



Heritage Park School

Online Safety Policy

2024-2025

Written by Jake Bower: March 2024

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Introduction

Key People & Dates

Heritage Park School	Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), with lead responsibility for filtering and monitoring	Jake Bower & Sarah Davidson
	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads / DSL Team Members	Vanya Elwis
	Link governor for safeguarding	Andy Wynne
	Curriculum leads with relevance to online safeguarding and their role	Nicky Sulley
	Network manager / other technical support	Anne Dean supported by BlueBox
	Date this policy was reviewed and by whom	March 2024 by Jake Bower
	Date of next review and by whom	September 2025

What is this policy?

Online safety is an integral part of safeguarding and requires a whole school, cross-curricular approach and collaboration between key school leads. Accordingly, this policy is written in line with 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2023 (KCSIE), 'Teaching Online Safety in Schools', statutory RSHE guidance and other statutory documents. It is cross-curricular (with relevance beyond Relationships, Health and Sex Education, Citizenship and Computing) and designed to sit alongside or be integrated into Heritage Park's statutory Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy. Any issues and concerns with online safety must always follow the school's safeguarding and child protection procedures.

Who is it for; when is it reviewed?

This policy is a living document, subject to full annual review but also amended where necessary during the year in response to developments in the school and local area. Although many aspects will be informed by legislation and regulations, we will involve staff, governors, pupils and parents in writing and reviewing the policy and make sure the policy makes sense and it is possible to follow it in all respects. This will help ensure all stakeholders understand the rules that are in place and why, and that the policy affects day-to-day practice.

Who is in charge of online safety?

KCSIE makes clear that "the designated safeguarding lead should take **lead** responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety)." The DSL can delegate activities but not the responsibility for

this area and whilst subject leads, e.g. for RSHE will plan the curriculum for their area, it is important that this ties into a whole-school approach.

What are the main online safety risks in 2024?

Current Online Safeguarding Trends

At Heritage Park over the past year, we have particularly noticed the following in terms of device use and abuse and types of online/device-based incidents which affect the wellbeing and safeguarding of our students:

- researching self-harm
- researching drugs
- researching weapons

Nationally, some of the latest trends of the past twelve months are outlined below. These should be reflected in this policy and the acceptable use agreements we use and seen in the context of the 4 Cs (see KCSIE for more details), a whole-school contextual safeguarding approach that incorporates policy and practice for curriculum, safeguarding and technical teams.

We may be updating this policy during the year to reflect any changes resulting from the Online Safety Bill being passed into law.

Self-generative artificial intelligence has been a significant change, with students having often unfettered access to tools that generate text and images at home or in school. These tools not only represent a challenge in terms of accuracy when young people are genuinely looking for information, but also in terms of plagiarism for teachers and above all safety: none of the mainstream tools have end-user safety settings, most have an age limit of 13 or even 18 and in spite of basic rude words not delivering results, will easily produce inappropriate material. Schools not only need to tackle this in terms of what comes into school but also educating young people and their parents on use of these tools in the home.

The continued cost-of-living crisis has meant that children have spent more time online and therefore exposed to all manner of online harms as families have had to cut back on leisure activities and the public provision of free activities for young people has reduced further.

Against this background, the Ofcom 'Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2023' has shown that YouTube remains the most used site or app among all under 18s and the reach of WhatsApp, TikTok and Snapchat increased yet further. As a school we recognise that many of our children and young people are on these apps regardless of age limits, which are often misunderstood or ignored. We therefore remember to remind about best practice while remembering the reality for most of our students is quite different.

This is striking when you consider that 20% of 3-4-year-olds have access to their OWN mobile phone (let alone shared devices), rising to over 90 percent by the end of primary school, and the vast majority have no safety controls or limitations to prevent harm or access to inappropriate material. At the same time, even 3 to 6-year-olds are being tricked into 'self-generated' sexual content (Internet Watch Foundation Annual Report) while considered to be safely using devices in the home and the 7-10-year-old age group is the fastest growing for this form of child sexual abuse material, up 60 percent within 12 months to represent over 60,000 cases found (of this same kind where the abuser is not present).

