NETHERWOOD ACADEMY

Astrea Academy Trust

INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

DRAFT

Online Safety Policy

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Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Online Safety Lead	Mrs Paula Flaherty
Online Safety TMB link	Nicola Law & Mat Wright
PSHCE/RE Lead	Miss Ruth Hancock
Network Manager	Mr David Smallwood

Introduction and Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out expectations for all Netherwood Academy community members' online behaviour, attitudes and activities and use of digital technology (including when devices are offline)
- Help all stakeholders to recognise that online/digital behaviour standards (including social media activity) must be upheld beyond the confines of the school gates and school day, and regardless of device or platform
- Facilitate the safe, responsible and respectful use of technology to support teaching & learning, increase attainment and prepare children and young people for the risks and opportunities of today's and tomorrow's digital world, to survive and thrive online
- Help school staff working with children to understand their roles and responsibilities to work safely and responsibly with technology and the online world:
  - for the protection and benefit of the children and young people in their care, and
  - for their own protection, minimising misplaced or malicious allegations and to better understand their own standards and practice
  - for the benefit of the school, supporting the school ethos, aims and objectives, and protecting the reputation of the school and profession
- Establish clear structures by which online misdemeanours will be treated, and procedures to follow where there are doubts or concerns (with reference to other school policies such as Safeguarding Policy, Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy)

Scope

This policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, students, governors, volunteers, parents/carers and visitors) who have access to our digital technology, networks and systems, whether on-site or remotely, and at any time, or who use technology in their school role.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers, to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of students when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is pertinent to incidents of cyber-bullying or other online safety incidents covered by this policy, which may take place out of school, but is linked to membership of the school. The school will deal with such incidents within this policy and associated behaviour and anti-bullying policies and will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online safety behaviour that take place out of school.

Roles & Responsibilities

This school is a community and all members have a duty to behave respectfully online and offline, to use technology for teaching and learning and to prepare for life after school, and to immediately report any concerns or inappropriate behaviour, to protect staff, students, families and the reputation of the school. We learn together, make honest mistakes together and support each other in a world that is online and offline at the same time.

This section outlines the roles and responsibilities for online safety of individuals and groups within the school.

Transition Management Board

TMB members are responsible for the approval of the Online Safety policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. Nicola Law & Mat Wright (members of the TMB) hav taken on the role of Online Safety Links. The role of the Online Safety Link will include:

Key responsibilities (quotes are taken from Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019):

- Approve this policy and strategy and subsequently review its effectiveness, e.g. by asking the questions in the helpful document from the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCIS) Online safety in schools and colleges: Questions from the Governing Board
- "*Ensure an appropriate **senior member** of staff, from the school or college leadership team, is appointed to the role of DSL [with] **lead responsibility** for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety) [with] the appropriate status and authority [and] time, funding, training, resources and support…"*
- Support the school in encouraging parents and the wider community to become engaged in online safety activities
- Have regular strategic reviews with the online-safety co-ordinator / DSL and incorporate online safety into standing discussions of safeguarding at governor meetings
- Work with the DPO, DSL and Principal to ensure a GDPR-compliant framework for storing data, but helping to ensure that child protection is always put first and data-protection processes support careful and legal sharing of information
- Check all school staff have read Part 1 of KCSIE; SLT and all working directly with children have read Annex A; check that Annex C on Online Safety reflects practice in your school
- *"Ensure that all staff undergo safeguarding and child protection training (including online safety) at induction. The training should be regularly updated […] in line with advice from the local three safeguarding partners […] integrated, aligned and considered as part of the overarching safeguarding approach*."
- "*Ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place [but…] be careful that 'overblocking' does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regard to online teaching and safeguarding".*
- "*Ensure that children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety […] as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum […] Consider a whole school or college approach to online safety [with] a clear policy on the use of mobile technology*."

Principal – Mr J Mitchell

Key responsibilities:

- Foster a culture of safeguarding where online safety is fully integrated into whole-school safeguarding
- Oversee the activities of the designated safeguarding lead and ensure that the DSL responsibilities listed in the section below are being followed and fully supported
- Ensure that policies and procedures are followed by all staff
- Undertake training in offline and online safeguarding, in accordance with statutory guidance and relevant Local Safeguarding Partnerships
- Liaise with the designated safeguarding lead on all online-safety issues which might arise and receive regular updates on school issues and broader policy and practice information
- Take overall responsibility for data management and information security ensuring the school's provision follows best practice in information handling; work with the DPO, DSL and governors to ensure a GDPR-compliant framework for storing data, but helping to ensure that child protection is always put first and data-protection processes support careful and legal sharing of information
- Ensure the school implements and makes effective use of appropriate ICT systems and services including school-safe filtering and monitoring, protected email systems and that all technology including cloud systems are implemented according to child-safety first principles
- Be responsible for ensuring that all staff receive suitable training to carry out their safeguarding and online safety roles
- Understand and make all staff aware of procedures to be followed in the event of a serious online safeguarding incident

