# Wye Forest Federation

Redbrook Church of England Primary School St Briavels Parochial Church of England Primary School



# Name of Policy: Online Safety policy Jan 2022

This policy was agreed by the Full Governing Body o	n:	
(and supersedes all previous policies relating to this a	area)	Jan 2022
Signed by:		
(Executive Headteacher)		
Signed by:		
(WFF Chair of Governors)		
Implemented:		Jan 2022
Review date:		

# 1) Vision Statement

Our federation is a **safe space** where we embrace and enjoy **challenge**; take **ownership** of our own learning; **collaborate** and **support** each other whilst striving to be the best we can be in order to flourish in all areas of life now and in the future.

As a federation, we are committed to ensuring that online safety is an integral part of our everyday practice not only when teaching the computing curriculum but whenever we are using the internet and technology across the school, during PSHE lessons and when safeguarding our children.

## 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, 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, anti-Semitism, 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;
- Commerce risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scam.

This Online safety policy has been developed, and will be reviewed and monitored, by our school online safety working group which comprises of:

- Computing lead;
- PSHE lead;
- SLT safeguarding team;
- Head teacher;
- A governor representative.

#### 3) Legislation and Guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE) statutory safeguarding guidance, <u>Keeping Children Safe in Education</u>, and its advice for schools on:

- > Teaching online safety in schools
- > Preventing and tackling bullying and cyber-bullying: advice for headteachers and school staff
- 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 <u>Education Act 1996</u> (as amended), the <u>Education and Inspections Act 2006</u> and the <u>Equality Act 2010</u>. In addition, it reflects the <u>Education</u>

<u>Act 2011</u>, 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

#### The governing board

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

The governing board 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). The governor who oversees online safety is Helen Blanch.

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 3)
- > Ensure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with SEND 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

#### The head teacher

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

#### The designated safeguarding lead

Details of the school's DSL and deputies 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 head teacher in ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- > Working with the head teacher, 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 child protection policy
- > 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 logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour 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 This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

#### The ICT manager – EdIT Concepts LTD

The ICT manager 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 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 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.

#### 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, and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use;
- > Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged 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.

#### Parents

Parents are expected to:

- > Notify a member of staff or the head teacher 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.

Parents 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 <u>Childnet International</u>
- > Parent resource sheet <u>– Childnet International</u>
- Healthy relationships Disrespect Nobody

#### 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.

#### 5) Educating Pupils About Online Safety

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

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
- > 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.

Online safety is now a statutory part of the programme of study for all key stages. Rules and technical solutions are not infallible and we are aware that outside school children will be using unfiltered internet provision. We believe it is crucial to educate children about how to behave responsibly online and how to keep themselves and others safe. Children and young people need the help and support of the school and parents to recognise and avoid online safety risks. There is a planned and progressive scheme of work for online safety which is taught at every year group. This is based around 1Decision PSHE scheme. The scheme covers:

- Internet safety
- Cyberbullying
- Security and Privacy
- Relationships and communication
- Self-image and digital footprint

The scheme of work is delivered as part of computing, PSHE and other lessons.

Regular opportunities are taken to reinforce online safety messages in lessons and to teach pupils to be critically aware and consider the accuracy of the information they access online. Online safety messages are also reinforced through other subjects and through a planned programme of other activities such as assemblies and events.

#### 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.

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

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

# 7) Cyber-bullying

## 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.)

## 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 own classes.

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) receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training.

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.

#### **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\*

\* Staff may also confiscate devices for evidence to hand to the police, if a pupil discloses that they are being abused and that this abuse includes an online element.

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

- > The DfE's latest guidance on screening, searching and confiscation
- > UKCIS guidance on <u>sharing nudes and semi-nudes</u>: advice for education settings working with children and young people
- > The school's COVID-19 risk assessment

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) Pupils Using Mobile Devices

Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile devices into school unless parents/ guardians notify the class teacher/ school office as to why they are required to do so. In circumstances where it is deemed necessary to bring in a mobile device, it is to be handed in to the school office at the beginning of the school day and to be collected at the end of the school day or when leaving the premises with their responsible adult. Mobile devices from home are not to be used by children during school hours on the premises.

Any use of mobile devices in school by pupils must be in line with the acceptable use agreement. 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.

# 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:

- Keeping the device password-protected strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Ensuring their hard drive is encrypted this means if the device is lost or stolen, no one can access the files stored on the hard drive by attaching it to a new device
- > Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- > Not sharing the device among family or friends
- > Installing anti-virus and anti-spyware software
- > Keeping operating systems up to date always install the latest updates

Staff members must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the ICT manager and/ or head teacher.

#### 10) Monitoring

The school will monitor the impact of the policy through an analysis of:

- Logs of reported incidents and responses
- Monitoring logs of internet activity and any network monitoring data
- Monitoring information about the teaching programme and coverage within the curriculum
- Regularly checking that pupils and staff are clear about how to report incidents and respond to them
- The content of the web site is regularly monitored by governors and senior leaders to ensure that it complies with this policy and the acceptable use policies.
- Any other web site that is linked to the school name is also regularly monitored to ensure that the school is always presented accurately and professionally.

