

Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery

Online Safety Policy	
Name/Title of responsible committee/individual:	Safeguarding Committee
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Target audience:	All stakeholders

The Governing Body shall conduct the School with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery is committed to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. These factors were considered in the formation and review of this policy and will be adhered to in its implementation and application across the whole school community.

The School will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and will actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Version	Date	Notes	
V1.0	March 2023	Approved by Safeguarding Committee	
		Updated:	
		• Aims	
V1.1	September 2023	Role and Responsibilities	
		Filtering and monitoring	
		Cyber bullying	

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1. Introduction

Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery recognises that internet, mobile and digital technologies provide positive opportunities for children and young people to learn, socialise and play but they also need to understand the challenges and risks. The digital world is an amazing place, but with few rules. It is vast and fast moving and young people's future economic success may be partly dependent on their online skills and reputation. We are, therefore, committed to ensuring that **all** pupils, staff and governors will be supported to use internet, mobile and digital technologies safely. This is part of our safeguarding responsibility. Staff are aware that some pupils may require additional support or teaching, including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their knowledge and understanding of online safety issues.

We are also committed to ensuring that all those who work with children and young people, including their parents/carers, are informed about the ever-changing risks so that they can take an active part in helping children and young people navigate the online world safely and confidently.

1.2 Aims

Our school aims to:

Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors

Identify and support groups of pupils that are potentially at greater risk of harm online than others

Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology, including mobile and smart technology (which we refer to as 'mobile phones')

Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, 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

2. Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 The governing board

The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The governing board will make sure all staff undergo online safety training as part of child protection and safeguarding training, and ensure staff understand their expectations, roles and responsibilities around filtering and monitoring.

The governing board will also make sure all staff receive regular online safety updates (via email, ebulletins and staff meetings), as required and at least annually, to ensure they are continually provided with the relevant skills and knowledge to effectively safeguard children. The governing board will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, requirements for training, and monitor online safety logs as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

The governing board should ensure children are taught how to keep themselves and others safe, including keeping safe online.

The governing board must ensure the school has appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place on school devices and school networks, and will regularly review their effectiveness. The board will review the DfE filtering and monitoring standards, and discuss with IT staff and service providers what needs to be done to support the school in meeting those standards, which include:

- Identifying and assigning roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems:
- Reviewing filtering and monitoring provisions at least annually; •
- Blocking harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and • learning;
- Having effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs. •

The governor who oversees online safety is Caroline Loison.

All governors will:

Ensure 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 online safety is a running and interrelated theme while devising and implementing their whole-school or college approach to safeguarding and related policies and/or procedures

Ensure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This is 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

2.2 The Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

2.3 The designated safeguarding lead

Details of the school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputy 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:

- Supporting the headteacher in ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the headteacher and governing board to review this policy annually and ensure • the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly
- Taking the lead on understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place on school devices and school networks
- Working with the ICT manager (Technical Consultant) to make sure the appropriate systems • and processes are in place
- Working with the headteacher, 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's child protection policy Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery

- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix H) 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
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged on CPOMs and dealt with appropriately in line with this 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 headteacher and/or governing board
- undertaking annual risk assessments that consider and reflect the risks children face
- Providing regular safeguarding and child protection updates, including online safety, to all staff, at least annually, in order to continue to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard effectively

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

2.4 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 on school devices and school networks, which are reviewed and updated at least annually 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 termly basis

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

Ensuring 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

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

2.5 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

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)

Knowing that the DSL is responsible for the filtering and monitoring systems and processes, and being aware of how to report any incidents of those systems or processes failing by notifying DSL immediately.

Following the correct procedures by Merry Hill Infant School & Nursery if they need to bypass the filtering and monitoring systems for educational purposes

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.

2.6 Parents/carers

Parents/carers are expected to:

Notify a member of staff or the headteacher 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)

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

What are the issues? - <u>UK Safer Internet Centre</u>

Hot topics - Childnet International

Parent resource sheet - Childnet International

2.7 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).

The Headteacher and governors have ultimate responsibility to ensure that appropriate online safety policy and practice is embedded and monitored. The named online safety lead in this school is Ben Reid.

All breaches of this policy must be reported to Ben Reid who will then communicate these with Melissa Adams (Headteacher).

All breaches of this policy that may have put a child at risk must also be reported to the DSL, Melissa Adams, or Deputy DSL, Ben Reid.

Organisations that are renting space from the school and are a totally separate organisation should have and follow their own online safety policy and acceptable use agreements. However, if the organisation has any access to the school network, cloud-based services and/or equipment then they must adhere to the school's online safety procedures and acceptable use agreements.

If the organisation is operating in school time or when pupils are on site in the care of the school, then the safeguarding of pupils is paramount and the organisation must adhere to the school's online safety procedures and acceptable use agreements.