- Ensure suitable risk assessments are undertaken so the curriculum meets needs of students, including risk of children being radicalised
- Ensure that there is a system in place to monitor and support staff (e.g. network manager) who carry out internal technical online-safety procedures
- Ensure governors are regularly updated on the nature and effectiveness of the school's arrangements for online safety
- Ensure the school website meets statutory requirements

DSL / Online Safety Lead – Mrs P Flaherty

Key responsibilities (although the DSL can delegate certain online-safety duties, e.g. to the online-safety coordinator, overall responsibility cannot be delegated; this assertion and all quotes below are from Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019):

- "*The designated safeguarding lead should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety).*"
- Ensure "*An effective approach to online safety [that] empowers a school or college to protect and educate the whole school or college community in their use of technology and establishes mechanisms to identify, intervene in and escalate any incident where appropriate.*"
- "*Liaise with the local authority and work with other agencies in line with Working together to safeguard children*"
- Take day to day responsibility for online safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection concerns
- Work with the Principal, DPO and TMB to ensure a GDPR-compliant framework for storing data, but helping to ensure that child protection is always put first and data-protection processes support careful and legal sharing of information
- Stay up to date with the latest trends in online
- Review and update this policy, other online safety documents (e.g. Acceptable Use Policies) and the strategy on which they are based (in harmony with policies for behaviour, safeguarding, Prevent and others) and submit for review to the TMB.
- Receive regular updates in online safety issues and legislation, be aware of local and school trends
- Ensure that online safety education is embedded across the curriculum and beyond, in wider school life
- Promote an awareness and commitment to online safety throughout the school community, with a strong focus on parents, who are often appreciative of school support in this area, but also including hard-to-reach parents
- Liaise with school technical, pastoral, and support staff as appropriate
- Communicate regularly with SLT and the designated safeguarding and online safety governor/committee to discuss current issues (anonymised), review incident logs and filtering/change control logs and discuss how filtering and monitoring
- Ensure all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident, and that these are logged in the same way as any other safeguarding incident
- Oversee and discuss 'appropriate filtering and monitoring' with leadership and ensure staff are aware.
- Ensure the 2018 DfE guidance on sexual violence and harassment is followed throughout the school and that staff adopt a zero-tolerance approach to this, as well as to bullying
- Facilitate training and advice for all staff:
    - all staff must read KCSIE Part 1 and all those working with children Annex A
    - it would also be advisable for all staff to be aware of Annex C (online safety)
    - cascade knowledge of risks and opportunities throughout the organisation

Network Manager – Mr D Smallwood

The Network Manager is responsible for ensuring that:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:
- Keep up to date with the school's online safety policy and technical information in order to effectively carry out their online safety role and to inform and update others as relevant
- Work closely with the designated safeguarding lead / online safety lead / data protection officer to ensure that school systems and networks reflect school policy
- Ensure all stakeholders understand the consequences of existing services and of any changes to these systems (especially in terms of access to personal and sensitive records / data and to systems such as YouTube mode, web filtering settings, sharing permissions for files on cloud platforms etc)
- Support and advise on the implementation of 'appropriate filtering and monitoring' as decided by the DSL and senior leadership team
- Maintain up-to-date documentation of the school's online security and technical procedures
- To report online safety related issues that come to their attention in line with school policy
- Manage the school's systems, networks and devices, according to a strict password policy, with systems in place for detection of misuse and malicious attack, with adequate protection, encryption and backup for data, including disaster recovery plans, and auditable access controls
- Monitor the use of school technology, online platforms and social media presence and that any misuse/attempted misuse is identified and reported in line with school policy
- Work with the Principal to ensure the school website meets statutory DfE requirements

All staff

Key responsibilities:

- Understand that online safety is a core part of safeguarding; as such it is part of everyone's job – never think that someone else will pick it up
- Know who the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) / Online Safety Lead (OSL) is – ***Mrs P Flaherty***
- Read Part 1, Annex A and Annex C of Keeping Children Safe in Education (whilst Part 1 is statutory for all staff, Annex A for SLT and those working directly with children, it is good practice for all staff to read all three sections).
- Read and follow this policy in conjunction with the school's main safeguarding policy
- Record online-safety incidents in the same way as any safeguarding incident and report in accordance with school procedures.
- Understand that safeguarding is often referred to as a jigsaw puzzle – you may have discovered the missing piece so do not keep anything to yourself
- Sign and follow the staff acceptable use policy and code of conduct/handbook
- Notify the DSL/OSL if policy does not reflect practice and follow escalation procedures if concerns are not promptly acted upon
- Identify opportunities to thread online safety through all school activities, both outside the classroom and within the curriculum, supporting curriculum/stage/subject leads, and making the most of unexpected learning opportunities as they arise.
- Whenever overseeing the use of technology (devices, the internet, new technology such as augmented reality, etc) in school or setting as homework tasks, encourage sensible use, monitor what students/students are doing and consider potential dangers and the age appropriateness of websites
- To carefully supervise and guide students when engaged in learning activities involving online technology (including, extra-curricular and extended school activities if relevant),

supporting them with search skills, critical thinking (e.g. fake news), age appropriate materials and signposting, and legal issues such as copyright and data law

- Prepare and check all online source and resources before using within the classroom
- Encourage students to follow their acceptable use policy, remind them about it and enforce school sanctions
- Notify the DSL/OSL of new trends and issues before they become a problem
- Take a zero-tolerance approach to bullying and low-level sexual harassment
- Be aware that you are often most likely to see or overhear online-safety issues (particularly relating to bullying and sexual harassment and violence) in the playground, corridors, toilets and other communal areas outside the classroom – let the DSL/OSL know
- Receive regular updates from the DSL/OSL and have a healthy curiosity for online safety issues
- Model safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology. This includes outside the school hours and site, and on social media, in all aspects upholding the reputation of the school and of the professional reputation of all staff.