## 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 our policies on behaviour and ICT and internet acceptable use. 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/staff code of conduct. 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).

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
  - $\circ$   $\;$  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 the risks up
- 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 deputies 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.

#### **13)** Monitoring Arrangements

The DSL logs behaviour and safeguarding issues related to online safety. An incident report log can be found in appendix 5.

This policy will be reviewed every year by the DSL/ computing lead. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing board. The review will be supported by an annual risk assessment that considers and reflects the risks pupils face online. This is important because technology, and the risks and harms related to it, evolve and change rapidly.

# 14) Links with other Policies

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- > Child protection and safeguarding policy
- > Behaviour policy
- > Staff disciplinary procedures
- > Data protection policy and privacy notices
- > Complaints procedure
- > ICT and internet acceptable use policy

# **15) Induction Processes**

- All new staff receive online safety training as part of their induction programme.
- Parents of new reception children receive sign the acceptable use policy when their child starts school. There are also updates to this throughout the key stages.
- Parents of children who join school mid-year are made aware of the processes and their children are also introduced to the acceptable use policy which they sign.
- They are given a parent online safety package and signposted to the school website.

## 16) Technical Issues

The local authority provides technical and curriculum guidance for online safety issues for **all** Gloucestershire schools. The Federation also have technical support from EdIT concepts who liaise with IT Leads and Executive Head Teacher on implementing latest online safety procedures and programmes.

#### 17) Password Access to Systems

All our systems are accessed via an individual staff log ins. Users are told that passwords must never be shared for any IT system and that they are responsible for any actions taking using their log in.

#### 18) Internet Provider and Filtering

Exa networks provide the broadband for the Federation. This includes supplying and updating the filtering system currently using Surfprotect Quantum. Content lists are regularly updated and internet use is logged and regularly monitored. However, we are aware that no filtering is completely infallible and consequently focus on teaching pupils to keep safe through our curriculum and teaching. Technical staff (EdIT) monitor internet traffic and report any issues to schools. Requests from staff for sites to be removed from the filtered list must be approved by the head teacher and this is logged and documented by a process that is agreed by the Head teacher.

#### 19) Technical Staff - Roles and Responsibilities

The school ensures, when working with our technical support provider that the following guidelines are adhered to.

- There are regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school ICT systems with EDIT.
- Servers, wireless systems and cabling are securely located and physical access is restricted.
- All users have clearly defined access rights to school ICT systems and are provided with a username and password by the technical support provider.
- Users are responsible for the security of their username and password, must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security.
- School ICT technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school ICT systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Policy.
- Appropriate security measures are in place to protect the servers, firewalls, routers, wireless systems, workstations etc from accidental or malicious attempts which might threaten the security of the school systems and data.
- The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up-to-date virus software.

#### 20) Use of Digital Images and Video

Ease of access to technologies which take digital images and video has many benefits for learning. Taking and sharing images and video are much easier and, if not managed, this could increase the potential risk of misuse and has the potential to be used for cyberbullying. The school informs and educates users about the risks associated with digital images and these are outlined in the acceptable use policies:

- When using digital images, staff educate pupils about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images including publishing their own images on social networking sites.
- Pupils should not take, use, share, publish or distribute images / video of others without their permission and staff reinforce this when appropriate.
- Written permission is obtained from parents or carers before photographs of pupils are taken. These photographs are only taken to be used for educational purposes or to promote achievements or the school.
- Staff are allowed to take digital / video images to support educational aims but follow guidance in the acceptable use policy concerning the sharing, distribution, and publication of those images.
- Images are only taken and used of individuals where there is a signed permission form in place.
- Pupil's full names are not published on any online platform or school communication system that is not password protected including web sites, newsletters, or twitter feeds.
   Photographs published anywhere that include pupils are carefully selected and not used in association with pupils' full names or other information that could identify them.
- Care is always taken to ensure that pupils are appropriately dressed if images are taken and that they are not participating in any activity which might bring individuals or the school into disrepute.
- In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office, parents / carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use as this is not covered by the Data Protection Act. However, to protect other children and respect privacy these images should not be published or made publicly available on social networking sites. Parents / carers should also not comment on any activities involving other pupils in the digital / video images. This is clearly detailed in our acceptable use policy for parents.
- Pupils' work is only published with the permission of pupils and parents / carers.

# 21) Communications Technologies and Social Media

A wide range of communications technologies have the potential to enhance learning and management. The acceptable use agreements outline how these systems should be used.