3. Scope of policy

The policy applies to:

- pupils
- parents/carers
- teaching and support staff
- school governors
- peripatetic teachers/coaches, supply teachers, student teachers
- visitors

- volunteers
- voluntary, statutory or community organisations using the school's facilities

The school also works with partners and other providers to ensure that pupils who receive part of their education off site or who are on a school trip or residential are safe online.

The school provides online safety information for parents/carers, through the website, in newsletters and at events. It is important that parents/carers understand their key role in supporting their child/ren to behave appropriately and keep themselves safe online.

This policy, supported by its acceptable use agreements, is intended to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It is linked to the following other school policies and documents: safeguarding, Keeping Children Safe in Education, GDPR, health and safety, home-school agreement, behaviour, anti-bullying and PSHCE/RSE policies.

4. Educating children 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 <u>guidance on relationships education</u>, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education.

All schools have to teach:

Relationships education and health education in primary schools

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.

In Key Stage (KS) 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

5. Cyber-bullying

5.1 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 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

5.2 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 groups. DDSL will also lead in termly Online/E-Safety assemblies to explain our processes and what to do when faced with online bullying.

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 (through our PSHE programme – Jigsaw), 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 8 for more detail).

The school also sends information on cyber-bullying to parents/carers via Merry Hill Matters so 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 endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

The DSL will report the incident and provide the relevant material to the police as soon as is reasonably practicable, if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that possessing that material is illegal. They will also work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

6. Filtering and Monitoring

Children and staff at Merry Hill Infant School & Nursery are able to access the Internet through the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning (HGfL). It provides a safe and secure Internet and email environment to support teaching and learning. School internet access is controlled through the LA's web filtering service (RM SafetyNet), all Internet activity is monitored and recorded.

HfL Broadband offers:

- •cloud based web filtering, customisable by school to an individual user level incorporating DfE initiatives including Keeping Children Safe in Education, Prevent Duty, and updates to Ofsted's Common Inspection Framework
- •IWF, Prevent alerting with the ability to create customised web filtering alerts
- associated with the National Cyber Security Centre, part of the GCHQ as standard with best defence from cyber-attacks with protection against anti-virus and anti-malware through in-line filtering
- •unparalleled cyber security including fully managed firewalls with built in resilience
- localised control of web filtering policies, DNS and firewall settings supported VPN solution enabling secure remote access for school based systems

7. 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.

Merry Hill 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.

Merry Hill will treat any use of AI to bully pupils in line with our anti-bullying/behaviour policies.

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.

7. Policy and procedure

The school seeks to ensure that internet, mobile and digital technologies are used effectively and safely, for their intended educational purpose, in ways that will not infringe legal requirements or create unnecessary risk.

The school expects everyone to use internet, mobile and digital technologies responsibly and strictly according to the conditions set out in this policy. This policy also includes expectations on appropriate online behaviour and use of technology outside of school for pupils, parents/carers, staff and governors and all other visitors to the school.

a. Use of email

Staff and governors should use a school email account or Governor Hub for all official school communication to ensure everyone is protected through the traceability of communication. Under no circumstances should staff contact pupils, parents or conduct any school business using a personal email address. Pupils should use school approved accounts on the school system and only for educational purposes. Where required parent/carer permission will be obtained for the pupil account to exist. For advice on emailing, sharing personal or confidential information or the need to gain parent permission refer to the policy for GDPR. Emails created or received as part of any school role will be subject to disclosure in response to a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Staff, governors and pupils should not open emails or attachments from suspect sources and should report their receipt to Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Users must not send emails which are offensive, embarrassing or upsetting to anyone (i.e. cyberbullying).

b. Visiting online sites and downloading

• Staff must preview sites, software and apps before their use in school or before recommending them to pupils. Before using any online service that requires user accounts to be created or the sharing of any personal data, staff must consult with the Data Protection Officer, Nathalie O'Dea with details of the site/service and seek approval from a senior leader. The terms and conditions of the service should be read and adhered to, and parental/carer permission sought where required. If internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic sources.

• Staff must only use pre-approved systems if creating blogs, wikis or other online content.

• When working with pupils searching for images should be done through Google Safe Search (standard through the HICS service), Google Advanced Search or a similar application that provides greater safety than a standard search engine.

Users must not:

Visit internet sites, make, post, download, upload or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:

• Indecent images of children actually or apparently under the age of 18 or images of child abuse (i.e. images of children, digital or cartoons, involved in sexual activity or posed to be sexually provocative)

• Indecent images of vulnerable people over the age of 18 (i.e. images of vulnerable people, digital or cartoons involved in sexual activity or posed to be sexually provocative)

• Adult material that breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK

• Promoting discrimination of any kind in relation to the protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

• Promoting hatred against any individual or group from the protected characteristics above

• Promoting illegal acts including physical or sexual abuse of children or adults, violence, bomb making, drug and alcohol abuse and software piracy

• Any material that may bring the school or any individual within it into disrepute e.g. promotion of violence, gambling, libel and disrespect

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Users must not:

- Reveal or publicise confidential or proprietary information
- Intentionally interfere with the normal operation of the internet connection, including the propagation of computer viruses
- Transmit unsolicited commercial or advertising material either to other users, or to organisations connected to other networks except where permission has been given to the school
- Use the school's hardware and Wi-Fi facilities for running a private business
- Intimidate, threaten or cause harm to others
- Access or interfere in any way with other users' accounts
- Use software or hardware that has been prohibited by the school

Staff should use school devices when working away from the school. Staff should not save files locally to their own device and follow all guidelines set out within this policy when working within or outside of school.