PSHCE/RE Lead – Miss R Hancock

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:
- Embed consent, mental wellbeing, healthy relationships and staying safe online into the PSHE / Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education curriculum. *"This will include being taught what positive, healthy and respectful online relationships look like, the effects of their online actions on others and knowing how to recognise and display respectful behaviour online. Throughout these subjects, teachers will address online safety and appropriate behaviour in an age appropriate way that is relevant to their students' lives."*
- This will complement the computing curriculum, which covers the principles of online safety at all key stages, with progression in the content to reflect the different and escalating risks that students face. This includes how to use technology safely, responsibly, respectfully and securely, and where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.
- Work closely with the DSL/OSL and all other staff to ensure an understanding of the issues, approaches and messaging within PSHE / RSE.

ICT Lead – Mr J Sutcliffe

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:
- Oversee the delivery of the online safety element of the Computing curriculum in accordance with the national curriculum
- Work closely with the DSL/OSL and all other staff to ensure an understanding of the issues, approaches and messaging within Computing
- Collaborate with technical staff and others responsible for ICT use in school to ensure a common and consistent approach, in line with acceptable-use agreements

Subject / Curriculum Leads

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:

- Look for opportunities to embed online safety in your subject or aspect, and model positive attitudes and approaches to staff and students alike
- Consider how the UKCIS framework Education for a Connected World and Teaching Online Safety in Schools can be applied in your context
- Work closely with the DSL/OSL and all other staff to ensure an understanding of the issues, approaches and messaging within Computing
- Ensure subject specific action plans also have an online safety element

Data Protection Officer (DPO) – Mr S Foster

Key responsibilities:

- NB – this document is not for general data-protection guidance
- Be aware of references to the relationship between data protection and safeguarding in key Department for Education documents 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and 'Data protection: a toolkit for schools' (August 2018), especially this quote from the latter document:
- "*GDPR does not prevent, or limit, the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Lawful and secure information sharing between schools, Children's Social Care, and other local agencies, is essential for keeping children safe and ensuring they get the support they need.* ***The Data Protection Act 2018 introduced 'safeguarding' as a reason to be able to process sensitive, personal information, even without consent*** *(DPA, Part 2,18; Schedule 8, 4) When Designated Safeguarding Leads in schools are considering whether, or not, to share safeguarding information (especially with other agencies) it is considered best practice for them to record who they are sharing that information with and for what reason. If they have taken a decision not to seek consent from the data subject and/or parent/carer that should also be recorded within the safeguarding file. All relevant information can be shared without consent if to gain consent would place a child at risk. Fears about sharing information* ***must not be allowed*** *to stand in the way of promoting the welfare and protecting the safety of children."*
- Ensure that all access to safeguarding data is limited as appropriate, and also monitored and audited
- Ensure general GDPR guidance is understood and followed by all stakeholders.

Volunteers and contractors

Key responsibilities:

- Read, understand, sign and adhere to an acceptable use policy (AUP)
- Report any concerns, no matter how small, to the designated safety lead / online safety coordinator as named in the AUP
- Maintain an awareness of current online safety issues and guidance
- Model safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology

Students (to an age appropriate level)

Key responsibilities:

- Read, understand, sign and adhere to the student acceptable use policy and review this annually
- Understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials
- Know what action to take if they or someone they know feels worried or vulnerable when using online technology

- To understand the importance of adopting safe and responsible behaviours and good online safety practice when using digital technologies outside of school and realise that the school's acceptable use policies cover actions out of school, including on social media
- Understand the benefits/opportunities and risks/dangers of the online world and know who to talk to at school or outside school if there are problems

Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the Internet/mobile devices in an appropriate way. Research shows that many parents and carers do not fully understand the issues and are less experienced in the use of ICT than their children. The school will therefore take opportunities to help parents understand these issues.

Key responsibilities:

- Read and countersign the pupil AUP (in planner) and encourage their children to follow it
- Consult with the school if they have any concerns about their children's and others' use of technology
- Promote positive online safety and model safe, responsible and positive behaviours in their own use of technology, including on social media: not sharing other's images or details without permission and refraining from posting negative, threatening or violent comments about others, including the school staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, students or other parents/carers.

