E-safety policy

1. Introduction and Overview

Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Set out the key principles expected of all members of the school community at Ark Oval with respect to the use of ICT-based technologies.
- Safeguard and protect the children and staff of Ark Oval.
- Assist school staff working with children to work safely and responsibly with the internet and other communication technologies and to monitor their own standards and practice.
- Set clear expectations of behaviour and/or codes of practice relevant to responsible use of the internet for educational, personal or recreational use.
- Have clear structures to deal with online abuse such as cyberbullying which are cross referenced with other school policies.
- Ensure that all members of the school community are aware that unlawful or unsafe behaviour is unacceptable and that, where appropriate, disciplinary or legal action will be taken.
- Minimise the risk of misplaced or malicious allegations made against adults who work with pupils.

The main areas of risk for our school community can be summarised as follows:

1.1.1 Content

- Exposure to inappropriate content, including online pornography, ignoring age ratings in games (exposure to violence associated with often racist language), substance abuse
- Lifestyle websites, for example pro-anorexia/self-harm-suicide sites
- Hate sites
- Content validation: how to check authenticity and accuracy of online content

1.1.2 Contact

- Grooming
- Cyber-bullying in all forms
- Identity theft (including ‘frape’ (hacking Facebook profiles)) and sharing passwords

1.1.3 Conduct

- Privacy issues, including disclosure of personal information
- Digital footprint and online reputation
- Health and well-being (amount of time spent online (internet or gaming))
- Sexting (sending and receiving of personally intimate images) also referred to as SGII (self generated indecent images)
- Copyright (little care or consideration for intellectual property and ownership – such as music and film) (Ref Ofsted 2013)
2. Education and Curriculum
Pupil e-Safety curriculum

This school

- teaches a range of skills and behaviours appropriate to the children’s age and experience as part of their computing and PSHE curriculum, including:
  - To STOP and THINK before they CLICK
  - To develop a range of strategies to evaluate and verify information before accepting its accuracy;
  - To be aware that the author of a web site / page may have a particular bias or purpose and to develop skills to recognise what that may be;
  - To know how to narrow down or refine a search;
  - [For older pupils] to understand how search engines work and to understand that this affects the results they see at the top of the listings;
  - To understand acceptable behaviour when using an online environment / email, i.e. be polite, no bad or abusive language or other inappropriate behaviour; keeping personal information private;
  - To understand how photographs can be manipulated and how web content can attract the wrong sort of attention;
  - To understand why on-line ‘friends’ may not be who they say they are and to understand why they should be careful in online environments;
  - To understand why they should not post or share detailed accounts of their personal lives, contact information, daily routines, location, photographs and videos and to know how to ensure they have turned-on privacy settings;
  - To understand why they must not post pictures or videos of others without their permission;
  - To know not to download any files – such as music files - without permission;
  - To have strategies for dealing with receipt of inappropriate materials;
  - [For older pupils] to understand why and how some people will ‘groom’ young people for sexual reasons;
  - To understand the impact of cyberbullying, sexting and trolling and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying.
  - To know how to report any abuse including cyberbullying; and how to to seek help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies, i.e. parent or carer, teacher or trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Childline or the CLICK CEOP button.

- Plans internet use carefully to ensure that it is age-appropriate and supports the learning objectives for specific curriculum areas.
- Will remind pupils about their responsibilities through an end-user Acceptable Use Policy which every pupil will sign/will be displayed throughout the school/will be displayed when a pupil logs on to the school network.
- Ensures staff will model safe and responsible behaviour in their own use of technology during lessons.
- Ensures that when copying materials from the web, staff and pupils understand issues around plagiarism; how to check copyright and also know that they must respect and acknowledge copyright / intellectual property rights;
- Ensures that staff and pupils understand the issues around aspects of the commercial use of the Internet, as age appropriate. This may include, risks in pop-ups; buying on-line; on-line gaming / gambling;

Staff and governor training

This school:

- Ensures staff know how to send or receive sensitive and personal data and understand the requirement to encrypt data where the sensitivity requires data protection;
- Makes regular training available to staff on e-safety issues and the school’s e-safety education program; annual updates/ termly staff meetings etc.
2. Education and Curriculum

Parent awareness and training

This school

- Runs a rolling programme of advice, guidance and training for parents, including:
  - Information leaflets; in school newsletters; on the school web site;
  - Demonstrations, practical sessions held at school;
  - Suggestions for safe Internet use at home;
  - Provision of information about national support sites for parents.