All breaches of prohibited behaviours detailed above will be investigated, where appropriate, in liaison with the police.

The school recognises that in certain planned curricular activities, access to controversial and/or offensive online content may be beneficial for educational use. In such circumstances, there is an expectation that access is pre-planned, risk assessed and recorded, and permission given by Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

c. Storage of Images

Photographs and videos provide valuable evidence of pupils' achievement and progress in a variety of contexts and can be used to celebrate the work of the school. In line with GDPR they are used only with the written consent of parents/carers which is secured in the first instance on a child's entry to the school. Records are kept on file and consent can be changed by parents/carers at any time.

Photographs and images of pupils are only stored on the school's agreed secure networks which include some cloud based services. Rights of access to stored images are restricted to approved staff as determined by Melissa Adams, Headteacher. Staff and pupils may have temporary access to photographs taken during a class session, but these will be transferred/deleted promptly.

Parents/carers should note that there may be some children who are at risk and must not have their image put online and others who do not want their image online. For these reasons parents/carers must follow the school's Acceptable Use Agreement and refrain from taking or posting online photographs of any member of the school community, other than their own child/ren.

Staff and other professionals working with pupils, must only use school equipment to record images of pupils whether on or off site. See also GDPR. Permission to use images of all staff who work at the school is sought on induction and a written record is located in the personnel file.

d. Use of personal mobile devices (including phones)

The school allows staff, including temporary and peripatetic staff, and visitors to use personal mobile phones and devices only in designated areas and never in the presence of pupils. Under no circumstance does the school allow a member of staff to contact a pupil or parent/carer, for school reasons, using their personal device.

Parents/carers may only use personal mobile phones and devices in designated areas unless otherwise informed, e.g. for specific events and activities. Under no circumstance should images be taken at any time on school premises or on off-site school events and activities of anyone other

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than their own child, unless there is a pre-specified permission from Melissa Adams, Headteacher. When a parent/carer is on school premises but not in a designated area, their phone/s must be switched off and out of sight.

Pupils are not allowed to bring personal mobile devices/phones to school.

Users bringing personal devices into school must ensure there is no inappropriate or illegal content on the device.

e. New technological devices

New personal technological devices may offer opportunities for teaching and learning. However, the school must consider educational benefit and carry out risk assessment before use in school is allowed. Parents/carers, pupils and staff should not assume that new technological devices will be allowed in school and should check with Melissa Adams, Headteacher, before they are brought into school.

f. Reporting incidents, abuse and inappropriate material

There may be occasions in school when either a pupil or an adult receives an offensive, abusive or inappropriate message or accidentally accesses upsetting or abusive material. When such a situation occurs the pupil or adult must report the incident immediately to the first available member of staff, the DSL, Melissa Adams or the Deputy DSL Ben Reid. Where such an incident may lead to significant harm, safeguarding procedures should be followed. The school takes the reporting of such incidents seriously and where judged necessary, the DSL or Deputy DSL will refer details to social care or the police.

8. Curriculum

Online safety is fully embedded within our curriculum. The school provides a comprehensive age appropriate curriculum for online safety which enables pupils to become informed, safe and responsible. This includes teaching to prevent radicalisation. The PSHE curriculum, Relationships and Health Curriculum are central in supporting the delivery of online safety education.

The curriculum is flexible and can respond to any immediate online safety issues and risks as they emerge.

It is necessary for pupils to develop skills of critical awareness, digital resilience and good online citizenship to enable them to use internet, mobile and digital technologies safely and responsibly. Pupils are taught to recognise the creative, collaborative, cultural, economic and educational opportunities provided by the internet, mobile and digital technologies. Curriculum work will also include areas such as:

- Understanding how to use the internet, mobile and digital technologies in a balanced and appropriate way to avoid negative impact on wellbeing, e.g. regulated screen time and diverse online activity
- Learning how to develop a positive online reputation and enhance future opportunities e.g. in relationships and employment
- Developing critical thinking skills and the confidence to challenge and question what they see and read in relation to online content e.g. recognising fake news and extremism, understanding commercial manipulation, maintaining an authentic sense of self that is resilient to online pressure, learning how easy it is to lie online (i.e. users may not be who they say they are and may have ulterior motives)

- Understanding the dangers of giving out personal details online (e.g. full name, address, mobile/home phone numbers, school details, IM/email address) and the importance of maintaining maximum privacy online
- Thinking carefully before placing images online and considering their appropriateness and understanding the importance of gaining consent before posting photographs of others
- Understanding the permanency of all online postings and conversations
- Understanding relevant legislation, including copyright, and the importance of respecting other people's information, reputation and images
- Understanding the importance of online respect and what constitutes cyberbullying, how to avoid it, the impact it has and how to access help.
- How the law can help protect against online risks and abuse.

9. Staff and Governor 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 up the risks
- 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 deputy 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.

The school audits the training needs of all school staff and provides regular training to improve their knowledge and expertise in the safe and appropriate use of internet, mobile and digital technologies. This training is recorded as part of safeguarding records.

Any organisation working regularly with children based on the school premises are also provided with a copy of the online safety policy and required to sign the Acceptable Use Agreement (Appendix B).

Peripatetic staff, student teachers and regular visitors are provided with a copy of the online safety policy and are required to sign the Acceptable Use Agreement (Appendix B).

Guidance is provided for occasional visitors, volunteers and parent/carer helpers (Appendix C).

10. Working in Partnership with Parents/Carers

The school works closely with families to help ensure that children can use internet, mobile and digital technologies safely and responsibly both at home and school. The support of parents/ carers is essential to implement the online safety policy effectively and help to keep children safe.

It is important that parents/carers understand the crucial role they play in this process. The school seeks to regularly consult and discuss online safety with parents/carers and seeks to promote a wide understanding of the benefits of new technologies and associated risks. The school provides regular updated online safety information through the school website and by other means.

Parents/carers are asked on an annual basis to read, discuss and co-sign with each child the Acceptable Use Agreement. A summary of key parent/carer responsibilities will also be provided and is available in Appendix D. The Acceptable Use Agreement explains the school's expectations and pupil and parent/carer responsibilities.

11. Records, monitoring and review

The school recognises the need to record online safety incidents and to monitor and review policies and procedures regularly in order to ensure they are effective and that the risks to pupils and staff are minimised.

All breaches of this policy must be reported and all reported incidents will be logged. All staff have the individual responsibility to ensure that incidents have been correctly recorded, acted upon and reported. The oonline safety incident recording formats are provided in appendices I, J and K.

The school supports pupils and staff who have been affected by a policy breach. Where there is inappropriate or illegal use of internet, mobile and digital technologies, this will be dealt with under the school's behaviour and disciplinary policies as appropriate. Breaches may also lead to criminal or civil proceedings.

Governors receive termly summary data on recorded online safety incidents for monitoring purposes. In addition governors ensure they have sufficient, quality information to enable them to make a judgement about the fitness for purpose of this policy on an annual basis.

12. Appendices of the Online Safety Policy

- A. Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement Staff, Governors and student teachers (on placement or on staff)
- B. Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement Peripatetic teachers/coaches, supply teachers
- C. Requirements for visitors, volunteers and parent/carer helpers working in the school (working directly with children or otherwise)
- D. Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement Primary Pupils
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- J. Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID 19)

Appendix A -Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement - Staff, Governors and student teachers (on placement or on staff)

You must read this agreement in conjunction with the online safety policy and the GDPR policy. Once you have read these, you must sign and submit this agreement and it will be kept on record in the school. You should retain your own copy for reference. This forms part of your professional and safeguarding responsibilities.

Internet, mobile and digital technologies are part of our daily working life and this agreement is designed to ensure that all staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities in relation to their use. All staff and governors are expected to adhere to this agreement and to the online safety policy. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with Melissa Adams, Headteacher . Breaches will be investigated, recorded and, where appropriate, disciplinary procedures will apply and police involvement will be sought.

Internet Access

I will not access or attempt to access any sites that contain any of the following: child abuse; pornography; discrimination of any kind; promotion of prejudice against any group; promotion of illegal acts; any other information which may be illegal or offensive. Inadvertent access on school equipment must be treated as an online safety incident, reported to the online safety lead and/or DSL and an incident report completed.

Online conduct

I will ensure that my online activity, both in and outside school, will not bring the school, my professional reputation, or that of others, into disrepute.

I will not browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory. Exceptionally, use of controversial material as part of the curriculum should be planned and approved on every occasion (see policy).

I will report any accidental access to or receipt of inappropriate materials or filtering breach to Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

I understand that all my use of the internet and other related technologies can be traced and monitored and, should it be required, must be made available to my line manager, Headteacher and others as required.

I will not give out my personal contact and online account information such as phone numbers, email address, and social media account details to pupils and/or parents/carers.

Social networking

I understand the need to separate my professional role from my private friendships; in my professional capacity I will not become 'friends' with parents/carers or pupils on social networks. Where my school role is my only connection to an individual, private online contact is unacceptable with parents/carers or pupils.

When using social networking for personal use I will ensure my settings are not public. My private account postings will never undermine or disparage the school, its staff, governors, parents/carers or pupils. Privileged information must remain confidential.

I will not upload any material about or references to the school or its community on my personal social networks.

Passwords

I understand that there is no occasion when a password should be shared with a pupil or anyone who is not a staff member.

Data protection

I will follow requirements for data protection as outlined in GDPR policy. These include:

- Photographs must be kept securely and used appropriately, whether in school, taken off the school premises or accessed remotely
- Personal data can only be taken out of school or accessed remotely when authorised by the Headteacher or governing body
- Personal or sensitive data taken off site must be encrypted

Images and videos

I will only upload images or videos of staff, pupils or parents/carers onto school approved sites where specific permission has been granted.

I will not take images, sound recordings or videos of school events or activities on any personal device.

Use of email

I will use my school email address or governor hub for all school business. All such correspondence must be kept professional and is open to Subject Access Requests under the Freedom of Information Act. I will not use my school email addresses or governor hub for personal matters or non-school business.

Use of personal devices

I understand that as a member of staff I should at no time put myself in a position where a safeguarding allegation can be made against me as a result of my use of personal devices. I understand that the use of personal devices in school is at the discretion of the Headteacher.

I will only use approved personal devices in designated areas and never in front of pupils.

I will not access secure school information from personal devices unless a closed, monitorable system has been set up by the school. Such a system would ensure as the user I was not saving files locally to my own device and breaching data security.

A 'monitorable system' would be one such as LARA, any school documents accessed on a personal device are never actually on the computer being used, they remain on the school server. When the user logs out of LARA, there are no copies left on their own device.

Additional hardware/software

I will not install any hardware or software on school equipment without permission of Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Promoting online safety

I understand that online safety is the responsibility of all staff and governors and I will promote positive online safety messages at all times including when setting homework or providing pastoral support.

I understand that it is my duty to support a whole school safeguarding approach and will report any inappropriate or concerning behaviour (of other staff, governors, visitors, pupils or parents/carers) to the DSL, Melissa Adams or Deputy DSL, Ben Reid.

Classroom management of internet access

I will pre-check for appropriateness all internet sites used in the classroom; this will include the acceptability of other material visible, however briefly, on the site. I will not free-surf the internet in front of pupils. I will also check the appropriacy of any suggested sites suggested for home learning.

If I am using the internet to teach about controversial issues I will secure, on every occasion, approval in advance for the material I plan to use with Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Video Conferencing

I will only use the conferencing tools that have been identified and risk assessed by the school leadership, DPO and DSL. A school owned device should be used when running video conferences, where possible.

User signature

I agree to follow this Acceptable Use Agreement and to support online safety throughout the school. I understand this forms part of the terms and conditions set out in my contract of employment (staff members only) and/or my responsibilities as a governor.

Signature	. Date
Full Name	(printed)
Job title	

Appendix B - Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement - Peripatetic teachers/coaches, supply teachers

School name: Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery

Online safety lead: Ben Reid

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Melissa Adams, Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL): Ben Reid, Assistant Headteacher

This agreement forms part of your professional and safeguarding responsibility in the school. You must read and sign this agreement. This will be kept on record and you should retain your own copy for reference.

Internet, mobile and digital technologies are part of our daily working life and this agreement is designed to ensure that all staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities in relation to their use. You are expected to adhere to this agreement. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with Melissa Adams, Headteacher. Breaches will be investigated, recorded and, where appropriate, disciplinary procedures will apply and police involvement will be sought.

The school's online safety policy will provide further detailed information as required.

Internet Access

I will not access or attempt to access any sites that contain any of the following: child abuse; pornography; discrimination of any kind; promotion of prejudice against any group; promotion of illegal acts; any other information which may be illegal or offensive. Inadvertent access on school equipment must be treated as an online safety incident, reported to the online safety lead and/or DSL and an incident report completed.

Online conduct

I will ensure that my online activity, both in and outside school, will not bring the school, my professional reputation, or that of others, into disrepute.

I will not browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory. Exceptionally, use of controversial material as part of the curriculum should be planned and approved on every occasion (see policy).

I will report any accidental access to or receipt of inappropriate materials or filtering breach to Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

I understand that all my use of the internet and other related technologies can be traced and monitored and, should it be required, must be made available to my line manager, Headteacher and others as required.

I will not give out my personal contact and online account information such as phone numbers, email address, and social media account details to pupils and/or parents/carers.

Should I need to share my professional details, such as mobile phone number or email address, with parent/carers, this must be agreed in advance as an acceptable approach with Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Social networking

I understand the need to separate my professional role from my private friendships; in my professional capacity I will not become 'friends' with parents/carers or pupils on social networks. Where my school role is my only connection to an individual, private online contact is unacceptable with parents/carers or pupils.

