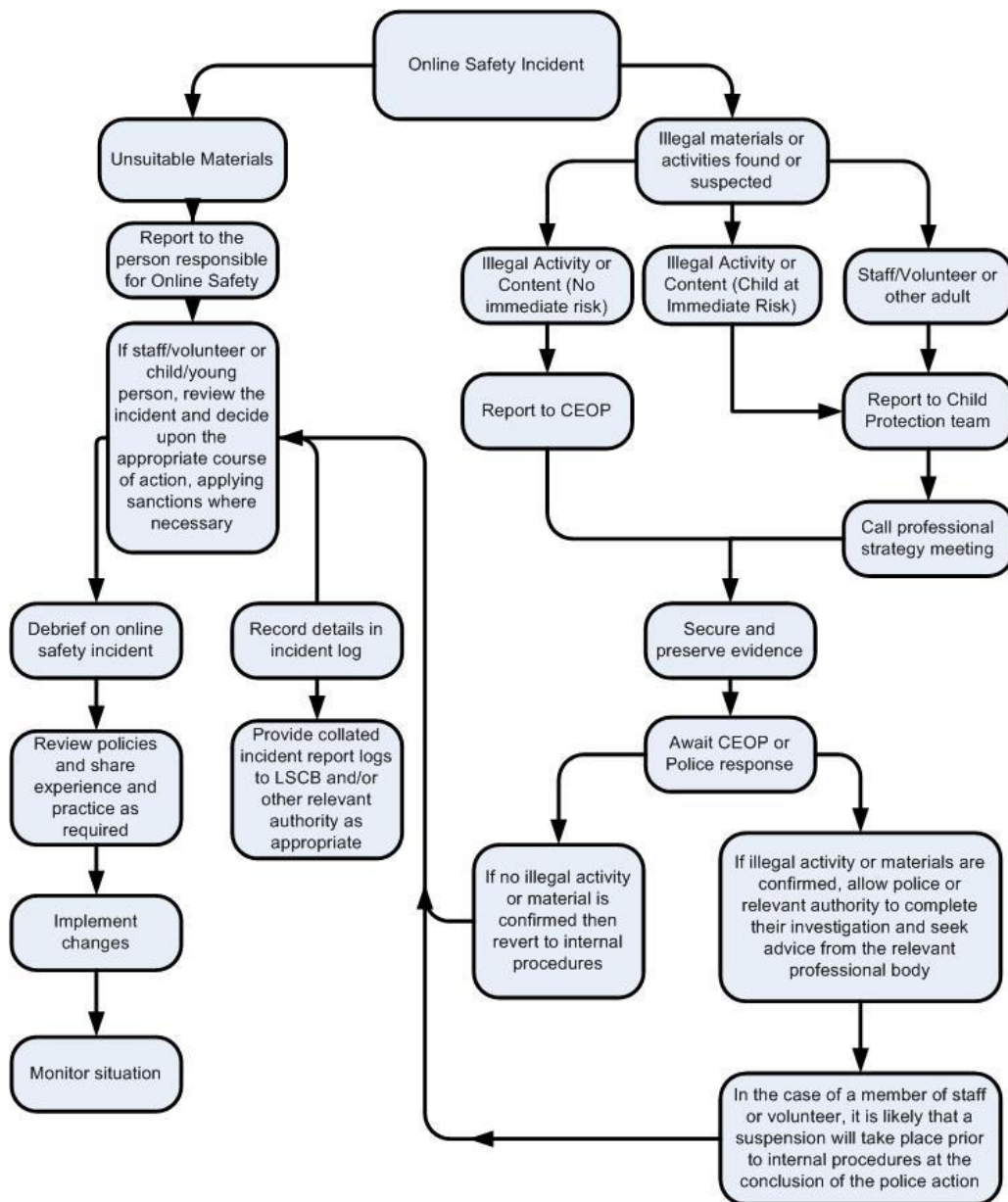
USER ACTIONS		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for nominated	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
Users shall not visit internet sites, make post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:	Child sexual abuse images – The making, production or distribution of indecent images of children. Contrary to the Protection of Children Act 1978					X
	Grooming, incitement arrangement or facilitation of sexual acts against children. Contrary to the Sexual Offences Act 2003					X
	Possession of an extreme pornographic image (grossly offensive, disgusting or otherwise of an obscene character). Contrary to the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008.					X
	Criminally racist material n UK- to stir up hatred (or hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation). Contrary to the Public Order Act 1986					X
	Pornography				X	
	Promotion of any kind of discrimination				X	
	Threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm				X	
	Any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute.				X	
Using school systems to run private business				X		
Using systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by the school/academy				X		
Infringing copyright				X		
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)				X		
Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files.				X		
Unfair usage (downloading / uploading large files that hinders others in their use of the internet)				X		
Online gaming (educational)	X					
Online gaming (non-educational)		X				
Online gambling				X		
Online shopping / commerce (staff only for educational purposes)		X				
File sharing (appropriate)		X				
Use of social media for educational purpose		X				
Use of messaging apps	X					
Use of videos broadcasting e.g.. You Tube (Educational)		X				

## **Responding to incidents of misuse:**

This guidance is intended for use when staff need to manage incidents that involve the use of online services. It encourages a safe and secure approach to the management of the incident. Incidents might involve illegal or inappropriate activities (see “User Actions” above).

### **Illegal Incidents:**

- If there is any suspicion that the web site(s) concerned may contain child abuse images, or if there is any other suspected illegal activity, refer to the right-hand side of the Flowchart (below and appendix) for responding to online safety incidents and report immediately to the police.



**Other Incidents:**

It is hoped that all members of the school community will be responsible users of digital technologies, who understand and follow school’s policy. However, there may be times when infringements of the policy could take place, through careless or irresponsible or, very rarely, through deliberate misuse.

**In the event of suspicion, all steps in this procedure should be followed:**

- Have more than one senior member of staff / volunteer involved in this process. This is vital to protect individuals if accusations are subsequently reported.

- Conduct the procedure using a designated computer that will not be used by young people and if necessary, can be taken off site by the police should the need arise. Use the same computer for the duration of the procedure.
- It is important to ensure that the relevant staff should have appropriate internet access to conduct the procedure, but also that the sites and content visited are closely monitored and recorded (to provide further protection).
- Record the URL of any site containing the alleged misuse and describe the nature of the content causing concern. It may also be necessary to record and store screenshots of the content on the machine being used for investigation. These may be printed, signed and attached to the form (except in the case of images of child sexual abuse – see below)
- Once this has been completed and fully investigated the group will need to judge whether this concern has substance or not. If it does, then appropriate action will be required and could include the following:
  - Internal response or discipline procedures
  - Involvement by Local Authority or national / local organisation (as relevant).
  - Police involvement and/or action

**If content being reviewed includes images of Child abuse then the monitoring should be halted and referred to the Police immediately. Other instances to report to the police would include:**

- incidents of 'grooming' behaviour
- the sending of obscene materials to a child
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials

**Isolate the computer in question as best you can. Any change to its state may hinder a later police investigation.**

- It is important that all of the above steps are taken as they will provide an evidence trail for the school and possibly the police and demonstrate that visits to these sites were carried out for child protection purposes. The completed form should be retained by the group for evidence and reference purposes.