



**SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL**

**POLICY ON**

**E-SAFETY**

**Re-adopted by Local Governing Body  
March 2019**

**Next review Date: March 2021**

## **1. TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **Why Internet and digital communications are important:**

- The Internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide students with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.
- Internet use is a part of the curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils.
- The school's Internet access is provided by Norfolk County Council and includes filtering appropriate to the age of pupils.
- Pupils will be taught which Internet use is and is not acceptable and will be given clear objectives for Internet use.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet
- Pupils will be shown how to publish and present information appropriately to a wider audience.

### **Pupils will be taught how to evaluate Internet content:**

- The school will seek to ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and by pupils complies with copyright law.
- Pupils should be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- Pupils will be taught how to report unpleasant Internet content, eg using the CEOP Report Abuse icon or Hector Protector.

## **2. MANAGING INTERNET ACCESS**

### **Information system security:**

- School ICT systems security will be reviewed regularly.
- Virus protection will be updated regularly.
- Security strategies will be discussed with the Local Authority.

### **E-mail:**

#### **Pupils and staff may only use approved e-mail accounts on the school system.**

- Pupils must inform a teacher immediately if they receive offensive e-mail.
- Pupils must not reveal personal details of themselves or others in e-mail communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission.
- Staff to pupil e-mail communication must only take place via a school e-mail address or within the learning platform and will be monitored.
- Incoming e-mail should be treated as suspicious and attachments not opened unless the author is known.

- The school will consider how e-mail from pupils to external bodies is presented and controlled.
- The forwarding of chain letters is not permitted.

**Published content and the school website:**

- The contact details on the website should be the school address, e-mail and telephone number. Staff or pupils' personal information will not be published.
- The Headteacher, in conjunction with the appropriate member of the admin team, will take overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.

**Publishing photographs, images and work:**

- Photographs of pupils will be selected carefully and will not enable individual pupils to be clearly identified. The school will endeavour to use group photographs rather than full-face photos of individual children.
- Pupils' full names will be avoided on the website or learning platform, as appropriate, including in blogs, forums or wikis, particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs or images of pupils are published.
- Written permission from adults will be obtained before their names, photographs or images are published.
- Parents should be clearly informed of the school policy on image taking and publishing, both on school and independent electronic repositories.

**Social networking and personal publishing on the school learning platform:**

- The school will control access to social networking sites and consider how to educate pupils in their safe use, eg through use of passwords.
- Newsgroups will be blocked unless a specific use is approved.
- All users will be advised that they should never give out personal details of any kind which may identify them, anybody else or their location.
- Pupils must not place personal photos on any social network space provided in the school learning platform without permission.
- Pupils, parents and staff will be advised on the safe use of social network spaces.
- Pupils will be advised to use nicknames and avatars when using social networking sites.
- Pupils should not use social networking sites until they are old enough to sign up for their own account.

### **Managing filtering:**

- If staff or pupils come across unsuitable on-line materials, the site must be reported to the nominated member of staff.
- The school will ensure that regular checks are made to ascertain filtering methods selected are appropriate, effective and reasonable.

### **Managing emerging technologies:**

- Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and a risk assessment will be carried out before use in school is allowed.

### **Other Devices:**

- Sixth Form students and members of staff may, if they wish, bring their own devices from home and connect them to the school network.
- All students who use their own device must sign an agreement to abide by all other rules within this policy.

### **Protecting personal data:**

- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998. (This is under review).

## **3. POLICY DECISIONS**

### **Authorising Internet access:**

- The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to school ICT systems.
- Parents will be asked to sign and return a consent form.
- **Pupils must agree to comply with the Responsible Internet Use statement before being granted Internet access.**
- Any person not directly employed by the school will be asked to sign an 'acceptable use of school ICT resources' form before being allowed to access the Internet on the school site.

### **Assessing risks:**

- The school will take all reasonable precautions to prevent access to inappropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a school computer. Neither the school nor Norfolk Children's Services can accept liability for the material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.
- The school will audit ICT use to establish if the E-safety policy is adequate and that the implementation of the E-safety policy is appropriate and effective.

#### **Handling E-safety complaints:**

- Complaints of Internet misuse will be dealt with by a senior member of staff.
- Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the Headteacher.
- Complaints of a child protection nature must be referred to the Senior Designated Professional for Safeguarding and dealt with in accordance with school child protection procedures.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of consequences for pupils misusing the Internet.

#### **Community use of the Internet:**

- All use of the school Internet connection by community and other organisations shall be in accordance with the school E-safety policy.

### **4. COMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

#### **Introducing the E-safety policy to pupils:**

- Appropriate elements of the E-safety policy will be shared with pupils.
- E-safety rules will be posted in all networked rooms.
- Pupils will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored.
- Curriculum opportunities to gain awareness of E-safety issues and how best to deal with them will be provided for pupils.

#### **Staff and the E-safety policy:**

- All staff will be given the School E-safety Policy and its importance explained.
- Staff should be aware that Internet traffic can be monitored and traced to the individual user. Discretion and professional conduct is essential.
- **Staff who manage filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by senior management and have clear procedures for reporting issues.**

#### **Enlisting parents' support:**

- Parents' and carers' attention will be drawn to the School E-safety Policy in newsletters, the school brochure and on the school website.
- Parents and carers will from time to time be provided with additional information on E-safety.
- The school will ask all new parents to sign the parent/pupil agreement when they register their child with the school.