

Child Protection Online Safety Appendix



Online Safety at Frederick Gough School

As the DfE's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) statutory guidance states "Online safety and the school approach to it should be reflected in the child protection policy".

This appendix outlines our commitment to ensuring that all pupils are safe online and should be read alongside the related policies and procedures detailed below:

- E-Safety Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy for pupils
- Acceptable Use Policy for staff and volunteers
- IT Security Policy
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct

Responsibility for online safety:

We are all responsible for online safety but key personnel are...

- Jo Rosie – Assistant Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Mick Dalton – Deputy Head and Designated IT Lead
- Staff and Volunteers – promotion of E-safety in school
- Caroline Kupfers – Designated GDPR Governor
- James Main – Designated Safeguarding Governor
- Matthew Snell – Network Manager
- Andrew White – Curriculum Leader for ICT
- Charlotte Shaw – Curriculum Leader for PSHCE
- Penny Wooddisse – Senior Teacher, whole school ethos, Prevent & CL for RE
- Online Safety Group – including Student Digital Ambassadors

Strategies in place to keep everyone safe online:

- The DSL leads on Safeguarding and Child Protection, including online safety. She works closely with the Designated IT Lead that coordinates the School's E-Safety Policy.
- The school is committed to providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety. This includes annual safeguarding training and audit, CPD sessions throughout the year and weekly information in the bulletin. New staff also have a thorough induction programme.
- Since 2020, the school has procured Smoothwall web filtering and monitoring. It provides the most dynamic and safest filtering of 100% of content in real time. It is actively monitored 24/7 so when a user types an 'at risk' word or behaviour it triggers an alert to Smoothwall's AI. This assesses the risk, including false positives, and our IT Lead and Safeguarding Team receive an email immediately with a screen capture of the content of the risk. If it is categorised as high risk, the safeguarding

team may receive a phone call dependent on the issue. All events are dealt with immediately as Child Protection and the Smoothwall portal records under four main categories: bullying, offensive, sexual content and vulnerable users. This information is provided on a weekly basis on the Smoothwall portal and is used to identify any training and/or support required and used to report to SLT and governors.

- During the pandemic, the school achieved Certified School Status by subscribing to the National Online Safety (NOS website) training. This involved training for the IT Lead, DSL (and deputy DSLs), governors, staff and parents. The school is committed to achieving this annually.
- The School is also working towards meeting the criteria for the National Online Safety Award, following the processes outlined by SWGfL.
- On the first Year 6 evening in June before starting school in September, parents and pupils read and sign the School's Acceptable Use of IT Policy for Pupils. This shows them how to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others.
- Members of staff and volunteers follow the School's Acceptable Use of IT Policy for Staff.
- Clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online is shared through the School's Code of Conduct
- The school regularly reviews and updates the IT Security Policy ensuring that our online systems are secure and that usernames, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively. Appropriate filters are in place on the school's IT system to limit pupils' exposure to risk.
- The school regularly reviews and updates the Data Protection Policy, ensuring GDPR compliance. Images of children, young people and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained as they join us in Year 7, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given.
- The Mobile Phone Policy clearly outlines for pupils the acceptable use of mobile phones. The school strives to educate pupils in appropriate use rather than simply banning them.
- All eight of the UK Council for Internet Safety's (UKCIS) aspects of online education are in the school's sequenced curriculum. Curriculum Leaders for ICT and PSHCE meet to plan and review a coordinated approach.
- The Curriculum Leader for ICT is implementing the SWGfL's 'Project Evolve'. This aims to 'evolve' the online safety messages pupils receive so that they are more meaningful and reflective to generate more positive outcomes. This includes baseline online safety quizzes that identify issues by class and year group that can then be addressed with quality, personalised resources.
- The school has an Online Safety Group made up of pupils, trained to become Digital Ambassadors. Led by the Curriculum Leader for ICT, the ambassadors act as mentors to pupils, support others' digital literacy skills, help keep online safety high profile and provide student voice. This will include awareness posters around school, pupils leading assemblies, blogs, websites and parental newsletters. They

meet regularly and every half term the Designated IT Lead and Governor are invited to hear feedback, any updates and discuss the key issues around online safety in school.

- The Curriculum Leader for ICT is also offering lunchtime hubs for any pupils to drop-in. Our trained Digital Ambassadors will be on hand to support with any skills issues ranging from information about the latest apps to how to upload your PREP work, safely designing websites to making sure passwords are secure.
- Online safety work is set for PREP in Years 7 and 8. This includes helpful information about things like privacy settings that pupils then use to digitally bookmark and create their own displays in school.
- The Digital Ambassadors will update key online safety information to the School's website. Working with the Curriculum Leader for ICT, they will take ownership of the content in the section under Parents and National Online Safety. This will include raising awareness within our community of the latest apps such as Replika and the NOS website's guidance on "What Parents and Carers need to know".
- Curriculum Leaders for ICT and PSHCE plan events for the whole school community to help keep the online safety of pupils high profile. For example, parents will be invited to sessions on 'How to keep your child safe online'.
- The school will invite external guests into school to discuss online safety with our students. For example, in December 2023, "Prison, Me, No Way" will lead a whole day event again with our Year 10 pupils on Crime and Safety Awareness. This includes sessions on child sexual exploitation online and consequences of social media misuse.
- The school is vigilant and responsive to current online issues as they arise such as some of the recent Tik Tok challenges and BeReal crazes. The DSL acts swiftly to share information with all staff and volunteers and use FaceBook to share information with the wider community. The NOS website is proactive in keeping parents up to date on the latest apps to watch out for and how to keep children safe.
- To reiterate; Online Safety is everyone's responsibility so if a pupil has access to a device in a classroom, it is the teacher's responsibility to monitor how they are using that technology. Issues of online safety are dealt with, and reported, in the same way as incidents of 'Safeguarding and Child Protection'.

To be reviewed on an annual basis with Governor approval

MD

Designated IT Lead

Sept 2023