Community Users

Key responsibilities:

- Any external individual/organisation will sign an acceptable use policy prior to using technology or the internet within school
- Support the school in promoting online safety and data protection
- Model safe, responsible, respectful and positive behaviours in their own use of technology, including on social media: not sharing other's images or details without permission and refraining from posting negative, threatening or violent comments about others, including the school staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, students or other parents/carers

Education and Training

The following subjects have the clearest online safety links:

- PSHE
- Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health
- Computing
- Citizenship

However, as stated above, it is the role of all staff to identify opportunities to thread online safety through all school activities, both outside the classroom and within the curriculum.

Equally, all staff should carefully supervise and guide students when engaged in learning activities involving online technology (including, extra-curricular and extended school activities if relevant), supporting them with search skills, critical thinking (e.g. fake news), age appropriate materials and signposting, and legal issues such as copyright and data law.

At Netherwood Academy we recognise that online safety and broader digital resilience must be thread throughout the curriculum and that is why we are working to adopt the cross-curricular framework 'Education for a Connected World' from UKCIS (the UK Council for Internet Safety).

Annual reviews of curriculum plans / schemes of work (including for SEND students) are used as an opportunity to follow this framework more closely in its key areas of Self-image and Identity, Online relationships, Online reputation, Online bullying, Managing online information, Health, Wellbeing and lifestyle, Privacy and security, and Copyright and ownership.

Acceptable Usage Policy

- **Parents/carers** will be required to read through and sign alongside their child's signature, helping to ensure their children understand the rules
- **Staff and regular visitors** to the school have an AUP that they must read through and sign to indicate understanding of the rules.

Copyright

- Students to be taught an appropriate understanding of research skills and the need to avoid plagiarism and uphold copyright regulations- staff to monitor this.
- Students are taught, appropriate to their age, to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the Internet.
- If using a search engine for images – staff / children should open the selected image and go to it's website to check for copyright.

Staff Training

- Online Safety Lead ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident taking place.
- A planned programme of online safety training is available to all **staff**. An audit of the online safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly.
- All new **staff** receive online safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school Online Safety policy, Acceptable Usage and Child Protection Policies.
- The **Online Safety Lead** will receive regular updates through Local Authority and/or other information/training sessions and by reviewing guidance documents released.
- **LECC/TMB representatives** are invited to take part in online safety training and awareness sessions, with particular importance for those who are members of any committee or working group involved in ICT, online safety, health and safety or child protection.

Communication

Email

- Digital communications with students (e-mail, online chat, VLE, voice etc.) should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems (see staff guidance in child protection policy & Remote learning Covid 19 Appendix 7).
- The school's e-mail service should be accessed via the provided web-based interface by default (this is how it is set up for the laptops, school curriculum systems);
- Under no circumstances should staff contact students, parents/carers or conduct any school business using personal e-mail addresses. If this happens by mistake, the DSL/Principal/DPO

(the particular circumstances of the incident will determine whose remit this is) should be informed immediately.
- School e-mail is not to be used for personal use. Staff can use their own email in school (before, after school and during lunchtimes when not working with children) – but not for contact with parents/ students.
- If data needs to be shared with external agencies, this should be sent via the secure Egress system.
- Appropriate behaviour is expected at all times, and the system should not be used to send inappropriate materials or language which is or could be construed as bullying, aggressive, rude, insulting, illegal or otherwise inappropriate, or which (for staff) might bring the school into disrepute or compromise the professionalism of staff

Mobile Phones

- **School** mobile phones only should be used to contact parents/carers/students when on school business with students off site. Staff should not use personal mobile devices.
- **Staff** should not be using personal mobile phones in school during working hours when in contact with children.
- **Students** should adhere to the rules and guidelines set out in the Behaviour Policy regarding mobile phone use in school.

Social Networking Sites

Many social media platforms have a minimum age of 13, but the school regularly deals with issues arising on social media with students under the age of 13. We ask parents to respect age ratings on social media platforms wherever possible and not encourage or condone underage use. It is worth noting that following on from the government's Safer Internet Strategy, enforcement and age checking is likely to become more stringent over the coming years

- **Students** will not be allowed to access social media/ networking sites at school.
- **Staff** should not access social networking sites on school equipment in school or at home. Staff should access sites using personal equipment.
- **Staff** users should not reveal names of staff, students, parents/carers or any other member of the school community on any social networking site or blog**.**
- **Students/Parents/carers** should be aware the school will investigate misuse of social networking if it impacts on the well-being of other students or stakeholders.
- If inappropriate comments are placed on social networking sites about the school or school staff then advice would be sought from the relevant agencies, including the police if necessary.

If parents have a concern about the school, we would urge them to contact us directly and in private to resolve the matter. If an issue cannot be resolved in this way, the school complaints procedure should be followed. Sharing complaints on social media is unlikely to help resolve the matter, but can cause upset to staff, students and parents, also undermining staff morale and the reputation of the school (which is important for the students we serve).

Students are not allowed* to be 'friends' with or make a friend request** to any staff, governors, volunteers and contractors or otherwise communicate via social media.

Students are discouraged from 'following' staff, governor, volunteer or contractor public accounts (e.g. following a staff member with a public Instagram account). In the reverse situation, however, staff **must not** follow such public student accounts.

* Exceptions may be made, e.g. for pre-existing family links, but these must be approved by the Principal, and should be declared upon entry of the student or staff member to the school).

** Any attempt to do so may be a safeguarding concern or disciplinary matter and should be notified to the DSL (if by a child) or to the Headteacher (if by a staff member).

Staff are reminded that they are obliged not to bring the school or profession into disrepute and the easiest way to avoid this is to have the strictest privacy settings and avoid inappropriate sharing and oversharing online. They should never discuss the school or its stakeholders on social media and be careful that their personal opinions might not be attributed to the school, trust or local authority, bringing the school into disrepute.

The school has an active website and twitter account which are used to inform and publicise school events as well as to celebrate and share the achievement of students.

Digital Images

- The school record of parental permissions granted/not granted must be adhered to when taking images of our students.
  Permissions are sought for:
    - displays around the school
    - the newsletter
    - use in paper-based school marketing
    - online prospectus or websites
    - a specific high profile image for display or publication
    - social media
- Under no circumstances should images be taken using privately owned equipment without the express permission of the Principal or the Network Manager.
- Where permission is granted the images should be transferred to school storage systems (server or disc) and deleted from privately owned equipment at the earliest opportunity. Images are stored on the school network in line with the retention schedule of the school Data Protection Policy.
- Permission to use images of all staff who work at the school is sought on induction and a copy is located in the personnel file.
- Whenever a photo or video is taken/made, the member of staff taking it will check the latest database before using it for any purpose
- Any students shown in public facing materials are never identified with more than first name (and photo file names/tags do not include full names to avoid accidentally sharing them)

Although many of the above points are preventative and safeguarding measures, it should be noted that the school will endeavour whenever possible to use social networking in positive ways to publicise, inform and communicate information.

We encourage young people to think about their online reputation and digital footprint. Students are taught about how images can be manipulated in their online safety education programme and also taught to consider how to publish for a wide range of audiences which might include governors, parents or younger children.

Students are advised to be very careful about placing any personal photos on social media. They are taught to understand the need to maintain privacy settings so as not to make public, personal information.

Students 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. We teach them about the need to keep their data secure and what to do if they / or a friend are subject to bullying or abuse.

Removable Data Storage Devices

- Only encrypted USB devices are allowed write access. If not encrypted read access only.
- All files downloaded from the Internet, received via e-mail or provided on removable media (e.g. CD, DVD, USB flash drive, memory cards etc.) must be checked for viruses using school provided anti-virus software before being run, opened or copied/moved on to local/network hard disks.
- Students should not bring their own removable data storage devices into school unless asked to do so by a member of staff.

Websites

- In lessons where Internet use is pre-planned, students should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in Internet searches.
- Staff will preview any recommended sites before use.
- "Open" searches (e.g. "find images/ information on...") are discouraged when working with younger students who may misinterpret information.
- If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by staff. **Parents** will be advised to supervise any further research.
- **All** users must observe copyright of materials published on the Internet.
- Teachers will carry out a risk assessment regarding which students are allowed access to the internet with minimal supervision. Minimal supervision means regular checking of the students on the internet by the member of staff setting the task. All staff are aware that if they pass students working on the internet that they have a role in checking what is being viewed. Students are also aware that all internet use at school is tracked and logged.
- The school only allows the Online Safety Co-ordinator, Network Manager and SLT to access to Internet logs.

Passwords

Staff:

- Passwords or encryption keys should not be recorded on paper or in an unprotected file
- Passwords should be changed at least every 3 months
- Users should not use the same password on multiple systems or attempt to "synchronise" passwords across systems

Students:

- Should only let school staff know their in-school passwords.
- Inform staff immediately if passwords are traced or forgotten. All staff are able to access the network to allow students to change passwords

Use of Own Equipment

- Privately owned ICT equipment should never be connected to the school's network without the specific permission of the Principal or Network Manager.
- Students should not bring in their own equipment unless asked to do so by a member of staff.

Use of School Equipment

- No personally owned applications or software packages should be installed on to school ICT equipment;
- Personal or sensitive data (belonging to staff) should not be stored on the local drives of desktop or laptop PCs. If it is necessary to do so, the local drive must be encrypted.
- All users should ensure any screens are locked (by pressing Ctrl, Alt, Del simultaneously) before moving away from a computer during the normal working day to protect any personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data and to prevent unauthorised access.

Monitoring

Keeping Children Safe in Education obliges schools to "*ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place [and] not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material [but at the same time] be careful that "over blocking" does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding."*

All use of the school's Internet access is logged and the logs are randomly but regularly monitored by the school's external provider. Whenever any inappropriate use is detected it will be followed up by the Online Safety Lead, Student Managers, Progress Leaders or members of the Senior Leadership Team depending on the severity of the incident.

- Online Safety Lead and Network Manager will maintain the Change Control Log and record any breaches, suspected or actual, of the filtering systems
- Any member of staff employed by the school who comes across an online safety issue does not investigate any further but immediately reports it to the Online Safety Lead and impounds the equipment. This is part of the school safeguarding protocol. (If the concern involves the Online Safety Lead then the member of staff should report the issue to the Principal).

