



Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Goodban Street, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 3QD

Online Safety Policy

October 2021



Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Our Christian Vision

At Sutton Oak C. of E. Primary School we believe, achieve and grow together in Christ. Our Christian vision is promoted in our online safety policy and our teaching of online safety. We encourage the children to develop essential skills for life in a digital age. We encourage them to have faith in their ability, to be responsible members of society when online and to respect themselves and each other when using the Internet. The children work together and support each other when using the Internet in school.

Development / Monitoring / Review of this Policy

This online safety policy has been developed by the Online Safety Group made up of:

- Headteacher
- Online Safety Officer
- Staff – including teachers and technical staff
- Governors

Consultation with the whole school community has taken place through a range of formal and informal meetings.

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This online safety policy was approved by the Governing Body on:	21/10/2021
The implementation of this online safety policy will be monitored by the:	Online safety Office, Senior Leadership Team and Computing Subject Leader
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals:	Bi-annually
The Governing Body will receive a report on the implementation of the online safety policy generated by the monitoring group (which will include anonymous details of online safety incidents) at regular intervals:	Bi-annually
The Online Safety Policy will be reviewed bi-annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments in the use of the technologies, new threats to online safety or incidents that have taken place. The next anticipated review date will be:	10/2023

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following external persons / agencies should be informed:

St Helens Council ICT Service, LA
Safeguarding Officer, Police

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- Logs of reported incidents
- Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited)
- Internal monitoring data for network activity

Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all members of the school community (including staff, pupils, volunteers, parents / carers, visitors, community users) who have access to and are users of school ICT systems, both in and out of the school.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of pupils 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 outside of the school, but is linked to membership of the school. The 2011 Education Act increased these powers with regard to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data. In the case of both acts, action can only be taken over issues covered by the published Behaviour Policy.

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 and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the online safety roles and responsibilities of individuals and groups within the school:

Governors:

Governors are responsible for the approval of the Online Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. This will be carried out by the Governors receiving regular information about online safety incidents and monitoring reports. A member of the Governing Body has taken on the role of online safety Governor. The role of the online safety Governor will include:

- regular meetings with the online safety Officer
- regular monitoring of online safety incident logs
- regular monitoring of filtering logs
- reporting to relevant Governors

Headteacher and Senior Leaders:

- The Headteacher has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including online safety) of members of the school community, though the day to day responsibility for online safety will be delegated to the Online Safety Officer and Computing Subject Leader.

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

- The Headteacher and another member of the Senior Leadership Team should be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious online safety allegation being made against a member of staff. (see flow chart on dealing with online safety incidents – “Responding to incidents of misuse”).
- The Headteacher / Senior Leaders are responsible for ensuring that the Online Safety Officer and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their online safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant.

Online Safety Officer and Computing Subject Leader:

- lead the online safety group
- takes day to day responsibility for online safety issues and have a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school online safety policies / documents
- ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident taking place.
- provide training and advice for staff
- liaises with school technical staff
- receives reports of online safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future online safety developments,
- reports regularly to Senior Leadership Team

Internal and External Technical staff:

The Technical Staff / Computing Subject Leader are responsible for ensuring:

- that the school’s technical infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack
- that the school meets required online safety technical requirements and any Local Authority guidance that may apply.
- that users may only access the networks and devices through a properly enforced password protection policy, in which passwords are regularly changed
- that they keep up to date with online safety technical information in order to effectively carry out their online safety role and to inform and update others as relevant
- that the use of the network / internet / Virtual Learning Environment / remote access / email is regularly monitored in order that any misuse / attempted misuse can be reported to the Headteacher for investigation / action / sanction

Teaching and Support Staff:

are responsible for ensuring that:

- they have an up to date awareness of online safety matters and of the current school online safety policy and practices
- they have read, understood and signed the Staff Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA)

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

- they report any suspected misuse or problem to the Headteacher / Senior Leader / Online Safety Officer for investigation / action / sanction
- all digital communications with pupils / parents / carers should be on a professional level
- online safety issues are embedded in all aspects of the curriculum and other activities
- students / pupils understand and follow the online safety and acceptable use agreements
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned pupils 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

Child Protection / Safeguarding Officer:

The Child Protection / Safeguarding Officer should be trained in online safety issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection / safeguarding issues to arise from:

- sharing of personal data
- access to illegal / inappropriate materials
- inappropriate on-line contact with adults / strangers
- potential or actual incidents of grooming
- cyber-bullying

Students:

- are responsible for using the school digital technology systems in accordance with the Pupil Acceptable Use Agreements
- need to understand the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so
- will be expected to know and understand policies on the use of mobile devices and digital cameras. They should also know and understand policies on the taking / use of images and on cyber-bullying
- should understand the importance of adopting good online safety practice when using digital technologies out of school and realise that the school's Online Safety Policy covers their actions out of school, if related to their membership of the school

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

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. The school will take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, website and information about national / local online safety campaigns / literature. Parents and carers will be encouraged to support the school in promoting good online safety practice and to follow guidelines on the appropriate use of:

- digital and video images taken at school events

Community Users

Community Users who access school systems / website as part of the wider school provision will be expected to sign a Community User AUA before being provided with access to school systems.