This is striking when you consider that over 95 percent of students have their own mobile phone by the end of Year 7, and the vast majority do not have safety controls or limitations to prevent harm of access to inappropriate material. This is particularly pertinent given that 130,556 cases of self-generated child sexual abuse material were found of 11-13-year-olds (Internet Watch Foundation Annual Report). These were

predominantly (but importantly not only) girls; it is important also to recognise more and more older teenage boys being financially extorted after sharing intimate pictures online.

In the past year, more and more children and young people used apps such as snapchat as their source of news and information, with little attention paid to the veracity of influencers sharing news. The 2023 Revealing-Reality: Anti-social-Media Report highlights that this content is interspersed with highly regular exposure to disturbing, graphic and illegal content such as fights, attacks, sexual acts and weapons. At the same time, the Children's Commissioner revealed the ever-younger children are regularly consuming pornography and living out inappropriate behaviour and relationships due to 'learning from' pornography. This has coincided with the rise of misogynistic influencers such as Andrew Tate, which had a significant influence on many young boys over the past year which schools have had to counter.

From data collected from many schools over the past year, there was a marked increase in the number of schools having issues with fights being filmed and shared, a disturbing increase in the cases of self-harm and sexual abuse being coerced with threats of violence (many even in primary schools).

There has been a significant increase in the number of fake profiles causing issues in schools, both for schools – where the school logo and/or name have been used to share inappropriate content about students and also spread defamatory allegations about staff, and also for students, including where these are used to bully others (sometimes even pretending to be one student to bully a second student).

How will this policy be communicated?

This policy can only impact upon practice if it is a (regularly updated) living document. It must be accessible to and understood by all stakeholders. It will be communicated in the following ways:

- Posted on the school website
- Part of school induction pack for all new staff (including temporary, supply and non-classroom-based staff and those starting mid-year)
- Integral to safeguarding updates and training for all staff (especially in September refreshers)
- Clearly reflected in the Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) for staff, volunteers, contractors, governors, pupils and parents/carers (which must be in accessible language appropriate to these groups), which will be issued to whole school community, on entry to the school, annually and whenever changed, plus displayed in school.

Overview

Aims

This policy aims to promote a whole school approach to online safety by:

- Setting out expectations for all Heritage Park School community members' online behaviour, attitudes and activities and use of digital technology (including when devices are offline)
- Helping safeguarding and senior leadership teams to have a better understanding and awareness of all elements of online safeguarding through effective collaboration and communication with technical colleagues (e.g. for filtering and monitoring), curriculum leads (e.g. RSHE) and beyond.
- Helping 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, regardless of device or platform, and that the same standards of behaviour apply online and offline.

- Facilitating the safe, responsible, respectful and positive 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
- Helping 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
- Establishing 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 Behaviour Policy or Anti-Bullying Policy)

Further Help and Support

At Heritage Park the reporting, support and responding to incidents procedure that is outlined in the Child Protection Policy. The DSL and DDSL will handle referrals to local authority multi-agency safeguarding hubs and the principal will handle referrals to the LA designated officer (LADO).

Beyond this, the following websites have lists of curated links to external support and helplines for both pupils and staff, including the Professionals' Online-Safety Helpline from the UK Safer Internet Centre and the NSPCC Report Abuse Helpline for sexual harassment or abuse, as well as hotlines for hate crime, terrorism and fraud which might be useful to share with parents, and anonymous support for children and young people. Training is also available via the websites.

<https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/scsp-reporting.lgfl.net>

Scope

This policy applies to all members of the Heritage Park School community (including teaching, supply and support staff, governors, volunteers, contractors, students/pupils, parents/carers, visitors and community users) 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.

Roles and 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, pupils, 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.

Depending on their role, all members of the school community should **read the relevant section in Annex A of this document** that describes individual roles and responsibilities. Please note there is one for **all Staff**

which must be read even by those who have a named role in another section. There are also pupil, governor, etc role descriptions in the annex.

In 2023/2024, it is vital that all members understand their responsibilities and those of others when it comes to filtering and monitoring. All staff have a key role to play in feeding back on potential issues.