Searching and confiscation

In line with the DfE guidance 'Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools', the Principal and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search students/property on school premises. This includes the content of mobile phones and other devices, for example as a result of a reasonable suspicion that a device contains illegal or undesirable material, including but not exclusive to sexual images, pornography, violence or bullying.

Incident Reporting

It is vital that all staff recognise that online-safety is a part of safeguarding (as well as being a curriculum strand of Computing, PSHE/RSHE and Citizenship.

Any online safety incidents must immediately be reported to the Principal (if a member of staff - unless the concern is about the Principal in which case the compliant is referred to the Chair of Governors and the LADO) or the Online Safety Coordinator (if a student) who will investigate further following online safety and safeguarding policies and guidance.

The school will actively seek support from other agencies as needed (i.e. the local authority, NCA CEOP, Prevent Officer, Police, IWF). We will inform parents/carers of online-safety incidents involving their children, and the Police where staff or students engage in or are subject to behaviour which we consider is particularly disturbing or breaks the law.

Upskirting: It is important that everyone understands that upskirting (taking a photo of someone under their clothing) is now a criminal offence, as highlighted in Keeping Children Safe in Education and that students/students can come and talk to members of staff if they have made a mistake or had a problem in this area.

Sexting: It is important that everyone understands that whilst sexting is illegal, students/students can come and talk to members of staff if they have made a mistake or had a problem in this area. NB - where one of the parties is over 18, this is no longer sexting but child sexual abuse.

Responding to incidents of misuse

It is hoped that all members of the school community will be responsible users of ICT, who understand and follow this policy. However, there may be times when infringements of the policy could take place through careless or irresponsible, or very rarely, through deliberate misuse.

Listed in Appendix 2 are the responses that will be made to any apparent or actual incidents of misuse. If any apparent or actual, misuse appears to involve illegal activity e.g. child sexual abuse images, adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act, criminally racist material or other criminal conduct, activity or materials the flow chart should be consulted.

Actions will be followed in accordance with policy, in particular the sections on reporting the incident to the police and the preservation of evidence.

If members of staff suspect that misuse might have taken place, but that the misuse is not illegal (as above) it is essential that correct procedures are used to investigate, preserve evidence and protect those carrying out the investigation. It is recommended that more than one member of staff is involved in the investigation which should be carried out on a “clean” designated computer.

It is more likely that the school will need to deal with incidents that involve inappropriate rather than illegal misuse. It is important that any incidents are dealt with as soon as possible in a proportionate manner, and that members of the school community are aware that incidents have been dealt with. It is intended that incidents of misuse will be dealt with through normal behaviour/disciplinary procedures as follows (Appendix 3 for students and Appendix 4 for staff respectively).

Appendix 1

Communications

A wide range of rapidly developing communications technologies has the potential to enhance learning. The following table shows how the school currently considers the benefit of using these technologies for education outweighs their risks/disadvantages:

		Staff and other adults					Students and young people			
Communication Technologies		Permitted	Permitted at certain times	Permitted for named staff	Not Permitted		Permitted	Permitted at certain times	Allowed with staff permission	Not Permitted
Mobile phones May be brought to school		✓					✓			
Mobile phones used in lessons			✓		✓			✓		✓
Use of mobile phones in social time		✓								✓
Taking photographs on mobile devices					✓					✓
Use of PDAs and other educational mobile devices		✓					✓			
Use of school email for personal emails					✓					✓
Social use of chat rooms/facilities					✓					✓
Use of social network sites				✓					✓	
Use of educational blogs		✓					✓			

When using communication technologies the school considers the following as good practice:

- The official school email service may be regarded as safe and secure and is monitored. Staff and students should therefore use only the school email service to communicate with others when in school, or on school systems (e.g. by remote access).
- Users need to be aware that email communications may be monitored
- Users must immediately report, to the nominated person (in accordance with the school policy) the receipt of any email that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such email.
- Any digital communication between staff and students or parents/carers (email, chat, Learning Platform etc) must be professional in tone and content. These communications may only take place on official (monitored) school systems. Personal email addresses, text messaging or public chat/social networking programmes must not be used for these communications.
- Students should be taught about email safety issues, such as the risks attached to the use of personal details. They should also be taught strategies to deal with inappropriate emails and be reminded of the need to write emails clearly and correctly and not include any unsuitable or abusive material.
- Personal information should not be posted on the school website and only official email addresses should be used to identify members of staff.

