

Acceptable Use Policy – Parent/Carer

Background and purpose

With access to rich dynamic content, connectivity across the globe, a platform for creativity and a place to engage in debate, digital technologies provide a powerful tool for learning. It is therefore essential that children are fully equipped to have the skills and knowledge to safely access and use digital technologies.

This Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement is intended to help share the importance that the school places on keeping children safe with particular regard to online safety. It additionally intends to encourage parents/carers to be actively involved in their child's online safety education, including encouraging transparent behaviour, critical thinking and reporting. The school will aim to provide every child with the best access it can to online technologies. Filtering, monitoring and alert systems will be in place to help protect children from unnecessary risks. The school will actively encourage children to think critically about content and communication from others and develop strategies for recognising inappropriate content/behaviours and how to deal with them. In return, the school expects the children to demonstrate that they are responsible users of digital technologies at all times.

We would ask parents and carers to support us by:

- ✓ Sharing good online behaviours with your child.
- ✓ Emphasising the importance of the Acceptable Use Statements/School's rules your child has agreed to and reinforcing the schools approach to dealing with /reporting problems.
- ✓ Highlighting the importance of accessing only age appropriate content and sites along with the pitfalls of social media.
- ✓ Explaining how to keep an appropriate digital footprint.
- ✓ Discussing what is and isn't appropriate to share online.
- ✓ Emphasising never to meet anyone online nor trust that everyone has good intentions.
- ✓ Reporting any concerns, you have whether home or school based.
- ✓ Stressing the importance of openness when being online and that no one should ever be too ashamed or embarrassed to tell a trusted adult if they have seen/shared anything concerning or have had inappropriate online contact.
- ✓ Encouraging children to be critical thinkers about online material by questioning the validity of the source.
- ✓ Drawing up an agreement of online safety rules for outside of school that are applicable even when your child is at a friend's home.
- ✓ Avoiding posting or replying to any comments about the school to social media that may have a negative impact. Any concerns or worries should be reported to the school in the first instance.

Parent of:

Signature:

Date: