**Context**

**“Harnessing Technology: Transforming learning and children’s services”** sets out the government plans for taking a strategic approach to the future development of ICT.

“The Internet and related technologies are powerful tools, which open up new prospects for communication and collaboration. Education is embracing these new technologies as they bring with them fresh opportunities for both teachers and learners.

To use these technologies effectively requires an awareness of the benefits and risks, the development of new skills, and an understanding of their appropriate and effective use both in and outside of the classroom.” **DfES, eStrategy 2005** 

The Green Paper **Every Child Matters** and the provisions of the **Children Act 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children** sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The ‘staying safe’ outcome includes aims that children and young people are:

* safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
* safe from accidental injury and death
* safe from bullying and discrimination
* safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school
* secure, stable and cared for.

Shield Row Primary School acknowledges that the internet presents many positive opportunities for young people, however it can also be a force for negative experiences. For example, we know that the internet has been used for grooming children and young people with the ultimate aim of exploiting them sexually; we know that ICT can offer new weapons for bullies, who may torment their victims via websites or text messages; and we know that children and young people have been exposed to inappropriate content when online, which can sometimes lead to their involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour.

It is the duty of the school to ensure that every child in their care is safe, and the same principles should apply to the ‘virtual’ or digital world as would be applied to the school’s physical buildings.

This Policy document is drawn up to protect all parties – the pupils, the staff and the school and aims to provide clear advice and guidance on how to minimise risks and how to deal with any infringements.

**Effective Practice in e-Safety**

E-Safety depends on effective practice in each of the following areas:

* Education for responsible ICT use by staff and pupils;
* A comprehensive, agreed and implemented e-Safety Policy;
* Secure, filtered broadband ;
* A school network that complies with the National Education Network standards and specifications.

**1.The technologies**

The school recognises ICT in the 21st Century has an all-encompassing role within the lives of children and adults.  New technologies are enhancing communication and the sharing of information.  Current and emerging technologies used in school and, more importantly in many cases, used outside of school by children include:

* The Internet
* e-mail
* Instant messaging often using simple web cams
* Blogs (an on-line interactive diary)
* Podcasting (radio / audio broadcasts downloaded to computer or MP3/4 player)
* Social networking sites
* Video broadcasting sites
* Chat Rooms
* Gaming Sites
* Music download sites
* Mobile phones with camera and video functionality
* Smart phones with e-mail, web functionality and cut down ‘Office’ applications.

**2.Whole school approach to the safe use of ICT**

Creating a safe ICT learning environment includes three main elements at this school:

* An effective range of technological tools;
* Policies and procedures, with clear roles and responsibilities;
* A comprehensive e-Safety education programme for pupils, staff and parents. As a school, we ensure that every class receives one dedicated E-Safety lesson each half term.

**3.Roles and Responsibilities**

E-Safety is recognised as an essential aspect of strategic leadership in this school and the Head, with the support of Governors, aims to embed safe practices into the culture of the school.  The Headteacher ensures that the Policy is implemented and compliance with the Policy monitored.  The responsibility for e-Safety has been designated to the Senior Management Team (SMT) and the Computing Coordinator.

The SMT ensures they keep up to date with e-Safety issues and guidance through liaison with the Local Authority e-Safety Officer and through organisations such as The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP).  Governors need to have an overview understanding of e-Safety issues and strategies at this school.  We ensure our governors are aware of our local and national guidance on e-Safety and are updated at least annually on policy developments.

All teachers are responsible for promoting and supporting safe behaviours in their classrooms and following school e-Safety procedures. Central to this is fostering a ‘No Blame’ culture so pupils feel able to report any cyber-bullying, abuse or inappropriate materials wherever they encounter them.

All staff should be familiar with the schools’ Policy including:

* Safe use of e-mail;
* Safe use of Internet including use of internet-based communication services, such as instant messaging and social network;
* Safe use of school network, equipment and data;
* Safe use of digital images and digital technologies, such as mobile phones, iPads and digital cameras;
* publication of pupil information/photographs and use of website;
* eBullying / Cyberbullying procedures;
* their role in providing e-Safety education for pupils;

Staff are reminded/updated about e-Safety matters at least once a year during a staff meeting.

**4.Teaching and learning**

**Why the Internet and digital communications are important**

* As a school, the Internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide pupils with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.
* Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils.

**Internet use will enhance learning**

* The school Internet access will be designed expressly for pupil use and will include filtering appropriate to the age of pupils.
* Pupils will be taught what Internet use is acceptable and what is not and given clear objectives for Internet use.
* Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
* Pupils will be shown how to publish and present information to a wider audience in an appropriate way.
* Pupils will be taught now to program and debug programs for a rage of purposes both in the virtual and particularly in Key Stage 1, in the real-world. In Key Stage 2, this real world programming will use Scratch to program electronic devices, such as Raspberry Pi.

**Pupils will be taught how to evaluate Internet content**

* The school will ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law.
* Pupils will be taught the importance of cross-checking information before accepting its accuracy.
* Pupils will be taught how to report unpleasant Internet content.

**5. Managing Internet Access**

**Information system security**

* School ICT systems security will be reviewed regularly.
* Virus protection will be updated regularly.
* Security strategies will be discussed with the Local Authority.

**E-mail**

* Pupils may only use their school email accounts within school and within lessons.
* Pupils must immediately tell a teacher if they receive offensive e-mail to their school account. If staff become aware of such material being sent to pupils outside of school, through other accounts they might have privately, they will immediately inform school staff.
* In e-mail communication, pupils must not reveal their personal details or those of others, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission.
* Incoming e-mail should be treated as suspicious and attachments not opened unless the author is known.
* The school has the ability to check within pupil email accounts what has been sent, but also encourages an open and honest culture where children feel secure enough to report anything that upsets or concerns them.
* The forwarding of chain letters is not permitted.

**Published content and the school web site**

* Staff or pupil personal contact information will not be published be published on the school website. The contact details given online should be the school office or specific school areas eg Senco, ICT.
* The Headteacher will take overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.

**Publishing pupil’s images and work**

* Photographs that include pupils will be selected carefully so that individual pupils cannot be identified or their image misused. Consider using group photographs rather than full-face photos of individual children.
* When photographs are taken of children for use on the website, in books or other school-related materials, the device on which they are held will not be taken off the school site. If this happens, and the device is lost, it can constitute a data protection risk. The same applies to any information held electronically which contains personal information about the children.
* All school work completed by staff should be held on their school laptops, and these should not leave the school site, in case they are lost or stolen and pupil’s private information is put at risk.
* Any USB or memory storage devices used by staff for school work should be encrypted.
* Pupils’ full names will not be used anywhere on a school Web site or other on-line space, particularly in association with photographs.
* Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the school website.
* Work can only be published with the permission of the pupil and parents/carers.
* Pupil image file names will not refer to the pupil by name.
* Parents should be clearly informed of the school policy on image taking and publishing, both on school and independent electronic repositories.

**Social networking and personal publishing**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE THE SHIELD ROW PRIMARY SCHOOL SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICY.**

* The school will control access to social networking sites, and educate pupils on its safe use through e-Safety sessions.
* Newsgroups will be blocked unless a specific use is approved.
* Pupils will be advised never to give out personal details of any kind which may identify them, their friends or their location.
* Pupils should use only moderated social networking sites which are appropriate for their age. For example, Facebook has an age-limit of 13 years old, with parent supervision recommended between the ages of 13-16.
* Pupils and parents will be advised that the use of social network spaces outside school brings a range of dangers for primary aged pupils.
* Pupils will be advised to use nicknames and avatars when using social networking sites.

**Managing filtering**

* The school will work with the LA to ensure systems to protect pupils are reviewed and improved. The Computing Coordinator will attend refresher courses on e-Safety and ensure other staff are made aware of any changes or developments.
* If staff or pupils come across unsuitable on-line materials, the site must be reported to the SMT.
* Senior staff, IT support and advisors will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are appropriate, effective and reasonable.

**Managing emerging technologies**

* Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit.
* Systems will be put in place to ensure that mobile phones with wireless Internet access cannot bypass school filtering systems and present a new route to undesirable material and communications.
* Mobile phones will not be brought into school by children and staff should place theirs somewhere safe and secure. The sending of abusive or inappropriate text messages or files by Bluetooth or any other means is forbidden.
* Staff will NEVER take photographs of children on their own mobile phones or iPads. Only school equipment should be used and this equipment should then never leave the school site.

**Managing videoconferencing & webcam use**

* Videoconferencing should use the educational broadband network to ensure quality of service and security.
* If videoconferencing is done within school, it will be as part of a whole class session where staff have control over it.

**Learning Platforms**

* The appropriate use of Learning Platforms will be discussed as the technology becomes available within the school.

**6.Protecting personal data**

* Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998.

**7.Policy Decisions**

**Authorising Internet Access**

* All staff must read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (AUP) before using any school ICT resource.
* The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to school ICT systems.
* At Key Stage 1, access to the Internet will be by adult supervision with directly supervised access to specific, approved on-line materials.

**Assessing risks**

* The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure e Safety. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a computer connected to the school network. Neither the school, YHGfL, nor the LA can accept liability for any material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.
* The school should audit ICT use to establish if the e-safety policy is adequate and that the implementation of the e-safety policy is appropriate and effective.

**Handling e-safety complaints**

* Complaints of Internet misuse will be dealt with by a member of the SMT.
* Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the Headteacher.
* Complaints related to child protection will be dealt with in accordance with school/LA child protection procedures.
* Pupils and parents will be informed of pupils who misuse the Internet.

**8.Communications Policy**

**Introducing the e-safety policy to pupils**

* e-Safety rules will be posted in all rooms where computers are used and discussed with pupils regularly.
* Each half-term, every class will complete one dedicated e-safety taught session, which builds upon things they have covered earlier.
* Pupils will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored and appropriately followed up.
* e-Safety training will be embedded within the ICT scheme of work or the Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

**Staff and the e-Safety policy**

* All staff will be given the School e-Safety Policy and its importance explained.
* Staff must be informed that network and Internet traffic can be monitored and traced to the individual user.
* Staff that manage filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by senior management and work to clear procedures for reporting issues. The coverage and appropriateness of these filters will be regularly reviewed.
* Staff will always use a child friendly safe search engine when accessing the web with pupils. Google images will not be used for image searches as the school filters do not cover these.

**Enlisting parents’ and carers’ support**

* Parents’ and carers’ attention will be drawn to the School e-Safety Policy in newsletters, the school Prospectus and on the school Web site/Learning Platform.
* The school will maintain a list of e-safety resources for parents/carers.
* The school will ask all new parents to sign the parent /pupil agreement when they register their child with the school.

**9. Writing and reviewing the e-safety policy**

The e-Safety Policy relates to other policies including those for ICT, anti-bullying and for child protection.

Our e-Safety Policy has been written by the school, building on the Kent e-Safety Policy. It has been agreed by senior management and approved by governors.

The e-Safety Policy was revised by:

It was approved by the Governors:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Key e-safety issues** | **Relevant websites** |
| Creating web directories to provide easy access to suitable websites. | Parental consent should be sought.  Pupils should be supervised.  Pupils should be directed to specific, approved on-line materials. | Web directories e.g.  Ikeep bookmarks  Webquest UK  Kent Learning Zone  The school / cluster VLE |
| Using search engines to access information from a range of websites. | Filtering must be active and checked frequently.  Parental consent should be sought.  Pupils should be supervised.  Pupils should be taught what internet use is acceptable and what to do if they access material they are uncomfortable with. | Web quests e.g.  Ask Jeeves for kids  Yahooligans  CBBC Search  Kidsclick |
| Exchanging information with other pupils and asking questions of experts via e-mail or blogs. | Pupils should only use approved e-mail accounts or blogs.  Pupils should never give out personal information.  Consider using systems that provide online moderation e.g. SuperClubs Plus. | RM EasyMail  SuperClubs Plus  School Net Global  Kids Safe Mail  Kent Learning Zone  Cluster Microsite blogs  Woodlands Primary School website |
| Publishing pupils‟ work on school and other websites. | Pupil and parental consent should be sought prior to publication.  Pupils‟ full names and other personal information should be omitted.  Pupils‟ work should only be published on „moderated sites‟ and by the school administrator. | Making the News  SuperClubs Plus  Headline History  Kent Grid for Learning  Cluster Microsites  National Education Network Gallery |
| Publishing images including photographs of pupils. | Parental consent for publication of photographs should be sought.  Photographs should not enable individual pupils to be identified.  File names should not refer to the pupil by name.  Staff must ensure that published images do not breach copyright laws. | Making the News  SuperClubs Plus  Learninggrids  Museum sites, etc.  Digital Storytelling  BBC – Primary Art  Cluster Microsites  National Education Network Gallery |
| Communicating ideas within chat rooms or online forums. | Only chat rooms dedicated to educational use and that are moderated should be used.  Access to other social networking sites should be blocked.  Pupils should never give out personal information. | SuperClubs Plus  FlashMeeting |
| Audio and video conferencing to gather information and share pupils‟ work. | Pupils should be supervised.  Schools should only use applications that are managed by Local Authorities and approved Educational Suppliers. | FlashMeeting  National Archives “On-Line”  Global Leap  JANET Videoconferencing Advisory Service (JVCS) |

**Appendix 1: Internet use - Possible teaching and learning activities**

**Appendix 2: Useful resources for teachers**

BBC Stay Safe

www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/safesurfing/

Chat Danger

www.chatdanger.com/

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

www.ceop.gov.uk/

Childnet

www.childnet-int.org/

Cyber Café

http://thinkuknow.co.uk/8\_10/cybercafe/cafe/base.aspx

Digizen

www.digizen.org/

Kidsmart

www.kidsmart.org.uk/

Think U Know

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Safer Children in the Digital World

[www.dfes.gov.uk/byronreview/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/byronreview/)

**Appendix 3: Useful resources for parents**

Care for the family

www.careforthefamily.org.uk/pdf/supportnet/InternetSafety.pdf

Childnet International "Know It All" CD

http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk

Family Online Safe Institute

www.fosi.org

Internet Watch Foundation

www.iwf.org.uk

Parents Centre

www.parentscentre.gov.uk

Internet Safety Zone

[www.internetsafetyzone.com](http://www.internetsafetyzone.com)

