

## MANOR HOUSE SCHOOL ONLINE SAFETY POLICY INCL EYFS

Date of Issue: **January 2025**

Date of Review: **January 2026**

Responsibility: Head of ICT

### References:

ICT Acceptable Use Policy

Behaviour Policy

Data Protection Policy

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Anti Bullying Policy

Staff Code of Conduct

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## Contents

### 1. Aims

Manor House School aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff and governors
- 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.
- 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
- **Security** – risks such as phishing, financial scams, identity theft and ransomware

## 2. 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.

## 3. Roles and responsibilities

### 3.1 The designated safeguarding lead

Details of the school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputies are set out in our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy.

The DSLs will liaise with the Head of ICT who oversees 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, Head of ICT 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 (using CPOMs and SECURUS) 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
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the headteacher and/or governing board

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### **3.2 The Head of ICT**

The Head of ICT 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 (including iPads) 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 half termly basis
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files
- Providing advice and guidance to pupils, staff and parents on matters pertaining to online security

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### **3.3 All staff**

All staff and regular 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 and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (ICT Acceptable Use policy)

- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged (CPOMS) 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', liaising with DSLs are required.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

### 3.4 Parents

Parents 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 (admissions forms and iPad agreement)
- Parents can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the following organisations and websites:
- What are the issues? – [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- Hot topics – [Childnet International](#)
- Parent resource sheet – [Childnet International](#)

### 4. Educating pupils about online safety

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum, both in ICT and as part of PSHRSE programmes of study.

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 behaviour
- 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

In **Key Stage 3**, pupils will be taught to:

Understand a range of ways to use technology safely, respectfully, responsibly and securely, including protecting their online identity and privacy

Recognise inappropriate content, contact and conduct, and know how to report concerns

In Y7, all pupils will complete the [Online Safety Alliance](#) Certificate of Online Safety

Pupils in **Key Stage 4** will be taught:

- To understand how changes in technology affect safety, including new ways to protect their online privacy and identity
- How to report a range of concerns

## **5. Educating parents about online safety**

The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in the newsletter or other communications home, This policy will also be shared with parents via the school website.

Online safety will also be covered during parents' events.

The school will let parents know:

- What systems the school uses to filter and monitor online use
- What their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and who from the school (if anyone) their child will be interacting with online

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

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

## **6. Cyber-bullying**

### **6.1 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.)

### **6.2 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.

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.

### **6.3 Examining electronic devices**

The headteacher, and any member of staff authorised to do so by the headteacher, can carry out a search and confiscate any electronic device that they have reasonable grounds for suspecting:

- Poses a risk to staff or pupils, and/or
- Is identified in the school rules as a banned item for which a search can be carried out, and/or
- Is evidence in relation to an offence
- Before a search, the authorised staff member will:
  - Make an assessment of how urgent the search is, and consider the risk to other pupils and staff

- Explain to the pupil why they are being searched, how the search will happen, and give them the opportunity to ask questions about it
- Seek the pupil's cooperation

Authorised staff members may examine, and in exceptional circumstances erase, any data or files on an electronic device that they have confiscated where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so. Advice must be sought from the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher prior to this taking place.

When deciding whether there is a 'good reason' to examine data or files on an electronic device, the staff member should reasonably suspect that the device has, or could be used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Undermine the safe environment of the school or disrupt teaching, and/or
- Commit an offence

If inappropriate material is found on the device, the staff member must liaise with the Headteacher or other to decide on a suitable response. If there are images, data or files on the device that staff reasonably suspect are likely to put a person at risk, they will first consider the appropriate safeguarding response.

When deciding if there is a good reason to erase data or files from a device, staff members will consider if the material may constitute evidence relating to a suspected offence. In these instances, they will not delete the material and the device will be handed to the police as soon as reasonably practicable. If the material is not suspected to be evidence in relation to an offence, staff members may delete it if:

- They reasonably suspect that its continued existence is likely to cause harm to any person, and/or
- The pupil and/or the parent refuses to delete the material themselves

If a staff member **suspects** a device **may** contain an indecent image of a child (also known as a nude or semi-nude image), they will:

- **Not** view the image
- Confiscate the device and report the incident to the DSL (or equivalent) immediately, who will decide what to do next. The DSL will make the decision in line with the DfE's latest guidance on [screening, searching and confiscation](#) and the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) guidance on [sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)

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

- The DfE's latest guidance on [searching, screening and confiscation](#)

- UKCIS guidance on [sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](#)

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

### **7. Acceptable use of the internet in school**

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.

### **8. Pupils using mobile devices in school**

Pupils must hand in mobile phones at the start of the day in tutor time and are not permitted to have these in their possession during the normal school day.

iPads (seniors) should be brought in each day by senior pupils. They should be used under the direction of the class teacher and should not be used outside of lessons, unless in a designated space (e.g. the library)

Pupils will need to login to the school wifi to use their iPads, which will trigger the management software between 8.15 and 4.15. Internet and filtering software remains active at all times on site. Pupils are not permitted to have any VPN apps on their iPads.

Parents will be advised on how they can oversee their daughter's iPad use and restrictions that may be applied to the device at home (Screentime)

### **9. 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:

- Using authentication to access Office 365 accounts, which may be terminated by the school.
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends

Staff members must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use, as set out the [ICT Acceptable Use Policy](#)

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the Head of ICT or Deputy Headteacher.

### **14. 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 behaviour policies. 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 a breach of the [staff code of conduct](#), the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the Staff Disciplinary and Capability Procedure. 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 LADO and/or police.

### **15. 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.

- 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 DSL 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.

## **16. Monitoring arrangements**

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety on CPOMs

This policy will be reviewed every year by the Deputy Headteacher

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