



St Jude's Church of England Primary School Online Safety Policy

Our children
Our St Jude's family
Happy – Inspired – Loved
Learning in the footsteps of Jesus
The sky is not the limit
Ready for today - prepared for tomorrow

Aims

We recognise the importance of safeguarding children from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material, and we understand that technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues.

To address this, our school aims to:

- ✓ Have robust processes (including filtering and monitoring systems) in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- ✓ Protect and educate the whole school community in its safe and responsible use of technology, including mobile and smart technology (which we refer to as 'mobile phones')
- ✓ Set clear guidelines for the use of mobile phones for the whole school community
- ✓ Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene in and escalate any incidents or concerns, where appropriate

The 4 key categories of risk

Our approach to online safety is based on addressing the following categories of risk:

Content – being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, such as pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, antisemitism, radicalisation and extremism

Contact – being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users, such as peer-to-peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes

Conduct – personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, such as making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography), sharing other explicit images and online bullying; and

Commerce – risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams

To meet our aims and address the risks above, we will:

- ✓ Educate pupils about online safety as part of our curriculum. For example:
 - ✓ The safe use of social media, the internet and technology
 - ✓ Keeping personal information private
 - ✓ How to recognise unacceptable behaviour online
 - ✓ How to report any incidents of cyber-bullying, ensuring pupils are encouraged to do so, including where they're a witness rather than a victim
- ✓ Train staff, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying, the risks of online radicalisation, and the expectations, roles and responsibilities around filtering and monitoring. All staff members will receive refresher training as required and at least once each academic year
- ✓ Educate parents/carers about online safety via our website, communications sent directly to them and during parents' evenings. We will also share clear procedures with them so they know how to raise concerns about online safety
- ✓ Make sure staff are aware of any restrictions placed on them with regards to the use of their mobile phone and cameras, for example that:
 - ✓ Staff are allowed to bring their personal phones to school for their own use, but will limit such use to non-contact time when pupils are not present
 - ✓ Staff will not take pictures or recordings of pupils on their personal phones or cameras

- ✓ Make all pupils, parents/carers, staff, volunteers and governors aware that they are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the internet in school, use of the school's ICT systems and use of their mobile and smart technology
- ✓ Explain the sanctions we will use if a pupil is in breach of our policies on the acceptable use of the internet and mobile phones
- ✓ Make sure all staff, pupils and parents/carers are aware that staff have the power to search pupils' phones, as set out in the [DfE's guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#)
- ✓ Put in place robust filtering and monitoring systems to limit children's exposure to the 4 key categories of risk (described above) from the school's IT systems.
- ✓ Carry out an annual review of our approach to online safety, supported by an annual risk assessment that considers and reflects the risks faced by our school community
- ✓ Provide regular safeguarding and children protection updates including online safety to all staff, at least annually, in order to continue to provide them with the relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard effectively
- ✓ Review the child protection and safeguarding policy, including online safety, annually and ensure the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly

Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) 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 headteachers and school staff](#)
- [Relationships and sex education](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

It also refers to the DfE'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 Governing Board

- The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Head of School 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 as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).
- The governor who oversees online safety is Rory Dunnett.

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**)
- Ensure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with SEND because of the importance of recognising that a 'one size fits all' approach may not be appropriate for all children in all situations, and a more personalised or contextualised approach may often be more suitable.

The Head of School

The Head of School 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 DSL and deputies are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy as well as relevant job descriptions.

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

- Ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the ICT manager and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Managing all online safety issues and incidents in line with the school child protection policy
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged on CPOMs 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 governing board

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

The ICT manager

The ICT manager is responsible for:

- Putting in place an appropriate level of security protection procedures, such as filtering and monitoring systems, which are reviewed and updated on a regular basis to assess effectiveness and ensure pupils are kept 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 monthly basis

- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous file

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

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
- Not use their mobile phones in front of children during the school day
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT 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 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
- Responding appropriately to all reports and concerns about sexual violence and/or harassment, both online and offline and maintaining an attitude of 'it could happen here'

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

Parents

Parents are expected to:

- Notify a member of staff or the Head of School 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)
- Not use their mobile phones whilst on site, including during drop off and pick up in the playground

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

- [Childnet](#)
- [CEOP](#)
- [NSPCC](#)

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**).