**Appendix 4 Glossary of Terms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TERM** | **DEFINITION** |
| Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) | A policy that a user must agree to abide by in order to gain access to a network or the internet. In the school context, it may also cover how other communication devices, such as mobile or camera phones, can be used on the school, premises. |
| Blog | A blog, also known as a weblog, is a form of online diary or journal. Blogs contain short or frequently updated posts, arranged chronologically with the most recently posted item appearing at the top of the page. In addition to text, blogs can contain, photos, images, sound, video, archives and related links, and can incorporate comments from visitors. |
| Chatroom | A place where a user can communicate with people more or less instantaneously by typing messages which then appear on your computer screen, and are transmitted across the internet to be read by everyone else participating in the chat at that time. The conversation continues through the exchange of messages. Chat can either be moderated or un-moderated. In the latter case the conversation will be completely unsupervised. It is very easy to fake an identity when participating in a chat so be especially wary. |
| Discussion Forum/ Messageboard | A discussion site on the internet, often focusing on a special theme, where people can post messages online using the formats specified by the provider of this service. Some discussion forums require registration.  Some forums contain an archive, which you can use to search for a given topic. Some forums are moderated where the administrator of the forum has the right to delete or edit any messages posted. or to ban abusive users. |
| Email Groups / Mailing List | Email mailing lists on specific topics that users can subscribe to. Once subscribed the user receives all the messages sent to the group and anything the user sends in is similarly distributed. It is mainly used to conduct discussions about the topic of the mailing list. |
| Filtering | A method used to prevent or block users’ access to unsuitable material on the internet. |
| Firewall | A network security system used to restrict internal and external traffic |
| Hacking | The process of illegally breaking into someone else’s computer system, breaching the computer’s security. |
| Information Literacy / Digital Literacy | The ability to locate pertinent information, evaluate its reliability, analyse and synthesise it to construct personal meaning and apply it to informed decision making. |
| Instant Messaging | A form of live chat. Generally a user joins a service (most popular is MSN) and then whenever they log on to the internet their name will appear in a central register. The user can then be contacted by anyone on the register and added to that person’s contact list, although they will, of course, have to agree to accept their call. A user’s email address must be known before they can be added to someone’s list of contacts. With some of the more popular forms of instant messaging a user can join a club and all members of the club are notified when any other member logs on. |
| International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) | A unique 15-digit serial number for mobile phones. When a phone is lost or stolen the number can be identified as invalid, so rendering the handset useless. It can be found by keying \*#06# on your phone’s keypad |
| Internet Service Provider (ISP) | A company providing a connection to the internet and other services, such as browser software, email, a helpline, web space and subscriber-only content. |
| Newsgroups | Like an electronic bulletin board where people with common interests can keep in touch and up to date. You post to the newsgroup using a newsreader, a basic newsreader is included in Outlook Express. Newsgroups can also include video and music files for download. |
| Parental Control Software | Programmes that allow parents or other responsible adults to control various aspects of how a particular computer or network might interact with the internet. Some internet service providers offer free parental control software to members. |
| Peer-to-Peer (P2P) | P2P software allows users to search for files (such as music or videos) in specific folders of other users who are connected to the software. And therefore, also allows others to search the user’s specified folders. These files are mostly copyrighted material and so illegal to download unless the user already owns a legally purchased copy. P2P networks are also littered with viruses. |
| Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) | A small, mobile, handheld device that provides computing and information storage/retrieval capabilities, and possibly phone facilities too. |
| Podcast | An audio file which can contain music, speaking or a mixture of the two. Can be made by anyone from large companies like the BBC to non-professional individuals. They can be downloaded and played through iTunes or on an iPod. |
| Pop-Up | A new window that opens on top of the active internet browser window. This window does not usually contain it’s own web address, however in some cases it can do. Pop-ups that open without the user’s request usually contain advertisements. Pop-up blockers are available as part of most browsers. |
| SMS / Test Messaging |  |
| Social Networking Sites | Sites such as myspace or bebo which allow users to create an online profile that others can then search for and ask for permission to add that person to their list of friends. The online profile would usually include a photo, the user’s age, gender, hometown and a list of their hobbies/favourite things. The user can also post a blog, music and video on their page. People on the user’s friend list are allowed to send messages, leave comments or contact the user through instant messaging services. |
| Spam | Unsolicited junk email. The term is also used to describe junk text messages received via mobile phones. A related term SPIM (or spIM), describes receiving spam via instant messaging. |
| Spoofing | Assuming the identity of someone else, using an email address either guessed or harvested from repositories of valid email addresses (such as the address book of a virus-infected computer). Spoofing is typically practised to veil the source of virus-laden emails, or, often, to obtain sensitive information from spam recipients, without revealing the source of the spammers. |
| URL | An abbreviation for uniform resource locator, another way of saying address. |
| Virus | A computer program that enters a computer, often via email, and carries out a malicious act. A virus in a computer can corrupt or wipe all information in the hard drive, including the system software. All users are advised to guard against this by installing anti-virus software. |
| Webcam | A webcam is a camera connected to a computer that is connected to the internet. A live picture is uploaded to a website from the camera at regular intervals, typically every few minutes. By looking at the website you can see what the camera sees – almost as it happens. |