Policy Statements

Education –pupils

Online safety should be a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce online safety messages across the curriculum. The online safety curriculum should be broad, relevant and provide progression, with opportunities for creative activities and will be provided in the following ways:

- A planned online safety curriculum should be provided as part of Computing / PHSE / other lessons and should be regularly revisited
- Key online safety messages should be reinforced through assemblies and pastoral activities
- Pupils should be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials / content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.
- Pupils should be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using material accessed on the internet
- Pupils should be helped to understand the need for the Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement and encouraged to adopt safe and responsible use both within and outside school
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned, it is best practice that students / pupils 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.
- Where pupils are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites the young people visit.

Education – parents / carers

Many parents and carers have only a limited understanding of online safety risks and issues, yet they play an essential role in the education of their children and in the monitoring / regulation of the children's on-line behaviours. Parents may underestimate how often children and young people come across potentially harmful and inappropriate material on the internet and may be unsure about how to respond.

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

The school will therefore seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through:

- Letters, newsletters, website, social media
- Parents / Carers evenings
- High profile events / campaigns eg Safer Internet Day
- Reference to relevant web sites / publications

Education & Training – Staff / Volunteers

It is essential that all staff receive online safety training and understand their responsibilities, as outlined in this policy. Training will be offered as follows:

- A planned programme of formal online safety training will be made available to staff including ThinkUKnow online training. This will be regularly updated and reinforced. An audit of the online safety training needs of all staff will be carried out regularly.
- All new staff should receive online safety training as part of their induction programme, ensuring that they fully understand the school online safety policy and Acceptable Use Agreements.
- This Online safety policy and its updates will be presented to and discussed by staff in staff / team meetings / INSET days.

Training – Governors / Directors

Governors should take part in online safety training / awareness sessions.

Technical – infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring

- School technical systems will be managed in ways that ensure that the school meets recommended technical requirements
- There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of school academy technical systems
- Servers, wireless systems and cabling must be securely located and physical access restricted
- All users will have clearly defined access rights to school technical systems and devices.
- The ICT Technician is responsible for ensuring that software licence logs are accurate and up to date and that regular checks are made to reconcile the number of licences purchased against the number of software installations
- Internet access is filtered for all users.
- The school has provided enhanced / differentiated user-level filtering
- School technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school technical systems and users are made aware of this in the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

- An agreed policy is in place for the provision of temporary access of “guests” (eg trainee teachers, supply teachers, visitors) onto the school systems.
- An agreed policy is in place regarding the use of removable media (eg memory sticks / CDs / DVDs) by users on school devices. Personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise. Staff must use One Drive to take personal data off the school site.

Use of digital and video images

- When using digital images, staff should inform and educate pupils about the risks associated with the taking, use, sharing, publication and distribution of images. In particular they should recognise the risks attached to publishing their own images on the internet eg on social networking sites.
- Staff and volunteers are allowed to take digital / video images to support educational aims, but must follow school policies concerning the sharing, distribution and publication of those images. Those images should only be taken on school equipment, the personal equipment of staff should not be used for such purposes.
- Care should be taken when taking digital / video images that pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.
- Pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission
- Photographs published on the website, or elsewhere that include students / pupils will be selected carefully and will comply with good practice guidance on the use of such images.
- Pupils’ full names will not be used anywhere on a website, blog or social networking site particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the school website. This is covered by Permissions Agreement.

Data Protection

The school must ensure that:

- It will hold the minimum personal data necessary to enable it to perform its function and it will not hold it for longer than necessary for the purposes it was collected for.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that data held is accurate, up to date and that inaccuracies are corrected without unnecessary delay.
- It has a Data Protection Policy
- It is registered as a Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act (DPA)

Staff must ensure that they:

- At all times take care to ensure the safe keeping of personal data, minimising the risk of its loss or misuse.
- Use personal data only on secure password protected computers and other devices, ensuring that they are properly “logged-off” at the end of any session in which they are using personal data.
- Transfer data using encryption and secure password protected devices.

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Communications

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. Users should be aware that email communications are monitored.
- Users must immediately report, to the nominated person – in accordance with the school policy, the receipt of any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, discriminatory, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such communication.
- Any digital communication between staff and pupils or parents / carers (email, social networking etc) must be professional in tone and content.

Social Media - Protecting Professional Identity

School staff should ensure that:

- No reference should be made on personal social media to 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 or local authority
- Security settings on personal social media profiles are regularly checked to minimise risk of loss of personal information.

Responding to incidents of misuse

Illegal Incidents

If there is any suspicion that the web site(s) concerned may contain child abuse images, or if there is any other suspected illegal activity, refer to the right hand side of the Responding to incidents of misuse flowchart (see appendix) for responding to incidents and report immediately to the police.

Other Incidents

In the event of suspicion, all steps in this procedure should be followed:

Have more than one senior member of staff involved in this process. This is vital to protect individuals if accusations are subsequently reported.