3. Expected Conduct and Incident management

Expected conduct

In this school, all users:

- Are responsible for using the school ICT systems in accordance with the relevant Acceptable Use Policy
- Need to understand the importance of misuse or access to inappropriate materials and are aware of the consequences
- Need to understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so
- Should understand the importance of adopting good e-safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's E-Safety Policy covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school
- Will be expected to know and understand school policies on the use of mobile phones, digital cameras and hand held devices. They should also know and understand school policies on the taking / use of images and on cyber-bullying

Staff

- Are responsible for reading the school's e-safety policy and using the school ICT systems accordingly, including the use of mobile phones, and hand held devices.

Pupils/Pupils

- Should have a good understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations

Parents/Carers

- Should provide consent for pupils to use the Internet, as well as other technologies, as part of the e-safety acceptable use agreement form at time of their child's entry to the school
- Should know and understand what the ‘rules of appropriate use’ are and what sanctions result from misuse

Incident Management

In this school:

- There is strict monitoring and application of the e-safety policy and a differentiated and appropriate range of sanctions, though the attitudes and behaviour of users are generally positive and there is rarely need to apply sanctions
- All members and its wider community are encouraged to be vigilant in reporting issues, in the confidence that issues will be dealt with quickly and sensitively, through the school's escalation processes.
- Support is actively sought from other agencies as needed (e.g. the local authority and regional broadband grid, UK Safer Internet Centre helpline) in dealing with e-safety issues
- Monitoring and reporting of e safety incidents takes place and contribute to developments in policy and practice in e-safety within the school. The records are reviewed/audited and reported to the school's senior leaders and LGB.
- Parents / carers are specifically informed of e-safety incidents involving young people for whom they are responsible.
- We will contact the Police if one of our staff or pupils receives online communication that we consider is particularly disturbing or breaks the law
• Internet access, security (virus protection) and filtering

This school:

- Has the educational filtered secure broadband connectivity
- Ensures network healthy through use of anti-virus software and network set-up so staff and pupils cannot download executable files;
- Uses secured email to send personal data over the Internet and uses encrypted devices or secure remote access were staff need to access personal level data off-site;
- Is vigilant in its supervision of pupils’ use at all times, as far as is reasonable, and uses common-sense strategies in learning resource areas where older pupils have more flexible access;
- Ensures all staff and pupils have signed an acceptable use agreement form and understands that they must report any concerns;
- Ensures pupils can only publish within an appropriately secure environment
- Requires staff to preview websites before use
- Never allows / is vigilant when conducting ‘raw’ image search with pupils e.g. Google image search;
- Informs all users that Internet use is monitored;
- Informs staff and pupils that that they must report any failure of the filtering systems directly to the [system administrator / teacher / person responsible for URL filtering]. Our system administrator(s) logs or escalates as appropriate to the Technical service provider or LGfL Helpdesk as necessary;
- Makes clear all users know and understand what the ‘rules of appropriate use’ are and what sanctions result from misuse – through staff meetings and teaching programme;
- Provides advice and information on reporting offensive materials, abuse/ bullying etc available for pupils, staff and parents
- Immediately refers any material we suspect is illegal to the appropriate authorities – Police – and the LA.

Passwords policy

- This school makes it clear that staff and pupils must always keep their password private, must not share it with others and must not leave it where others can find.
- All staff have their own unique username and private passwords to access school systems. Staff are responsible for keeping their password private.
- We require staff to use STRONG passwords for access into our MIS system.
- We require staff to change their passwords regularly

E-mail

This school

- Provides staff with an email account for their professional use and makes clear personal email should be through a separate account
- Does not publish personal e-mail addresses of pupils or staff on the school website.
- Will contact the Police if one of our staff or pupils receives an e-mail that we consider is particularly disturbing or breaks the law.
- Will ensure that email accounts are maintained and up to date
- Reports messages relating to or in support of illegal activities to the relevant Authority and if necessary to the Police.
- Knows that spam, phishing and virus attachments can make e-mails dangerous.
4. Managing the ICT infrastructure

