



Acceptable Use Policy

Written by	Reviewed and Ratified by Governors	Shared with Staff	Last Updated	Review cycle	Next Review due
Polly Ross Headteacher	February 2025	February 2025	New Policy	Annual	February 2026

1. Introduction

1.1 The use of technology and devices is essential in schools; therefore, it is important that expectations are set for members of staff in relation to the use of technology and devices, including school-owned and personal devices. This policy is designed to set the expectation for staff.

1.2 Whilst our school promotes the use of technology or devices, and understands the positive effects they can have on enhancing pupils' learning and community engagement, we must also ensure that staff use technology and devices appropriately. Any misuse of technology and devices will not be taken lightly and will be reported to the headteacher in order for any necessary further action to be taken.

1.3 This agreement outlines staff members' responsibilities when using technology and devices, both school-owned and personal, and applies to all staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors.

2. Monitoring

2.1 The school may undertake monitoring activities of employees to ensure the quality and quantity of work. The school will ensure that any monitoring activities undertaken are lawful and fair to workers, as well as meet data protection requirements.

2.2 If any monitoring activities are undertaken, then the school will ensure that employees are made aware of the nature, reasons, and extent of the monitoring, that the monitoring has a clearly defined purpose, and that it is as unobtrusive as possible to the employees.

2.3 Information which is gathered from monitoring activities must have a lawful basis. The school understands rights and the private lives of workers, particularly as remote working excessive monitoring continues to become more common, that excessive monitoring can have adverse impacts on data protection rights and the private lives of workers, particularly as remote working continues to become more common.

2.4 The school will ensure that the monitoring of workers is necessary for the identified reasons. The school will also ensure that all suitable safety checks are carried out prior to monitoring activities.

Staff are asked to read this agreement carefully, and sign at the bottom to show you agree to the terms outlined.

Device and Technology Acceptable Use Agreement

Data protection and cyber-security

I will:

- Use technology and devices, including the use and storage of personal data, in line with data protection legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.
- Follow the school's **Data Protection Policy** and any other relevant school policies and procedures.

I will not:

- Attempt to bypass any filtering, monitoring and security systems.
- Share school-related passwords with pupils, staff, parents or others unless permission has been given for me to do so.

Using technology in school

I will:

- Follow the **Mobile Phone and Mobile Devices Policy**.
- Only use ICT systems which I have been permitted to use.
- Ensure I obtain permission prior to accessing materials from unapproved sources.
- Only use the internet for personal use during out-of-school hours or break and lunch time.
- Only use recommended removable media and keep this securely stored.
- Only use personal devices within designated spaces when using the internet for personal use.
- Use of the internet for personal use will only be on personal devices and not school devices.

I will not:

- Install any software onto school ICT systems unless instructed to do so by the Headteacher or ICT technician.
- Search for, view, download, upload or transmit any inappropriate material when using the internet.

Emails

I will:

- Only use the approved email accounts that have been provided to me when sending communications regarding school business.
- Ensure any personal information that is being sent via email is only sent to the relevant people and is appropriately protected.
- Report any suspicious emails or any emails with unusual attachments to the IT technician.

I will not:

- Use personal emails to send and/or receive school-related personal data or information, including sensitive information.
- Use personal email accounts to contact pupils or parents.

School-owned devices

I will:

- Only use school-owned devices for the purpose of carrying out my school responsibilities.
- Only access websites and apps that have been approved by the Headteacher.
- Understand that the usage of my school-owned devices will be monitored.
- Keep my school-owned devices with me or within my sight at all times or leave in a secure place.
- Transport school-owned devices safely.
- Provide suitable care for my school-owned devices at all times, including removing from car overnight.
- Only communicate with pupils and parents on school-owned devices using appropriate channels.
- Ensure I install and update security software on school-owned devices as directed by the ICT technician.
- Seek permission from the Headteacher before using a school-owned device to take and store photographs or videos of pupils, parents, staff and visitors.
- Immediately report any damage or loss of my school-owned devices to the ICT technician.
- Immediately report any security issues, such as downloading a virus, to the ICT technician.
- Understand that I am expected to pay an excess for any repair or replacements costs where the device was damaged or lost as a result of my own negligence.
- Make arrangements to return school-owned devices to the ICT technician upon the end of my employment at the school.
- Staff are not permitted to take any school assets off site unless you have completed and had authorised an **Asset Loan Form** which will be signed by the Headteacher.

I will not:

- Permit any other individual to use my school-owned devices without my supervision, unless otherwise agreed by the Headteacher.
- Allow children to use a lap top or other device assigned as a staff device.
- Install any software onto school-owned devices unless instructed to do so by the Headteacher or ICT technician.
- Use school-owned devices to send inappropriate messages, images, videos or other content.
- Use school-owned devices to view, store, download or share any inappropriate, harmful or illegal content.
- Use school-owned devices to access personal social media accounts.