- The official school email service is used for communications between staff, and with parents/carers and students as it provides an effective audit trail. Communications are always professional in tone and content.
- Users are made aware that email communications may be monitored and what to do if they receive an email that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, threatening or bullying in nature through the acceptable use policies.
- Governor communications take place through governor school e-mail accounts. Personal or sensitive information is not e-mailed but is kept on a secure online site that governors can access to via a personal user account.
- Personal email addresses, text messaging, public chat and social networking programmes are not being used for communications with parents/carers and children.
- The school uses Eschools for all communications with parents including emails to update parents on news and events.
- Personal information is also not posted on the school website and only official email addresses are listed for members of staff. The web site is the responsibility of all teachers who make sure only appropriate content is ever added.
- Guidance on personal use of social media and mobile devices is included in the staff, parent and pupil acceptable use policies including clear reporting mechanisms. Training is provided for staff and risks, reporting and issues around social networking forms part of the learning for pupils.
- Staff ensure that no reference is made in social media to pupils, parents or other staff and do not engage in online discussions on personal matters about any member of the school community
- Personal opinions are not attributed to the school
- Staff personal use of social media where it does not relate to the school is outside the scope
  of the policy but it should be made clear that the member of staff is not communicating on
  behalf of the school. If staff come across communications that might bring the school into
  disrepute in their personal communications they should not get involved, refer the publisher
  to relevant complaints procedures and report the issue.

# 22) Copyright

ICT Lead is responsible for making sure that software licence audit is regularly updated and also making regular checks to ensure the number of software installations matches the licences held. Where there are insufficient licences this could breach the Copyright Act which may lead to fines or unexpected additional license costs.

#### 23) Transfer of Data

Whenever possible secure online storage is used to ensure that documents do not need to be transferred to limit the risk. We ensure that data is stored in accordance with the requirements laid down by the Information Commissioner's Office and within the EU. This also applies to cloud storage used.

The school ensures that:

It holds the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and does not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for.

- The data held is accurate, up to date and inaccuracies are corrected as quickly as possible.
- All personal data is fairly obtained in accordance with our "Privacy Notice" and lawfully processed in accordance with the "Conditions for Processing" as outlined in the policy on the South Gloucestershire IMS Traded Services web site.
- Personal and sensitive data relating to pupils or staff is not e-mailed as this is not secure.
- Personal data including assessment data is transferred using secure file transfer.
- Where information does need to be transferred between devices then encrypted memory sticks are used.
- It has clear and understood arrangements for the security, storage and transfer of personal data
- It is registered as a Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act (DPA).
- Risk assessments are regularly carried out.
- Data subjects have a right to access their data.
- There are clear and understood policies and routines for the deletion and disposal of data. (NAHT guidance followed).
- There is a policy for reporting, logging, managing and recovering from information risk incidents.
- There are clear Data Protection clauses in all contracts where personal data may be passed to third parties.
- The staff acceptable use policy clearly defines the data protection measures that staff should take and how data can be securely stored and deleted.

Staff ensure that they

- Take care to ensure safe keeping of personal data and minimise the risk or loss or misuse
- Use personal data only on secure password protected computers and devices and log off at the end of every session

• Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices or through egress.

- Where personal data is stored on removable media:
  - The data is encrypted and password protected
  - The device is password protected
  - The data is securely deleted from the device once finished with.

#### 24) Reporting and Recording

There are clear reporting mechanisms in place for online safety incidents and all staff are regularly reminded of these and fully aware of their responsibilities to follow up any reported issues.

Staff should report online safety issues are reported to the ICT Lead. If these include allegations of bullying, then the anti-bullying policy is followed. Issues which may impact on the well-being and safety of a child are reported directly to the Child Protection Lead and Child Protection procedures are followed. Issues impacting on staff or to the detriment of the school should be reported to the head teacher or to the Chair of Governors if the head teacher is absent or the accusation involves the head teacher.

Pupils are encouraged to report any incidents to an adult whether it relates to themselves or a friend. We encourage children to take responsibility for protecting each other.

#### **Managing Incidents**

In the event of suspicion of an infringement of policy then all the following steps should happen.

- More than one senior member of staff should be involved in investigating to protect possible future accusations.
- Use a computer that will not be used by young people which could be taken off site by the police if required.

- Ensure staff have internet access to investigate but that sites and content are closely monitored and recorded.
- Record the URL of any site containing alleged misuse and the nature of the content causing concern. It may be useful to record and store screen shots of the content by printing them, signing them and attaching them to the record. Not with child abuse images.
- Once the investigation is complete the investigating group should identify the appropriate response in line with policies which may internal procedures, involvement of LA or police.

Reporting to the police

- If the content being reviewed includes images of child abuse, then monitoring should be stopped and the police informed immediately. Other incidents to be referred to the police are
  - o incidents of 'grooming' behaviour
  - the sending of obscene materials to a child
  - $\circ$  adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
  - o criminally racist material
  - promotion of terrorism or extremism
  - other criminal conduct, activity or materials

In any of the above isolate the computer involved as any change to its stage may hamper a policies investigation.

If issues could be a result of problems with infrastructure or may affect it then the technical support provider is informed immediately.

If access to an unsuitable site is reported, then the Online Safety lead will alert the technical support team (EdIT) by ringing <u>01454 314171</u> to ensure that this is blocked.

For incidents affecting school staff the Professionals Online Safety Helpline is contacted for advice if necessary on <u>helpline@saferinternet.org.uk</u> or 0844 381 4772.

Any reported incidents are logged in the online safety log and followed up in accordance with the relevant policy depending on the issue. The response is also logged and serious issues are followed up after an interval of time to ensure that they are fully resolved.

Where appropriate school newsletters and the website are used to provide guidance to staff following an incident in order to prevent further incidents happening.