Information can be shared with pupils over 13 and parents/carers through an organisational social network site/page e.g. on Facebook or Twitter, but never through a personal account or site. In my professional role in the school, I will never engage in 1-1 exchanges with pupils or parent/carers on personal social network sites.

My private account postings will never undermine or disparage the school, its staff, governors, parents/carers or pupils. Privileged information known as a result of my work in the school must remain confidential.

I will not upload any material about or references to the school or its community on my personal social networks.

Passwords

I must clarify what access I may have to the internet and/or school systems. If I have access of any kind, I understand that there is no occasion when a password should be shared with a pupil or anyone who is not a staff member.

Data protection

I will follow all requirements for data protection explained to me by the school. These include:

- I must consult with the school before making any recordings, photographs and videos. Once agreed, these must be made on a school device.
- I understand that there are strict controls and requirements regarding the collection and use of personal data. I will follow all requirements regarding GDPR.

Images and videos

I will only upload images or videos of staff, pupils or parents/carers onto school approved sites where specific permission has been granted.

I will not take images, sound recordings or videos of tuition or wider school activities on any personal device. School devices can be used for this purpose or, in the case of 1:1 tuition, pupil's or parent/carer devices can be used, with parent/carer agreement.

Internet, mobile and digital technologies provide helpful recording functions but these cannot be made on a teacher's personal device. Recordings can be made with the child's and parent/carer's agreement on a school device, an organisational device approved by the Headteacher/DSL, or a young person's or parent/carer's own device.

Use of Email

I will only use my professional email address for all school business. All such correspondence should be kept professional and is open to Subject Access Requests under the Freedom of Information Act. I will not use my professional email addresses for personal matters.

Use of personal devices

I understand that when working in the school I should at no time put myself in a position where a safeguarding allegation can be made against me as a result of my use of personal devices. I understand that the use of personal devices in school is at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Online Safety Policy

I will only use approved personal devices in designated areas and never in front of pupils. This therefore precludes use of specialist apps on personal devices. A school device could be used to access specialist apps that support pupil learning. Pupils can also be encouraged, but not required, to access such apps on their own devices if allowed by the school and with parent/carer agreement.

Additional hardware/software

I will not install any hardware or software on school equipment without permission of Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Promoting online safety

I understand that online safety is part of my responsibility and I will promote positive online safety messages at all times, including when setting homework, rehearsal or skill practice or when providing pastoral support.

I understand that it is my duty to support a whole school safeguarding approach and will report any behaviour (of staff, governors, visitors, pupils or parents/carers) which I believe may be inappropriate or concerning in any way to the DSL or Deputy DSL's.

Classroom management of internet access

I will pre-check for appropriateness all internet sites used in the classroom. This will include the acceptability of other material visible, however briefly, on the site. I will not free-surf the internet in front of pupils.

If I am using the internet to teach about controversial issues I will secure, on every occasion, approval in advance for the material I plan to use with Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Video Conferencing

I will only use the conferencing tools that have been identified and risk assessed by the school leadership, DPO and DSL. A school owned device should be used when running video conferences, where possible.

User Signature

I agree to follow this Acceptable Use Agreement and to support online safety in my work in the school. I understand this forms part of my company/educational setting/organisation's contract with the school.

Signature	Date	
Full Name	(PI	ease use block capitals)
Job Title/Role		

Appendix C - Requirements for visitors, volunteers and parent/carer helpers (Working directly with children or otherwise)

School name: Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery Online safety lead: Ben Reid Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Melissa Adams, Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL): Ben Reid, Assistant Headteacher

This document is designed to ensure that you are aware of your responsibilities when using any form of ICT in the school and other aspects of safeguarding in connection with online safety.

Please raise **any** safeguarding concerns arising from your visit immediately with the DSL or Deputy DSL.

- I understand I may only use my personal mobile phone(s) and other devices with camera functions in designated areas. When not in a designated area, phones must be switched off and out of sight. Any exception must be pre-arranged.
- I will not take images, sound recording or videos of school events or activities, on or off site, on any device. Any possible exception must be pre-arranged.
- I will not give out my personal details such as mobile number, email address and social media account details to pupils. Where appropriate I may share my professional contact details with parents/carers provided the DSL or headteacher is informed before I leave the school.
- I understand my visit to the school may give me access to privileged information about pupils, staff, school systems and plans. Such information should never be shared online, including on social media sites.
- I understand I should not use school equipment to access the internet without prior approval from my contact in the school or the Headteacher.
- If working in the classroom, I will pre-check for appropriateness all internet sites I intend to use including checking the acceptability of other material visible on the site. I will not free-surf the internet in front of pupils. If I am in any doubt about the appropriateness of the content I plan to use I will check with my contact in the school.

Appendix D - Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement Primary Pupils

Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery

Acceptable Use Agreement

These rules will help to keep everyone safe and help us to be fair to others.