Educating pupils about online safety

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

- The text below is taken from the [National Curriculum computing programmes of study](#).
- It is also taken from the [guidance on relationships education, relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education](#).

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 behavior
- 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
- What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
- 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.

Where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, will be adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with SEND.

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. This policy will also be shared with parents.

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

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

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 classes.

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, computing 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).

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 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 actions 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 is 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*

* Staff may also confiscate devices for evidence to hand to the police, if a pupil discloses that they are being abused and that this abuse includes an online element.

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with:

- The DfE's latest guidance on [screening, searching and confiscation](#)
- The DfE's guidance on [sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)
- The school's COVID-19 risk assessment where appropriate

Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

Artificial intelligence (AI)

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard.

St Jude's recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also have the potential to be used to bully others. For example, in the form of 'deepfakes', where AI is used to create images, audio or video hoaxes that look real. This includes deepfake pornography: pornographic content created using AI to include someone's likeness.

St Jude's will treat any use of AI to bully pupils in line with our Behaviour Policy.

Staff should be aware of the risks of using AI tools whilst they are still being developed and should carry out a risk assessment where new AI tools are being used by the school.

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.

Pupils using mobile devices in school

Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 who walk home alone may bring mobile devices into school after getting permission from the Head of School. A meeting between the parents and the Head of School must be arranged. If permitted, children must not use mobile phones during:

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

Mobile phones will be handed over to office staff in the morning and collected at the end of the day.

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.

Staff using work devices outside school

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected – strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Ensuring their hard drive is encrypted – this means if the device is lost or stolen, no one can access the files stored on the hard drive by attaching it to a new device
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Installing anti-virus and anti-spyware software
- Keeping operating systems up to date – always install the latest updates

Staff members must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use, as set out in appendix 3.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from Aaron Pitts, our ICT Manager.

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 our policies on behaviour and ICT and internet acceptable use. 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/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.

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).

By way of this training, all staff will be made aware that:

- Technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues, and that children are at risk of online abuse
- Children can abuse their peers online through:
 - Abusive, harassing, and misogynistic messages
 - Non-consensual sharing of indecent nude and semi-nude images and/or videos, especially around chat groups

- Sharing of abusive images and pornography, to those who don't want to receive such content > Physical abuse, sexual violence and initiation/hazing type violence can all contain an online element

Training will also help staff:

- develop better awareness to assist in spotting the signs and symptoms of online abuse
- develop the ability to ensure pupils can recognise dangers and risks in online activity and can weigh the risks up
- develop the ability to influence pupils to make the healthiest long-term choices and keep them safe from harm in the short term

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 on CPOMs.

This policy will be reviewed every year by the Head of School. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board. The review may be supported by an annual risk assessment that considers and reflects the risks pupils face online. This is important because technology, and the risks and harms related to it, evolve and change rapidly.

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

Policy History

Date Reviewed by governors	October 2024
Next Review	October 2025

This policy has been agreed by the governing body of St Jude's School and supersedes all previous policies relating to this area.

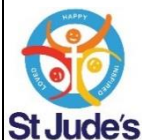
Chair of Governors: Rory Dunnett

Signed:

Date:

Signed copy in school.

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



Pupil Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (EYFS & KS1)



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
- 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 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/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 will make sure my child understands these.

Signed (parent/carer):

Date:

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



Pupil Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (KS2)



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/carer
- 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 unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity
- 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/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, 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 will leave it in the office at the start of the day and collect it at the end of the day

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/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 will make sure my child understands these.

Signed (parent/carer):

Date:

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



Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (Staff, Governors, Volunteers and Visitors)



Name of staff, governor, volunteer or 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.

I will not use any personal devices in front of the children

Signed (staff, governor, volunteer or visitor):

Date:

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



ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING NEEDS AUDIT



Name of staff, governor, volunteer or visitor:

Question:	Yes/No (add comments if necessary)
Do you know the name of the person who has leadresponsibility for online safety in school?	
Are you aware of the ways pupils can abuse their peersonline?	
Do you know what you must do if a pupil approaches youwith 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 theschool's ICT systems?	
Are you familiar with the school's approach to tacklingcyber-bullying?	
Are there any areas of online safety in which you would liketraining/further training?	

Signed (staff, governor, volunteer or visitor):

Date: