

**The Three Rivers Federation**  
**The Rockland St Mary and Surlingham Primary Schools Federation**  
**Online Safety Policy**

### **Introduction**

The Online Safety policy should be read alongside the following policies: Anti-bullying and Safeguarding, including Child Protection and any relevant curriculum policy.

- The Online Safety Policy is drawn up in consultation with staff and governors.

Role	Name	Contact Details
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Headteacher	01508 538345/538214
Alternate DSL Rockland St Mary Surlingham	Zoe Marsden Laura O'Connor	01508 538345/538214
Headteacher	Headteacher	01508 538345/538214
Named Safeguarding Governor	Paul Sanford	01508 538345/538214
Chair of Governors (Interim)	Louise Cornell	01508 538345/538214

This policy is part of the School's Statutory Safeguarding Policy. Any issues and concerns with online safety must follow the school's safeguarding and child protection processes.

- The school has identified a member of staff who has an overview of Online Safety, this would usually be the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Alternate.
- Our Online Safety Policy has been written by the school, building on best practice and government guidance. It has been agreed by senior leadership and approved by governors.
- The Online Safety Policy and its implementation will be reviewed annually
- The Online Safety Policy was discussed by Staff in January 2017

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## Rationale

### The purpose of this policy is to:

- Set out the key principles expected of all members of the school community at Three Rivers Federation with respect to the use of technologies.
- Safeguard and protect the children and staff.
- Assist school staff working with children to work safely and responsibly with technologies and to monitor their own standards and practice.
- Set clear expectations of behaviour and/or codes of practice relevant to responsible use of technologies for educational, personal or recreational use for the whole school community.
- Have clear structures to deal with online abuse such as online bullying [noting that these need to be 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 children.

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

#### Content

- Exposure to inappropriate content
- Lifestyle websites promoting harmful behaviours
- Hate content
- Content validation: how to check authenticity and accuracy of online content

#### Contact

- Grooming (sexual exploitation, radicalisation etc.)
- Online bullying in all forms
- Social or commercial identity theft, including passwords

#### Conduct

- Aggressive behaviours (bullying)
- Privacy issues, including disclosure of personal information
- Digital footprint and online reputation
- Health and well-being (amount of time spent online, gambling, body image)
- Sexting
- Copyright (little care or consideration for intellectual property and ownership)

#### Scope

This policy applies to all members of the Three Rivers Federation community (including staff, pupils, volunteers, parents/carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of the school's technologies, both in and out of both schools.

## **Communication**

The policy will be communicated to staff/pupils/community in the following ways:

- Policy to be posted on the school website and in the staffroom
- Policy to be part of school induction pack for new staff, including information and guidance where appropriate
- All staff must read and sign the 'Staff Code of Conduct' before using any school technology resource
- Regular updates and training on online safety for all staff, including any revisions to the policy
- ICT Code of Conduct to be discussed with staff and pupils at the start of each year. ICT Code of Conduct to be issued to whole school community, on entry to the school.

## **Handling Concerns**

- The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure online safety is in line with current guidance from the Department for Education (DfE)
- Staff and pupils are given information about infringements in use and possible sanctions.
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) acts as first point of contact for any safeguarding incident whether involving technologies or not
- Any concern about staff misuse is always referred directly to the Headteacher, unless the concern is about the Headteacher in which case the concern is referred to the Chair of Governors.

## **Review and Monitoring**

The online safety policy is referenced within other school policies (e.g. Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, Anti-Bullying policy).

- The online safety policy will be reviewed annually **or** when any significant changes occur with regard to the technologies in use within the school
- There is widespread ownership of the policy and it has been agreed by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and approved by Governors. All amendments to the school online safety policy will be disseminated to all members of staff and pupils.

## **2. Education and Curriculum**

### **Pupil online safety curriculum**

This school:

- has a clear, progressive online safety education programme as part of the Computing and PSHE curriculum. This covers a range of skills and behaviours appropriate to their age and experience
- will remind pupils about their responsibilities through the pupil ICT Code of Conduct.

- ensures staff are aware of their responsibility to model safe and responsible behaviour in their own use of technology, e.g. use of passwords, logging-off, use of content, research skills, copyright
- ensures that staff and pupils understand issues around plagiarism; how to check copyright and also know that they must respect and acknowledge copyright/intellectual property rights

### **Staff and governor training**

This school:

- makes regular up to date training available to staff on online safety issues and the school's online safety education program
- provides, as part of the induction process, all staff [including those on university/college placement and work experience] with information and guidance on the Online Safety Policy and the school's ICT Code of Conduct

### **Parent/Carer awareness and training**

This school:

- provides information for parents/carers for online safety on the school website
- runs a rolling programme of online safety advice, guidance and training for parents
- parents/carers are issued with up to date guidance on an annual basis.

## **3. Incident management**

In this school:

- there is strict monitoring and application of the online safety policy, including the ICT Code of Conduct.
- support is actively sought from other agencies as needed (i.e. the local authority, [UK Safer Internet Centre helpline](#), [CEOP](#), Police, [Internet Watch Foundation](#)) in dealing with online safety issues
- monitoring and reporting of online safety incidents takes place and contribute to developments in policy and practice in online safety within the school
- parents/carers are specifically informed of online safety incidents involving young people for whom they are responsible
- the Police will be contacted if one of our staff or pupils receives online communication that we consider is particularly disturbing or breaks the law
- we will immediately refer any suspected illegal material to the appropriate authorities – i.e. Police, Internet Watch Foundation and inform the LA

## **4. Managing IT and Communication System**

### **Internet access, security and filtering**

In this school:

- We follow guidelines issued by the Department for Education to ensure that we comply with minimum requirements for filtered broadband provision. The Federation uses Netsweeper filtering which is managed by Educator Solutions and meets the expected requirements

## **E-mail**

### **This school**

- Provides staff with an email account for their professional use, e.g. nsix.org.uk and makes clear personal email should be through a separate account
- We use anonymous e-mail addresses, for example head@, office@
- 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

Pupils email:

- Pupils are taught about the online safety and 'netiquette' of using e-mail at home.

Staff email:

- Staff will use LA or school provisioned e-mail systems for professional purposes
- Access in school to external personal e mail accounts may be blocked
- Never use email to transfer staff or pupil personal data unless it is protected with secure encryption. 'Protect-level' data should never be transferred by email. If there is no secure file transfer solution available for the situation, then the data / file must be protected with security encryption.

## **School website**

- The school web site complies with statutory DfE requirements
- Most material is the school's own work; where other's work is published or linked to, we credit the sources used and state clearly the author's identity or status;
- Photographs of pupils 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;

## **Social networking**

### **Staff, Volunteers and Contractors**

- Staff are instructed to always keep professional and private communication separate.
- Teachers are instructed not to run social network spaces for children 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.

**Pupils:**

- Are taught about social networking, acceptable behaviours and how to report misuse, intimidation or abuse through our online safety curriculum work.
- Pupils are required to sign and follow our [age appropriate] pupil ICT Code of Conduct

**Parents/Carers:**

- Parents/carers are reminded about social networking risks and protocols through our parental ICT Code of Conduct and additional communications materials when required.

**5. Data Security****Management Information System access and data transfer**

- This school follows the guidance from the [Information Commissioner's Office](#) ensuring that we comply with our responsibilities to information rights in school

**6. Equipment and Digital Content**

- Only school supplied equipment is used within the school. Password protected USB equipment will be provided to all staff, and these remain the property of the school
- All equipment is logged and signed for by staff
- No personal equipment is permitted to be used within the school
- Pupils are not permitted to bring equipment into school

**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 (or annually)
- 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 ICT Code of Conduct and this includes a clause on the use of personal mobile phones/personal equipment
- 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, high profile use