Appendix 2

Unsuitable / inappropriate activities

Some internet activity e.g. accessing child abuse images or distributing racist material is illegal and would obviously be banned from school and all other ICT systems. Other activities e.g. Cyber-bullying would be banned and could lead to criminal prosecution. There are however a range of activities which may, generally, be legal but would be inappropriate in a school context, either because of the age of the users or the nature of those activities. The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in school or outside school when using school equipment or systems. The school policy restricts certain internet usage as follows. Users shall not visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:

User actions	Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Acceptable for nominated users	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
Child sexual abuse images					✓
Promotion or conduct of illegal acts, eg under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation					✓
Adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK					✓
Criminally racist material in the UK					✓
Pornography					✓
Promotion of any kind of discrimination				✓	
Promotion of racial or religious hatred					✓
Threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm					✓
Any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute				✓	
Using school systems to run a private business				✓	
Use systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by BMBC and / or the school				✓	
Uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions				✓	
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (eg financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)				✓	
Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files				✓	
Carrying out sustained or instantaneous high volume network traffic (downloading / uploading files) that causes network congestion and hinders others in their use of the internet				✓	
On-line gaming (educational)		✓			
On-line gaming (non- educational)				✓	
On-line gambling				✓	
On-line shopping / commerce			✓		
File sharing			✓		
Use of social networking sites			✓		
Downloading video broadcasting e.g. Youtube	✓				
Uploading to video broadcast e.g. Youtube			✓		

Appendix 3

Incident involving students	**Teacher to use school behaviour policy to deal with**	**Refer to Student Progress Leader**	**Refer to Police**	**Refer to technical support staff for action re security/filtering etc**
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable/ inappropriate activities**).**		✓	✓	✓
Unauthorised use of non-educational sites during lessons	✓			✓
Unauthorised use of mobile phone/ digital camera/ other handheld device.	✓			
Unauthorised use of social networking/ instant messaging/ personal email	✓	✓		✓
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files		✓		✓
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords		✓		✓
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another student's account		✓		✓
Attempting to access or accessing the school network, using the account of a member of staff		✓		✓
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users		✓		✓
Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature		✓		✓
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions		✓	Community Police Officer referral	✓
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school		✓		✓
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system		✓		✓
Accidentally accessing offensive or pornographic material and failing to report the incident		✓		✓

The guidance in this policy should be implemented with cross reference to the School's Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and Behaviour Policies. Note, attempts have been made to synchronise guidance and sanctions.

Appendix 4

Incidents involving members of staff	**Refer to the Principal** **In event of breaches of policy by the Principal, refer to the Chair of Governors**	**Refer to technical support staff for action re filtering, security etc**	**Referral to BMBC LADO** **Potential Disciplinary Action**
Deliberately accessing or trying to access material that could be considered illegal (see list in earlier section on unsuitable /inappropriate activities).	✓	✓	✓
Receipt or transmission of material that infringes the copyright of another person or infringes the Data Protection Act	✓		✓
Excessive or inappropriate personal use of the internet/social networking sites/ instant messaging/ personal email	✓	✓	✓
Unauthorised downloading or uploading of files	✓	✓	✓
Allowing others to access school network by sharing username and passwords or attempting to access or accessing the school network, using another person's account.	✓	✓	✓
Careless use of personal data e.g. holding or transferring data in an insecure manner	✓		✓
Deliberate actions to breach data protection or network security rules	✓	✓	✓
Corrupting or destroying the data of other users or causing deliberate damage to hardware or software	✓	✓	✓
Sending an email, text or instant message that is regarded as offensive, harassment or of a bullying nature	✓	✓	✓
Using personal email/ social networking/ instant messaging/ text messaging to carrying out digital communications with students/ students	✓	✓	✓
Actions which could compromise the staff member's professional standing	✓		✓
Actions which could bring the school into disrepute or breach the integrity of the ethos of the school	✓		✓
Using proxy sites or other means to subvert the school's filtering system	✓	✓	✓
Deliberately accessing or trying to access offensive or pornographic material	✓	✓	✓
Breaching copyright or licensing regulations	✓	✓	✓
Continued infringements of the above, following previous warnings or sanctions	✓		✓

Appendix 5

Acceptable Internet Use Policy – Students

This document is a guide to young people to be responsible and stay safe while using the Internet and other communication technologies. It clearly states what use of computer resources is acceptable and what is not. Irresponsible use may result in the loss of Internet or computer access, contact with parents or in the event of illegal activities contact with the police.

- I will only access the school network through my authorised username and password. I will not use the passwords of others.
- I will not use the school IT systems for personal or recreational use, for on-line gaming, gambling, internet shopping, file sharing or video broadcasting.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal, inappropriate or which may cause harm and distress to others.
- I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering and security systems in place.
- I will not try to install programmes on any school computer or try to alter computer settings.
- I will only use my personal hand held devices (e.g. mobile phone/ipod) in school at times that are permitted. This commuting to and from school, or to contact parents after participation in an extra- curricular activity. When using my own devices I understand that I have to follow the rules set out in this document.
- I will carefully write email and other on-line messages making sure the language I use is not strong, aggressive or inappropriate and shows respect for others. I am responsible for the emails I send and the contacts I make.
- I will not open emails unless I know and trust the person/organisation who has sent them.
- For my own safety and that of others, I will not disclose personal information about myself or others when on-line. I will not arrange to meet ‘on-line friends’ unless I take an adult.
- I will not take, or distribute, images of anyone without their permission.
- I will only use chat and social networking sites with permission and at the times that are allowed.
- I will report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it on-line.
- Where the material I research on the Internet is protected by copyright, I will not try to download copies, including music and video. I will only use the work of others found on the Internet in my own work with their permission.
- I will take care to check that information I find on the Internet is accurate and understand that some work found on the Internet can be untruthful or misleading.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving IT equipment, however this may have happened.