Education and Curriculum

It is important that schools establish a carefully sequenced curriculum for online safety that builds on what pupils have already learned and identifies subject content that is appropriate for their stage of development.

As well as teaching about the underpinning knowledge and behaviours that can help pupils navigate the online world safely and confidently regardless of the device, platform or app, **Teaching Online Safety in Schools** recommends embedding teaching about online safety and harms through a whole school approach and provides an understanding of these risks to help tailor teaching and support to the specific needs of pupils, including vulnerable pupils – dedicated training around this with curriculum mapping for RSHE/PSHE and online safety leads is available at safetraining.lgfl.net

The following subjects have the clearest online safety links:

- Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health (also known as RSHE or PSHE)
- Computing

However, as stated in the role descriptors 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, supporting curriculum/stage/subject leads, and making the most of unexpected learning opportunities as they arise (which have a unique value for pupils).

Whenever overseeing the use of technology (devices, the internet, new technology such as augmented reality, etc) in school or setting as homework tasks, all staff should encourage sensible use, monitor what pupils/students are doing and consider potential dangers and the age appropriateness of websites.

“Parents and carers are likely to find it helpful to understand what systems schools use to filter and monitor online use. It will be especially important for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and be clear who from the school or college (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online” (KCSIE 2023).

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

At Heritage Park School, we recognise that online safety and broader digital resilience must be throughout the curriculum and that is why we are working to adopt the cross-curricular framework ‘Education for a Connected World – 2020 edition’ from UKCIS (the UK Council for Internet Safety).

Annual reviews of curriculum plans / schemes of work (including for SEND pupils) 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.

This is done within the context of an annual online safety audit, which is a collaborative effort led by Jake Bower.

Handling Safeguarding Concerns and Incidents

It is vital that all staff recognise that online safety is a part of safeguarding at Heritage Park.

General concerns must be handled in the same way as any other safeguarding concern; safeguarding is often referred to as a jigsaw puzzle.

Staff need to report any online safety concerns as they would for any safeguarding concern.

If it poses an immediate threat to an individual this needs reporting in person to an advanced safeguarding officer and reporting on CPOMS.

If the online safety incident is a concern and not an immediate threat the concern needs recording on CPOMS.

Support staff will often have a unique insight and opportunity to find out about issues first in the playground, corridors, toilets and other communal areas outside the classroom (particularly relating to bullying and sexual harassment and violence).

School procedures for dealing with online safety will be mostly detailed in the following policies (primarily in the first key document):

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Acceptable Use Policies
- Data Protection Policy, agreements and other documentation (e.g. privacy statement and consent forms for data sharing, image use etc)

This school commits to take all reasonable precautions to ensure safeguarding pupils online but recognises that incidents will occur both inside school and outside school (and that those from outside school will continue to impact pupils when they come into school or during extended periods away from school). All members of the school are encouraged to report issues swiftly to allow us to deal with them quickly and sensitively through the school's escalation processes.

Any concern/allegation about staff misuse is always referred directly to the Principal, unless the concern is about the Principal in which case the complaint is referred to the Chair of Governors and the LADO (Local Authority's Designated Officer). Staff may also use the NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline.

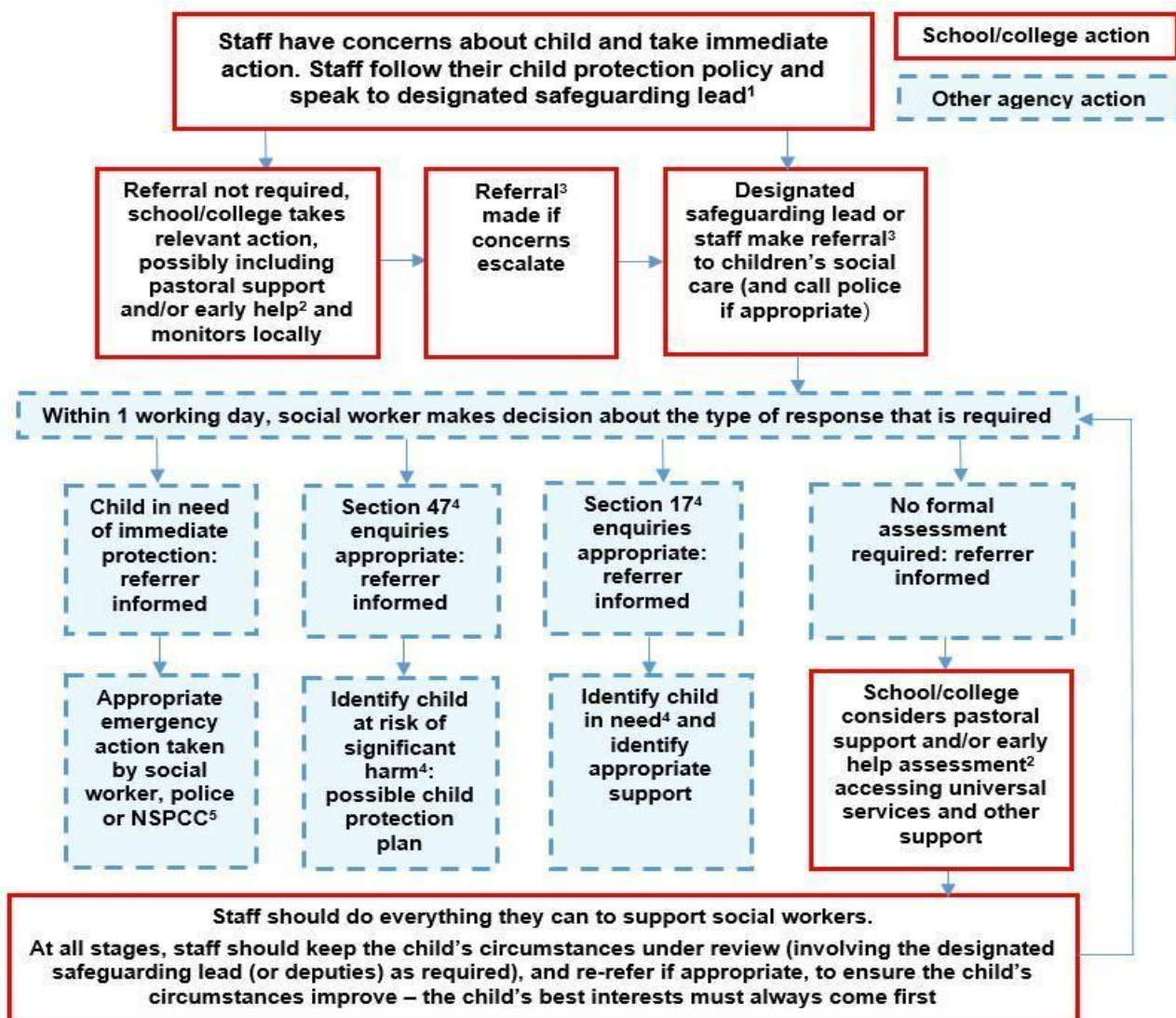
The school will actively seek support from other agencies as needed (i.e. the local authority, LGfL, UK Safer Internet Centre's Professionals' Online Safety Helpline (POSH), NCA CEOP, Prevent Officer, Police, IWF and Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service). The DfE guidance **Behaviour in Schools, advice for headteachers and school staff** September 2022 provides advice and related legal duties including support for pupils and powers of staff when responding to incidents – see pages 32-34 for guidance on child-on-child sexual violence and harassment, behaviour incidents online and mobile phones.

We will inform parents/carers of online-safety incidents involving their children, and the Police where staff or pupils engage in or are subject to behaviour which we consider is particularly concerning or breaks the law (particular procedures are in place for sexting and upskirting; see section below).

The school will evaluate whether reporting procedures are adequate for any future closures/lockdowns/isolation etc and make alternative provisions in advance where these might be needed.

Actions where there are concerns about a child

The following flow chart is taken from page 22 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 as the key education safeguarding document. As outlined previously, online safety concerns are no different to any other safeguarding concern.



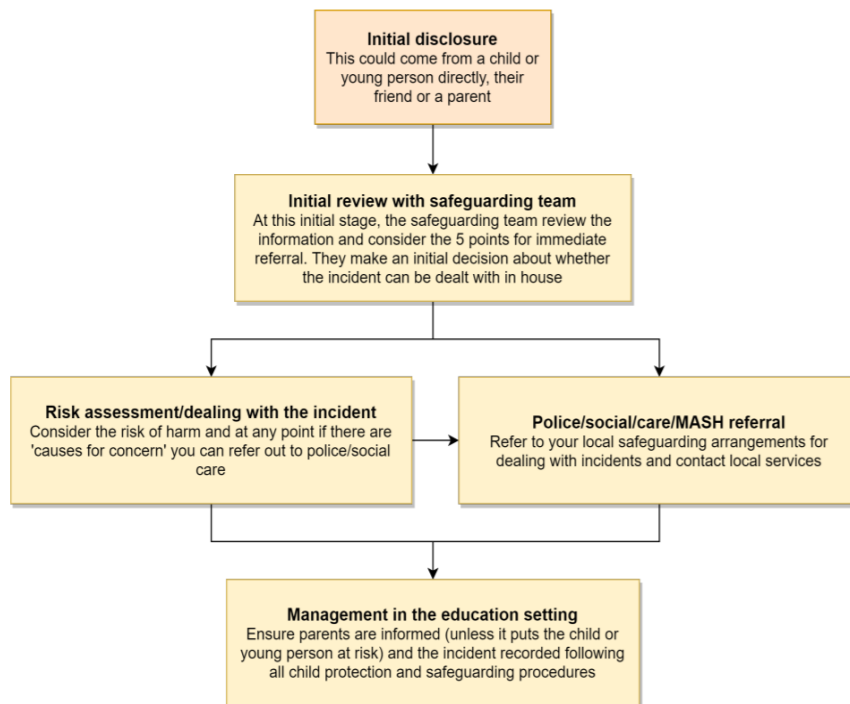
Sexting – Sharing nudes and semi-nudes

Heritage Park will refer to the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) guidance on sexting - now referred to as **Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings** to avoid unnecessary criminalisation of children.

NB - where one of the parties is over 18, this is no longer sexting but child sexual abuse.

There is a one-page overview called **Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: how to respond to an incident** for all staff to read, in recognition of the fact that it is mostly someone other than the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or online safety lead to first become aware of an incident, and it is vital that the correct steps are taken. Staff other than the DSL must not attempt to view, share or delete the image or ask anyone else to do so, but to go straight to the DSL.

The school DSL will in turn use the full guidance document, **Sharing nudes and semi-nudes – advice for educational settings** to decide next steps and whether other agencies need to be involved.



***Consider the 5 points for immediate referral at initial review:**

1. The incident involves an adult
2. There is reason to believe that a child or young person has been coerced, blackmailed or groomed, or there are concerns about their capacity to consent (for example, owing to special educational needs)
3. What you know about the images or videos suggests the content depicts sexual acts which are unusual for the young person's developmental stage, or are violent
4. The images involves sexual acts and any pupil in the images or videos is under 18
5. You have reason to believe a child or young person is at immediate risk of harm owing to the sharing of nudes and semi-nudes, for example, they are presenting as suicidal or self-harming

It is important that everyone understands that whilst sexting is illegal, pupils/students can come and talk to members of staff if they have made a mistake or had a problem in this area.

The documents referenced above and materials to support teaching about sexting can be found at sexting.lgfl.net

Upskirting

It is important that everyone understands that upskirting (taking a photo of someone under their clothing, not necessarily a skirt) is now a criminal offence and constitutes a form of sexual harassment as highlighted in Keeping Children Safe in Education. As with other forms of child on child abuse pupils/students can come and talk to members of staff if they have made a mistake or had a problem in this area.

Bullying

Online bullying, including incidents that take place outside school or from home should be treated like any other form of bullying and the school bullying policy should be followed for online bullying, which may also be referred to as cyberbullying, including issues arising from banter.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can be verbal, physical or psychological and can happen online or face-to-face.

Core Principles

When we come to tackle bullying, we must:

Listen – All students, parents/carers and staff are listened to when they report incidents of bullying. It is our intention that students feel safe and confident in reporting bullying and that parent's concerns are addressed promptly and transparently.