If content being reviewed includes images of child abuse then the monitoring should be halted and referred to the Police immediately. Other instances to report to the police would include:

- incidents of 'grooming' behaviour
- the sending of obscene materials to a child
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials

Believe, achieve and grow together in Christ.

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

- Isolate the computer in question as best you can. Any change to its state may hinder a later police investigation.

Signed: *Alice Egerton*

Chair of Governors

Date: October 2021

Date of review: October 2023

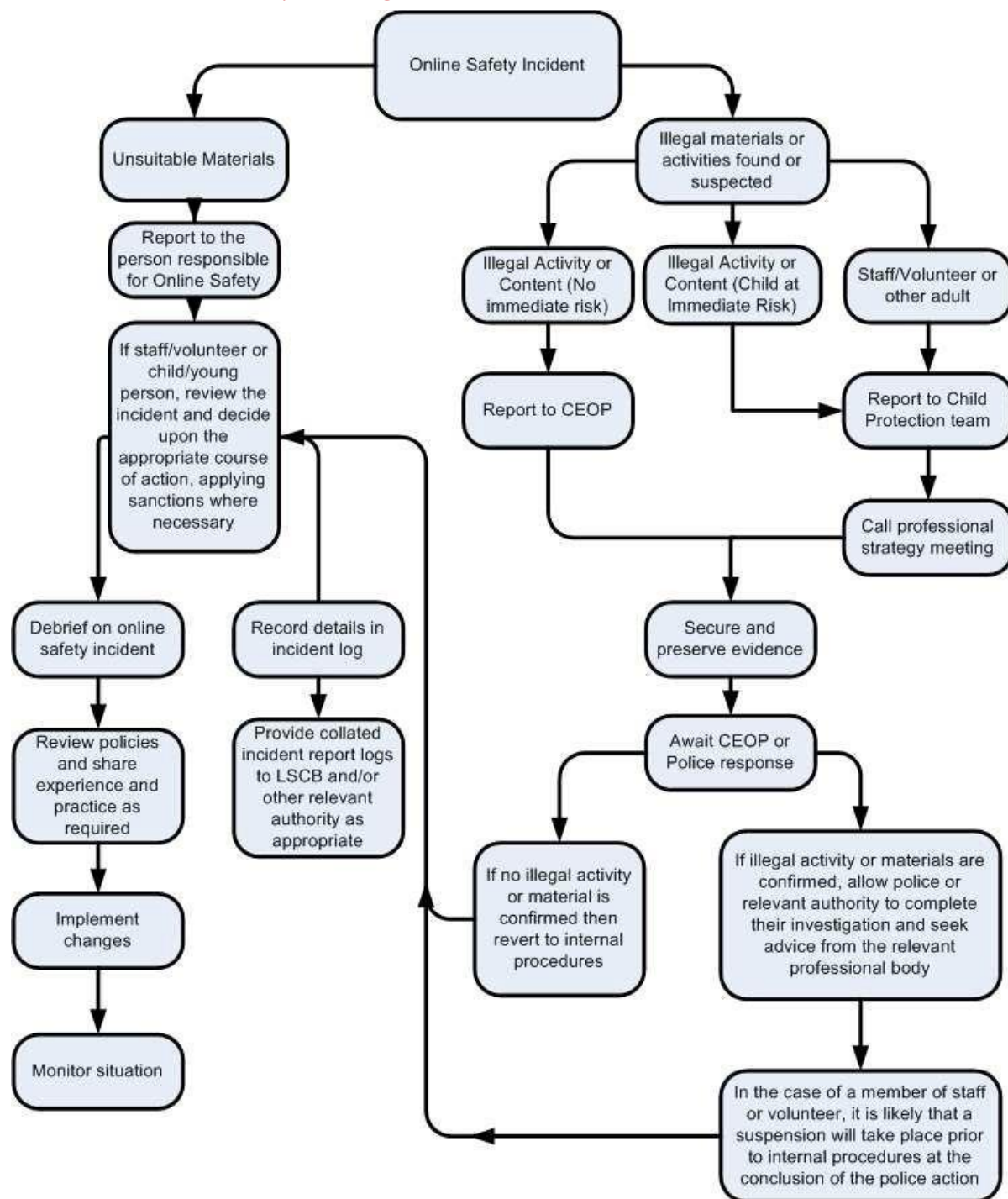
Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Appendices

- Responding to incidents of misuse – flowchart
- Record of reviewing sites (for internet misuse)
- School Reporting Log template

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Responding to Incidents of Misuse - Flowchart



Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Record of reviewing devices / internet sites (responding to incidents of misuse)

Group	
Date	
Reason for investigation	

Details of first reviewing person

Name	
Position	
Signature	

Details of second reviewing person

Name	
Position	
Signature	

Name and location of computer used for review (for web sites)

--

Web site(s) address / device

Reason for concern

Sutton Oak C.E Primary School

Conclusion and Action proposed or taken

Reporting Log

[illegible]