Personal devices

I will:

- Only use personal devices during out-of-school hours, including break and lunch times.
- Only use personal devices in designated areas of the school (office, staff room).
- Ensure personal devices are either switched off or set to silent mode during school hours.
- Ensure personal devices are stored securely away from children.
- Only make or receive calls in specific areas, e.g. the staff room / office.
- Store personal devices appropriately during school hours, e.g. a cupboard in the classroom or locker.
- Understand that I am liable for any loss, theft or damage to my personal devices.

I will not:

- Use personal devices to communicate with pupils or parents.
- Access the school's Wi-Fi using a personal device unless permission to do so has been granted by the Headteacher or ICT technician.
- Use personal devices to take photographs or videos of pupils or staff.

- Store any school-related information on personal devices unless permission to do so has been given by the Headteacher.

Social media and online professionalism

I will:

- Follow the school's **Staff Code of Conduct in relation to the use of social media**.
- Understand that I am representing the school and behave appropriately when posting on school social media accounts.
- Understand that I am representing the school when posting on personal social media accounts.
- Ensure I apply necessary privacy settings to social media accounts.

I will not:

- Communicate with pupils or parents over personal social media accounts.
- Accept 'friend' or 'follow' requests from any pupils or parents over personal social media accounts.
- Post any comments or posts about the school on any social media platforms or other online platforms which may affect the school's reputability.
- Post any defamatory, objectionable, copyright-infringing or private material, including images and videos of pupils, staff or parents, on any online website.
- Post or upload any images and videos of pupils, staff or parents on any online website without consent from the individuals in the images or videos.
- Give my home address, phone number, mobile number, social networking details or email addresses to pupils or parents – any contact with parents will be done through authorised school contact channels.

Working from home

I will:

- Ensure I obtain permission from the Headteacher before any personal data is transferred from a school-owned device to a personal device.
- Ensure any data transferred from a school-owned device to a personal device is encrypted or pseudonymised.
- Ensure any sensitive personal data is not transferred to a personal device unless completely necessary – and, when doing so, that it is encrypted.
- Ensure my personal device has been assessed for security by the ICT technician before it is used for home.
- Ensure no unauthorised persons, such as family members or friends, access any personal devices used for home working.

Training

I will:

- Participate in any relevant training offered to me, including cyber-security and online safety.
- Allow the ICT technician to undertake regular audits to identify any areas of need I may have in relation to training.
- Employ methods of good practice and act as a role model for pupils when using the internet and other digital devices.
- Deliver any training to pupils as required.

Reporting misuse

I will:

- Report any misuse by pupils or staff members breaching the procedures outlined in this agreement to the headteacher.
- Understand that my use of the internet will be monitored and recognise the consequences if I breach the terms of this agreement.
- Understand that the Headteacher may decide to take disciplinary action against me, in accordance with the **Disciplinary Policy and Procedure**, if I breach this agreement.

Monitoring workers

I understand that:

- The school will notify employees when monitoring takes place and that the school will clearly explain what personal information of mine is collected and how it's utilised and maintained.
- Monitoring is often used for security purposes, managing employees' performance, and monitoring sickness and attendance.
- Monitoring technologies include, but aren't limited to, camera surveillance, webcams, technologies for timekeeping and keyboard activity, productivity tools, internet activity trackers, body-worn devices, and hidden audio recording.
- Personal data relating to myself which is collected from monitoring activities is securely kept and protected and isn't kept for any longer than necessary by the school.
- The school will factor in increased expectations of privacy if I work from home.
- The school will conduct its monitoring activities in a way that's fair and reasonably expected.
- The school will conduct its monitoring activities with transparency, clearly explaining how and why they process my information.
- The school will conduct its monitoring activities in a way that's accountable and compliant with UK GDPR.
- I can object to having my personal information collected and processed if the lawful basis which the school is relying on is a public task or legitimate interests based on my personal situation.
- The school may refuse to comply with the objection if they can demonstrate that the monitoring is for legitimate interests which override my interests, rights, and freedoms, or that the monitoring is for establishment, exercise, or defence of legal claims.
- Tools for monitoring workers continue to become increasingly sophisticated, and that the school will inform me if they choose to use solely automated processes for monitoring activities.
- I can access the information collected by the school by making a subject access request (SAR).
- The school will carry out a data protection impact assessment (DPIA) prior to undertaking their monitoring activities. Completing a DPIA identifies and minimises any potential risks that come with monitoring activities.

Agreement

I certify that I have read and understood this agreement, and ensure that I will abide by each principle.

Name	
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Signature

Date