

Online Safety Policy

Redlands Primary School



*Celebrating Diversity
Inspiring Achievement*

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1. Introduction

At Redlands the purpose of internet use is to raise educational standards, to promote pupil achievement, to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school’s management information and business administration systems. Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils. We recognise that the internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction, and that the school has a duty to provide pupils with quality internet access as part of their learning experience. Pupils use the internet widely outside school and will therefore need to learn how to evaluate internet information and to take care of their own safety and security.

2. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers 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
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

3. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education's statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on [preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [searching, screening and confiscation](#). It also refers to the Department'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.

The policy also takes into account the [National Curriculum computing programmes of study](#).

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The Governing Body

The Governing Body has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the Headteacher to account for its implementation.

The Governing Body will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, and monitor online safety logs as provided by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

All governors will:

- Ensure that 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 2)

4.2 The Headteacher

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

4.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead

Details of the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputies are set out in our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

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, ICT subject leader and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents

- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged (see Appendix 3) 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
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the Headteacher and/or Governing Body

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

4.4 The ICT subject leader

The ICT subject leader is responsible for:

- Putting in place appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils 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 regular 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 3) 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.

4.5 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 2), and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use (Appendix 1)
- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged (see Appendix 3) 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.

4.6 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 (Appendix 1)

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

- What are the issues?, UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/what-are-issues>

- Hot topics, Childnet International: <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics>
- Parent factsheet, Childnet International: <http://www.childnet.com/ufiles/parents-factsheet-09-17.pdf>

4.7 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 2).

5. Educating pupils about online safety

5.1 Benefits of using the Internet in education include:

- access to world-wide educational resources including museums and art galleries;
- educational and cultural exchanges between pupils world-wide through emailing, blogs etc;
- access to experts in many fields for pupils and staff;
- professional development for staff through access to national developments, educational materials and effective curriculum practice;
- collaboration with support services, professional associations and colleagues;
- improved access to technical support including remote management of networks and automatic system updates;
- exchange of curriculum and administration data with the DfE;
- access to learning wherever and whenever convenient.

5.2 The Internet enhancing learning

- Pupils will be taught what internet use is acceptable and what is not and given clear objectives for any internet use.
- Internet access will be planned to enrich and extend learning activities.
- Staff will guide pupils to on-line activities that will support the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and maturity.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.

5.3 Evaluating Internet content

- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address), time, date and content must be reported to the Internet Service Provider via the ICT subject leader or network manager.
- The school should ensure that the use of internet-derived materials by staff and by pupils complies with copyright law.
- Pupils will be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using internet material in their own work.
- The evaluation of on-line materials is a part of every subject.

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum.

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

In **Key Stage 2**, pupils 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

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant.

The school will use assemblies to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers that can be encountered online and may also invite speakers to talk to pupils about this.

6. Educating parents about online safety

- The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website. This policy will also be shared with parents.
- Online safety will also be covered during parents' evenings as appropriate.
- If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the class teacher, Headteacher and/or the DSL.
- Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the Headteacher.

7. Cyber-bullying

7.1 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 one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school Behaviour Policy.)

7.2 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 children, and the issue will be addressed in assemblies.
- 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, and other subjects where appropriate.
- All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) will receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training (see Section 11 for more detail).
- The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents so that 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 consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material, and will work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

7.3 Examining electronic devices

School staff have the specific power under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (which has been increased by the Education Act 2011) to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices, including mobile phones, iPads and other tablet devices, where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

When deciding whether there is a good reason to examine or erase data or files on an electronic device, staff must reasonably suspect that the data or file in question has been, or could be, used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Disrupt teaching, and/or
- Break any of the school rules

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the staff member in conjunction with the DSL or other member of the senior leadership team to decide whether they should:

- Delete that material, or
- Retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline), and/or
- Report it to the police

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with the DfE's latest guidance on [screening, searching and confiscation](#).

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

8. Acceptable use of the internet in school

- All pupils, parents, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (Appendices 1 and 2).
- Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.
- 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 are able to monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above and the security of the school's ICT systems will be reviewed regularly.
- Use of email
- All pupils are not permitted to reveal personal details of themselves or others in email communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission.
- Excessive use of social email use can interfere with learning and may be restricted.
- The forwarding of chain letters is not permitted.
- Social networking and personal publishing
- Pupils are advised never to give out personal details of any kind which may identify them or their location. Examples would include real name, address, mobile or landline phone numbers, school, instant messaging (IM) address, email address, names of friends, specific interests and clubs etc.
- To prepare them for possible safe future use of social networking sites, pupils are advised not to place personal photos on any social network space. Advice is given regarding background detail in a photograph which could identify the pupil or his/her location, e.g. house number, street name, school, shopping centre etc.
- The school's learning platform, LearnAnywhere, provides pupils with the ability to communicate with each other on a mock social network forum. This enables them to learn how to use such facilities safely.