Signed …………………………………………………………………………..

Date ……………………………………..

Appendix 6

Acceptable Internet Use Policy – Staff and Volunteers

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school. The Internet and other digital information and communications are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can inspire discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. They also bring opportunities for staff to be more creative and productive in their work. All users have an entitlement to safe Internet access at all times.

This policy is intended to ensure that:

- Staff and volunteers will be responsible users and stay safe while using the Internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- All Netherwood Academy ICT systems users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems or users at risk.
- Staff are protected from potential risk in their use of ICT in their everyday work.

The school will try to ensure that staff and volunteers will have good access to ICT to enhance their work, to improve learning opportunities for all and will, in return, expect staff and volunteers to agree to be responsible users.

Responsible Use Agreement

I understand that I must use Netherwood Academy ICT systems in a responsible way to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the ICT systems and other users. I recognise the value of the use of ICT for enhancing learning and will ensure that learners receive opportunities to gain from the use of ICT. I will, where possible, educate the young people in my care in the safe use of ICT and embed e-safety in my work with students.

For my professional and personal safety:

- I understand that the school will monitor my use of ICT systems, email and other digital communications.
- I understand the rules set out in this agreement also apply to the use of the school ICT systems (e.g. laptops, email, Learning Platform etc.) out of the school.
- I understand that the school ICT systems are primarily intended for educational use and that I will only use systems for personal or recreational use within the policies and rules set down by the school.
- I will not disclose my username and password to anyone else, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password.
- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material/incident I become aware of to the appropriate person (see policy flowcharts).

I will be professional in my communications and actions when using school ICT systems:

- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files without their express permission.
- I will communicate with others in a professional manner. I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will ensure that when I take and/or publish images of others I will do so with their permission and in accordance with the school's policy on the use of digital/video images. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images.
- I will not use chat and social networking sites in the school in accordance with the school's policies.
- I will only communicate with student and parents/carers using official school systems. Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner.
- I will not engage in any on-line activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.

Netherwood Academy and the Local Authority have the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the school:

- When I use my personal hand held/external devices (PDAs/laptops/mobile phones/USB devices etc) in the school, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using school's equipment. I will also follow any additional rules set by the school about such use. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date anti-virus software and are free from viruses.
- I will not use personal email addresses on the school ICT systems.
- I will not open any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted, due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes.
- I will ensure that my data is regularly backed up, in accordance with relevant policies.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering / security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will not (unless I have permission) make large downloads or uploads that might take up Internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings, unless this is allowed in school policies.
- I will not disable or cause any damage to school equipment, or the equipment belonging to others.
- I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the BMBC Information Security and Computer Usage Policy. Where personal data is transferred outside the secure LA network, it must be encrypted.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or learner data to which I have access, will be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by policy to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.

When using the Internet in my professional capacity or for school sanctioned personal use:

- I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work.
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).

I understand that I am responsible for my actions in and out of the school:

- I understand that this Acceptable Use Policy applies not only to my work and use of Netherwood Academy ICT equipment in school, but also applies to my use of school ICT systems and equipment out of the school and my use of personal equipment in the school or in situations related to my employment by BMBC.
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Policy Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors and/or the Local Authority and, in the event of illegal activities, the involvement of the police.

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the Netherwood Academy ICT systems (both in and out of school) and my own devices (in school and when carrying out communications related to the school) within these guidelines.

Staff/Volunteer

Name ……………………………………………………………………………..

Signed …………………………………………………………………………….

Date ……………………………………………………………………………..

Appendix 7 – remote learning guidance (Covid 19)

Although remote learning has become necessary during the Covid 19 pandemic, safeguarding measures must remain in place to protect both students and staff. In addition to our Safeguarding and Online Safety Policies the following remote learning guidance applies.

If staff become aware of any safeguarding concerns during remote learning sessions, they should follow Netherwood Academy's Safeguarding policy and record all concerns on CPOMS.

All online teaching sessions should follow the same principals as set out in our staff code of conduct and staff will maintain professional relationships with students.

All remote learning and contact with parents / carers and students will be conducted using school accounts NOT staff personal accounts. Contact will be made using parent/carers email addresses or phone numbers (unless this poses a safeguarding risk) and staff will ensure their own numbers are withheld to protect their privacy. All contact will be documented.

Any data collected during remote learning will be handled in line with privacy and data protection / GDPR requirements.

Consent: Staff should ensure that parents/carers have provided written consent for their children to be involved in remote learning sessions.

Webcams: webcam use is discouraged and must be risk assessed before using. If webcam use has been authorised by SLT then the following rules must be adhered to:

- No 1:1 sessions
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else who may be visible in the background
- Devices used should be in neutral areas ie not in bedrooms, and the background should be blurred.
- The live class should be recorded so that if any issues were to arise, the video can be reviewed (videos should only be saved onto school devices).
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background.
- Only platforms approved by SLT can be used to communicate with students
- All sessions should be documented including:
  - Date & time of session
  - Duration of session
  - Attendees, including late arrivals and early departures.