Staff:

- Staff only use the school e-mail systems for professional purposes
- Access in school to external personal e-mail accounts may be blocked
- Staff use a ‘closed’ LA email system which is used for LA communications and some ‘LA approved’ transfers of information;
  - the sending of multiple or large attachments should be limited, and may also be restricted by the provider of the service being used;
  - the sending of chain letters is not permitted;
  - embedding adverts is not allowed;

- All staff sign our school Agreement Form to say they have read and understood the e-safety rules, including e-mail and we explain how any inappropriate use will be dealt with.

School website

- The Headteacher takes overall responsibility to ensure that the website content is accurate and the quality of presentation is maintained;
- Uploading of information is restricted to our website authors;
- The school web site complies with the [statutory DfE guidelines for publications](#);
- The point of contact on the web site is the school address, telephone number and we use a general email contact address, e.g. info@arkOvalprimary.org or admin@arkOvalprimary.org. Home information or individual e-mail identities will not be published;
- Photographs published on the web do not have full names attached;
- We do not use pupils’ names when saving images in the file names or in the tags when publishing to the school website;
- We do not use embedded geodata in respect of stored images
- We expect teachers using’ school approved blogs or wikis to password protect them and run from the school website.

Social networking

- Teachers are instructed not to run social network spaces for pupil use on a personal basis or to open up their own spaces to their pupils, but to use the schools’ preferred system for such communications.
- The school’s preferred system for social networking will be maintained in adherence with the communications policy.

School staff will ensure that in private use:

- No reference should be made in social media to pupils / pupils, parents / carers or school staff
- They do not engage in online discussion on personal matters relating to members of the school community
- Personal opinions should not be attributed to the school /academy or local authority
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information.

CCTV

- We have CCTV in the school as part of our site surveillance for staff and pupil safety. We will not reveal any recordings (retained by the Support Provider for 28 days), without permission except where disclosed to the Police as part of a criminal investigation.
- We use specialist lesson recording equipment on occasions as a tool to share best teaching practice. We do not reveal any such recordings outside of the staff and will not use for any other purposes.
5. Data security: Management Information System access and Data transfer

Strategic and operational practices

At this school:

- The Head Teacher is the Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO).
- Staff are clear who are the key contact(s) for key school information are.
- We ensure staff know who to report any incidents where data protection may have been compromised.
- All staff are DBS checked and records are held in one central record. We ensure ALL the following school stakeholders sign an Acceptable Use Agreement form. We have a system so we know who has signed.
  - staff,
  - governors,
  - pupils
  - parents

This makes clear staffs’ responsibilities with regard to data security, passwords and access.

- We follow LA guidelines for the transfer of any data, such as MIS data or reports of children, to professionals working in the Local Authority or their partners in Children’s Services / Family Services, Health, Welfare and Social Services.
- We require that any Protect and Restricted material must be encrypted if the material is to be removed from the school and limit such data removal. / We have an approved remote access solution so staff can access sensitive and other data from home, without need to take data home.
- School staff with access to setting-up usernames and passwords for email, network access and Learning Platform access are working within the approved system and follow the security processes required by those systems.
- We ask staff to undertaken at least annual house-keeping to review, remove and destroy any digital materials and documents which need no longer be stored.