- Teachers are advised not to run social network spaces for children on a personal basis, nor to communicate with children or their parents/carers via social networking sites.
- Redlands is aware that bullying can take place through social networking especially when a space has been set up without a password and others are therefore invited to see inappropriate comments. Advice is given to the children about how to respond to this type of cyber-bullying as detailed in section 7 above.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in Appendices 1 and 2.

9. Pupils using mobile devices in school

- On occasion, pupils may be permitted to bring mobile devices into school. In these circumstances, they will only be permitted to use them as instructed by the class teacher and for a specific purpose.
- Any use of mobile devices in school by pupils must be in line with the acceptable use agreement (see Appendix 1).
- Mobile phones will not be used during lessons, unless by the teacher for educational purposes or during a lockdown.
- The sending of inappropriate or abusive text messages is forbidden.
- Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school Behaviour Policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device.

10. Staff using work devices outside school

- Staff members using a work device outside school must not install any unauthorised software on the device and must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use, as set out in Appendix 2.
- Staff must ensure that their work device is secure and password-protected, and that they do not share their password with others. They must take all reasonable steps to ensure the security of their work device when using it outside school. Any USB devices containing data relating to the school must be encrypted.
- If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the ICT subject leader.

11. 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 the Behaviour Policy.
- 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 misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff disciplinary procedures.
- 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 police.

12. 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).
- The DSL and deputy DSLs 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 Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

13. Monitoring arrangements

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety. An incident report log can be found in Appendix 3.

This policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher at least every two years. At every review, the Governing Body will be informed that the policy has been reviewed and it will be accessible on the school website.

14. Links with other policies

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Staff Disciplinary Procedures
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Data Protection Policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure

Review date: Summer 2020

15. Appendix 1: acceptable use agreement (pupils and parents/carers)

Acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and internet: agreement for pupils and parents/carers

Name of pupil:

When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, I will not:

- Use them for a non-educational purpose
- Use them without a teacher being present, or without a teacher's permission
- Access any inappropriate websites
- Access social networking sites (unless my teacher has expressly allowed this as part of a learning activity)
- Use chat rooms
- Open any attachments in emails, or follow any links in emails, without first checking with a teacher
- Use any inappropriate language when communicating online, including in emails
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Give my personal information (including my name, address or telephone number) to anyone without the permission of my teacher or parent/carer
- Arrange to meet anyone offline without first consulting my parent/carer, or without adult supervision

If I bring a personal mobile phone or other personal electronic device into school:

- I will use it only with the permission of my teacher
- I will use it responsibly, and will not access any inappropriate websites or other inappropriate material or use inappropriate language when communicating online
- I understand that the school can monitor the websites I visit.

I will immediately let a teacher or other member of staff know if I find any material which might upset, distress or harm me or others.

I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly.

Signed (pupil):

Date:

Parent/carer agreement: I agree that my child can use the school's ICT systems and internet when appropriately supervised by a member of school staff. I agree to the conditions set out above for pupils using the school's ICT systems and internet, and for using personal electronic devices in school, and will make sure my child understands these.

Signed (parent/carer):

Date:

16. Appendix 2: acceptable use agreement (staff, governors, volunteers and visitors)

Acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet: agreement for staff, governors, volunteers and visitors

Name of staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor:

When using the school's ICT systems and accessing the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, I will not:

Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature

Use them in any way which could harm the school's reputation

Access social networking sites or chat rooms

Use any improper language when communicating online, including in emails or other messaging services

Install any unauthorised software

Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details

I will only use the school's ICT systems and access the internet in school, or outside school on a work device, for educational purposes or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of my role.

I understand that the school can monitor the websites I visit.

I will take all reasonable steps to ensure that work devices are secure and password-protected when using them outside school, and keep all data securely stored in accordance with this policy and the school's data protection policy.

I will let the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and ICT subject leader know if a pupil informs me they have found any material which might upset, distress or harm them or others, and will also do so if I encounter any such material.

I will always use the school's ICT systems and internet responsibly, and ensure that pupils in my care do so too.

Signed (staff member/governor/volunteer/visitor):

Date:

17. Appendix 3: online safety incident report log

Online safety incident report log				
Date	Where the incident took place	Description of the incident	Action taken	Name and signature of staff member recording the incident