I will only use school computers/ tablets when an adult is with me.	I take care of devices and tell an adult if something goes wrong.	I will ask for help if I am not sure what to do
★ BE ★ KIND ▼ ONLINE ♥		Starg Don't Safe Don't Bergarde Don't Information Don't Personality Don't Information Don't To compute Don't Information Don't To compute Don't Information Don't To compute Tender with own composition of the information of the informatio
I am always polite, kind and respectful when I post online. I never post anything that could hurt somebody else.	I will not take nor upload photos of myself or others without an adult's permission.	I will learn and follow the SMART rules to help me stay safe online.

Some of my trusted adults at school are _____

Some of my trusted adults at home are _____

I will do my best to follow these rules because I know they are there to keep me and my friends safe. If I don't follow these rules, I know that my teacher will tell my grownups and I might not be allowed to use a device for a while.

Sign your name to show that you agree to keep these rules.

Name _____

Date _____

Appendix E - Online safety policy guide - Summary of key parent/carer responsibilities

The school provides online safety information for parents/carers, through the website, in newsletters and at events. It is important that parents/carers understand their key role in supporting children to behave appropriately and keep themselves safe online.

The online safety policy, supported by its acceptable use agreements, is intended to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community.

- Parents/carers are required to support their child in understanding and signing the Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement for pupils.
- Parents/carers may only use personal mobile phones and devices in designated areas of the school unless otherwise informed, e.g. for specific events and activities. Under no circumstance should images be taken at any time on school premises that include anyone other than their own child, unless there is a pre-specified agreement with individuals and parents/carers. When a parent/carer is on school premises but not in a designated area, their phone/s must be switched off and out of sight.
- Parents/carers should not assume that pupils can bring technological devices to school and should always check the school policy.
- All cyberbullying incidents affecting children in the school should be reported immediately. (If the incident involves an indecent image of a child the report must also be made immediately to the police for your own protection.) The school will investigate and respond to all reported cyberbullying incidents, liaising with others where appropriate. No reply should ever be sent to the sender/poster of cyberbullying content. If applicable block the sender and report abuse to the site. Evidence should be retained and shown in school and/or to the police. Evidence should not be forwarded.
- The school may choose to set up social media sites, blogs or have some other online presence in its own name. Parents/carers, however, do not have the right to set up any site, page, chat group or any other online presence that uses the school name or logo in any form.
- Any parent/carer, distressed or concerned about an aspect of school should make immediate contact with a member of staff rather than posting their concerns online. Parents/carers should not share school related information or images online or post material that may bring the school or any individual within it into disrepute. Negative postings about the school would impact on the reputation of the whole school community. Parents/carers are encouraged to report breaches so that we can protect the reputation of the school, staff, pupils and parents/carers.

Please see the full online safety policy in the policies section on the school website.

All cyberbullying incidents should be reported and responded to. Where the perpetrator is a member of the school community the majority of cases can be dealt with through mediation and/or disciplinary processes.

The following procedures are recommended:

- Never reply to the sender/poster of cyberbullying content. If applicable, block the sender.
- Incidents should be reported immediately. Pupils should report to a member of staff (e.g. class teacher, Headteacher) and staff members should seek support from their line manager or a senior member of staff.
- The person reporting the cyberbullying should save the evidence and record the time and date. This evidence must not be forwarded but must be available to show at a meeting. Under no circumstances should indecent images of children and young people be printed or forwarded as this is a further criminal act. Staff should not ask to see the evidence of reported indecent images of children or young people but must refer this immediately to the police. Any member of staff being shown such evidence should immediately inform their line manager or the Headteacher so that the circumstances can be recorded.
- A senior member of staff will meet with the person who has reported the incident and the target, if different, to listen, reassure and support. All relevant facts will be reviewed and documented.
- A senior member of staff will conduct an investigation.
- Anyone found to have cyberbullied will have attention drawn to the seriousness of their behaviour and if necessary the police will be involved. If the comments are threatening, abusive, sexist, of a sexual nature, constitute a hate crime or are libellous they may well break the law. Online harassment and stalking is also a crime.
- Once evidence has been secured then the person who has cyberbullied will be requested to remove the offending comments/material. Any refusal will lead to an escalation of sanctions.

Appendix G - Guidance for staff on preventing and responding to negative comments on social media

The school should make it clear which, if any, social media platforms are used to communicate with parents/carers. If used correctly, parents can use a school's social media site as a source of reliable information. The online safety policy, see especially Appendix F (Online safety policy guide - Summary of key parent/carer responsibilities), clarifies that no other social media platforms should be set up using the school's name or logo.

The school should regularly reinforce with all parties that discussion of school issues on social media platforms, either positive or negative, should not take place as this could bring the school into disrepute and affect families and children. Parents should be encouraged to be good online role models and not post statements written in anger or frustration. Identified routes to raise concerns directly with the school should be used.

If negative comments are posted:

• Collect the facts

As soon as you become aware of adverse comments relating to the school you need to establish what is being said. It is essential that if you have access to the postings they are secured and retained together with any other evidence. Do not become engaged in responding directly.

If the allegations against a member of staff or a pupil are of a serious nature, these will need to be formally investigated. This may involve the police and the Headteacher will need to follow the school's safeguarding procedures.

If there is a risk of serious damage to the school reputation or the reputation of individual members of staff, professional legal advice should be sought.

Adverse comments of any kind are highly demotivating and cause stress and anxiety. It is important that the senior staff reassure and support all staff and/or other affected members of the school community.

• Addressing negative comments and complaints

Contact the complainants and invite them to a meeting. In the meeting, make sure you have any evidence available.

The meeting must:

- Draw attention to the seriousness and impact of the actions/postings;
- Ask for the offending remarks to be removed;
- Explore the complainant's grievance;
- Agree next steps;
- Clarify the correct complaints procedures.

If the meeting does not resolve the issue, the parents must be informed that the school will need to take the matter further. This may include:

- Reporting the matter to the social network site if it breaches their rules or breaks the law;
- Reporting the matter to the police if it breaks the law, e.g. if the comments are threatening, abusive, malicious, sexist, of a sexual nature, constitute a hate crime or are libellous they may well break the law. Online harassment and stalking is also a crime.

If inappropriate postings continue or the original material is not removed, a second meeting is advisable to re-iterate the seriousness of the matter.

Appendix H - Online safety incident reporting form and record

Any member of the school community can raise a concern about an online safety incident. If you have witnessed or experienced an incident please complete the form below to help us to address the issue. It is important that you provide as much detail as possible. Once completed please hand this report to Melissa Adams, Headteacher.

Name of person reporting incident:		
Signature:		
Date you are completing this form:		
Where did the incident take place:	Inside school?	Outside school?
Date of incident(s):		
Time of incident(s):		

Who was involved in the incident(s)?	Full names and/or contact details
Children/young people	
Staff member(s)	
Parent(s)/carer(s)	
Other, please specify	

Type of incident(s) (indicate as many as apply)		
Accessing age inappropriate websites, apps and social media	Accessing someone else's account without permission	
Forwarding/spreading chain messages or threatening material	Posting images without permission of all involved	
Online bullying or harassment (cyberbullying)	Posting material that will bring an individual or the school into disrepute	
Racist, sexist, homophobic, religious or other hate material	Online gambling	
Sexting/Child abuse images	Deliberately bypassing security	
Grooming	Hacking or spreading viruses	
Accessing, sharing or creating pornographic images and media	Accessing and/or sharing terrorist material	
Accessing, sharing or creating violent images and media	Drug/bomb making material	
Creating an account in someone else's name to bring them into disrepute	Breaching copyright regulations	
Other breach of Acceptable Use Agreement		

Other, please specify

Full description of the incident	What, when, where, how?
Name all social media involved	Specify: Twitter, Facebook, Whatsapp, Snapchat, Instagram etc
Evidence of the incident	Specify any evidence provided but do not attach

Thank you for completing and submitting this form.

Immediate action taken following the reported incident:	
Incident reported to online safety Coordinator/DSL/ DSL/Headteacher	
Safeguarding advice sought, please specify	
Referral made to HCC Safeguarding	
Incident reported to police and/or CEOP	
Online safety policy to be reviewed/amended	
Parent(s)/carer(s) informed please specify	
Incident reported to social networking site	
Other actions e.g. warnings, sanctions, debrief and support	
Response in the wider community e.g. letters, newsletter item, assembly, curriculum delivery	

Appendix I - Online safety incident log

Summary details of ALL online safety incidents will be recorded on this form by the online safety coordinator or other designated member of staff. This incident log will be monitored at least termly and information reported to SLT and governors.

Date & time	Name of pupil or staff member	Nature of incident(s)	Details of incident (including evidence)	Outcome including action taken
	Indicate target (T) or offender (O)			

Appendix J – Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19)

Useful resources

Below are resources (please note not an exhaustive list) to help schools manage and risk assess any remote teaching and working.

Government guidance on safeguarding and remote education

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19

The Key for School Leaders - Remote learning: safeguarding pupils and staff

https://schoolleaders.thekeysupport.com/covid-19/safeguard-and-supportpupils/safeguarding-while-teaching/remote-teaching-safeguarding-pupils-andstaff/?marker=content-body

NSPCC Undertaking remote teaching safely

https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/march/undertaking-remote-teaching-safely

LGfL Twenty safeguarding considerations for lesson livestreaming https://static.lgfl.net/LgflNet/downloads/digisafe/Safe-Lessons-by-Video-and-Livestream.pdf

swgfl Remote working a guide for professionals https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/educational-professionals-remote-working.pdf

National Cyber Security Centre Video conferencing. Using services securely https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/files/vtc_infographic.pdf