6. Equipment and Digital Content

Personal mobile phones and mobile devices

- Mobile phones brought into school are entirely at the staff member, pupil’s & parents’ or visitors own risk. The School accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of any phone or hand held device brought into school.
- Pupil mobile phones which are brought into school must be turned off (not placed on silent) and stored out of sight on arrival at school. They must remain turned off and out of sight until the end of the day. Staff members may use their phones during school break times.
- The recording, taking and sharing of images, video and audio on any mobile phone is to be avoided; except where it has been explicitly agreed otherwise by the Headteacher. Such authorised use is to be monitored and recorded. All mobile phone use is to be open to scrutiny and the Headteacher is to be able to withdraw or restrict authorisation for use at any time if it is to be deemed necessary.
- The School reserves the right to search the content of any mobile or handheld devices on the school premises where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain undesirable material, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying. Staff mobiles or hand held devices may be searched at any time as part of routine monitoring.
- Where parents or pupils need to contact each other during the school day, they should do so only through the School’s telephone. Staff may use their phones during break times.
- Mobile phones and personally-owned devices will not be used in any way during lessons or formal school time. They should be switched off or silent at all times.
- Mobile phones and personally-owned mobile devices brought in to school are the responsibility of the device owner. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of personally-owned mobile phones or mobile devices.
• Mobile phones will not be used during lessons or formal school time unless as part of an approved and directed curriculum-based activity with consent from a member of staff.
• The Bluetooth or similar function of a mobile phone should be switched off at all times and not be used to send images or files to other mobile phones.
• Personal mobile phones will only be used during lessons with permission from the teacher.
• No images or videos should be taken on mobile phones or personally-owned mobile devices without the prior consent of the person or people concerned.

Pupils’ use of personal devices
• The School strongly advises that pupil mobile phones should not be brought into school.
• The School accepts that there may be particular circumstances in which a parent wishes their child to have a mobile phone for their own safety.
• If a pupil breaches the school policy then the phone or device will be confiscated and will be held in a secure place in the school office. Mobile phones and devices will be released to parents or carers in accordance with the school policy.
• If a pupil needs to contact his or her parents or carers, they will be allowed to use a school phone. Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office.
• Pupils should protect their phone numbers by only giving them to trusted friends and family members. Pupils will be instructed in safe and appropriate use of mobile phones and personally-owned devices and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.

Staff use of personal devices
• Staff are not permitted to use their own mobile phones or devices for recording, contacting children, young people or their families within or outside of the setting in a professional capacity.
• Staff will be issued with a school phone where contact with pupils, parents or carers is required.
• Mobile Phones and personally-owned devices will be switched off or switched to ‘silent’ mode. Bluetooth communication should be ‘hidden’ or switched off and mobile phones or personally-owned devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been granted by a member of the senior leadership team in emergency circumstances.
• If members of staff have an educational reason to allow children to use mobile phones or a personally-owned device as part of an educational activity then it will only take place when approved by the senior leadership team.
• Staff should not use personally-owned devices, such as mobile phones or cameras, to take photos or videos of pupils and will only use work-provided equipment for this purpose.
• If a member of staff breaches the school policy then disciplinary action may be taken.
• Where staff members are required to use a mobile phone for school duties, for instance in case of emergency during off-site activities, or for contacting pupils or parents, then a school mobile phone will be provided and used. In an emergency where a staff member doesn’t have access to a school-owned device, they should use their own device and hide (by inputting 141) their own mobile number for confidentiality purposes.

Digital images and video

In this school:
• We gain parental / carer permission for use of digital photographs or video involving their child as part of the school agreement form when their daughter / son joins the school;
• We do not identify pupils in online photographic materials or include the full names of pupils in the credits of any published school produced video materials / DVDs;
Staff sign the school’s Acceptable Use Policy and this includes a clause on the use of mobile phones / personal equipment for taking pictures of pupils;

- If specific pupil photos (not group photos) are used on the school web site, in the prospectus or in other high profile publications the school will obtain individual parental or pupil permission for its long term use

- Pupils are taught about how images can be manipulated in their eSafety education programme and also taught to consider how to publish for a wide range of audiences which might include governors, parents or younger children as part of their ICT scheme of work;

- Pupils are advised to be very careful about placing any personal photos on any ‘social’ online network space. They are taught to understand the need to maintain privacy settings so as not to make public, personal information.

- Pupils are taught that they should not post images or videos of others without their permission. We teach them about the risks associated with providing information with images (including the name of the file), that reveals the identity of others and their location, such as house number, street name or school. We teach them about the need to keep their data secure and what to do if they are subject to bullying or abuse.

Asset disposal

Details of all school-owned hardware will be recorded in a hardware inventory.

Details of all school-owned software will be recorded in a software inventory.

All redundant equipment will be disposed of through an authorised agency. This will include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data.

All redundant equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media forensically wiped. Alternatively, if the storage media has failed, it will be physically destroyed. The school will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen.