




# Online Safety Policy

(Approval delegated to Quality of Education Committee)

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<p><b>Safeguarding Duty</b></p>	<p>“Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.”</p> <p>“ All staff have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn.”</p> <p>(KCSIE January 2021)</p>
<p><b>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child</b></p> 	<p>Article 3- Best interests of the child            Article 28- Right to education            Article 29- Goals of education            Article 31- Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in wide range of cultural activities</p>

## **The purpose of this policy statement is to:**

- ensure that the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices
- provide staff, Governors, Trustees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety
- ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices. The policy statement applies to all staff, Governors, Trustees, volunteers, children and anyone involved in Hursthead Junior School's activities.

## **Legal framework**

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

[Teaching online safety in schools](#)

[Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for headteachers and school staff](#)

[Relationships and sex education](#)

[Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

## **We recognise that:**

- the online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges
- we have a duty to ensure that all children and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online
- we have a responsibility to help keep children safe online, whether or not they are using Hursthead Junior School's network and devices
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

## **We seek to keep children and young people safe by:**

- appointing an online safety coordinator (Miss C Potter – Assistant Headteacher/DSL/Computing subject lead)
- providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online through our behaviour code for adults (Responsible Use and Staff ICT Code of Conduct)
- supporting and encouraging children in school to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others
- supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online
- developing an online safety agreement for use with children and their parents/carers
- developing clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person (Behaviour Policy and Safeguarding Policy)
- reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly
- ensuring that user names, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively
- ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely and shared only as appropriate
- ensuring that images of children, young people and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given
- providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety
- examining and risk assessing any social media platforms and new technologies before they are used within the organisation

### **If online abuse occurs, we will respond to it by:**

- having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse
- providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying/cyberbullying, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- making sure our response takes the needs of the victim, any bystanders, the perpetrator and our organisation as a whole into account
- reviewing the plan developed to address online abuse at regular intervals, in order to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

### **Related policies and procedures**

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Procedures for responding to concerns about a child or young person's wellbeing (CPOMS)
- Dealing with allegations of abuse made against a child or young person
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Anti-bullying policy and procedures
- Photography and image sharing guidance