Celebrate Difference – Difference in all students and staff is actively and visibly celebrated and welcomed across the whole school. Staff and students will be encouraged to talk about all kinds of difference and to discuss the things that make them different. They will have a strong sense of what makes them who they are and shared interests and commonalities that they share. We will support and educate students who need help in how to discuss differences, themselves or others in an appropriate way.

Include All – All students are included, valued and participate fully in all aspects of school life.

Report Bullying – Staff, students and parents/carers all understand how to report incidents of bullying. When staff are recording behaviour incidents on Behaviour Watch, they know to record bullying to ensure that follow-up actions are taken. 'I Wish My Teacher Knew' is a good way of students sharing their concerns and hopes anonymously. Incidents recorded on the sheet and/or email are discussed and recorded at pupil review, so all staff are aware and clear who is following up any actions.

Believe – All students, parents/carers and staff are acknowledged, believed and taken seriously when reporting incidents of bullying

Take Action – We respond quickly to all incidents of bullying. Students are involved in the decisions made about them and help to formulate the responses. Staff are trained in managing incidents and supporting restoration.

Understand – All staff, students and parents/carers understand what bullying is and what it isn't.

Challenge – All forms of discriminatory language are challenged, recorded on Behaviour Watch and taken seriously.

Respect – All school staff are role models to others within the school in how they treat others.

Responding to Bullying

Our responses to bullying will consist of 3 Steps:

- Step 1: Secure the safety of those involved
 - *Follow safeguarding procedures in school*
 - *Move students and/or staff, if necessary, to prevent immediate danger*
 - *Assure those involved that their report is taken seriously, and action will be taken*

- Step 2: Stop the behaviour reoccurring
 - *Investigate and find out who is involved*
 - *Talk with individuals/groups to be clear what behaviours need to stop*
 - *Manage groups and individuals effectively to reduce opportunities for reoccurrence – this may involve bespoke plans for students for certain times of the day and/or how they move around school, meetings with parents, police involvement etc.*

- *Use talk strategies to ensure restoration for all parties*
- Step 3: Whole School Learning
 - *Reflect on any incidences of bullying and what this might teach us as a school*
 - *Does this learning provoke any actions, e.g. staff training or changes to policy and procedure?*

Sexual Bullying

Any bullying with a sexual element, which may also be referred to as gender-based bullying, is often underpinned by sexist attitudes and gender stereotypes, including misogyny. Some examples of this are sexual comments, comments of a sexist nature, sexualised language, non-consensual physical contact, upskirting, distributing sexual material, sexualised games, pressure to be alone with others and/or in a relationship with them, pressurising someone to engage in sexual activity and spreading rumours about their sexual activity. We will challenge sexist language/attitudes, both in individual instances and through our curriculum work, to prevent these become normalised in our schools. We will also spend time talking at an age-appropriate level about sex and relationships, including the impact of pornography, to support this work.

HBT Bullying

Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic (HBT) bullying is bullying directed at someone who is or is perceived to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or those whose sexuality is not heterosexual, or whose gender identity is not based on a traditional gender binary. (LGBTQ+).

Race and Faith-Targeted Bullying

This is bullying that is perceived by the victim, or any other person, to be racist or bullying that targets a person's faith. All incidents of racist bullying in schools constitute a racist incident. However not all racist incidents would constitute racist bullying. To determine if racist incident/s are bullying, it is important to have a shared whole-school understanding of what bullying is.

Vulnerable students

We are aware that statistically, some groups of students are more likely to be the victim of bullying. With this in mind, we will take greater care to support these groups and celebrate the differences that they bring to our community through our work in and around the curriculum. These may include students with a disability, those who are defined as young carers (children or young people who have a caring responsibility for someone else, often a member of their own family), students from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, those who have experience of the care system, students who identify as LGBT+ and those who have mental health issues.

Friendships

Friendships are recognised as protective factors when preventing and responding to bullying. As such, we will support students in their developing of friendships through curriculum work, small group work and supportive structures round school, e.g. cooperative games at breaks.

Anti-Bullying Week

We will celebrate Ant-Bullying week each year. Whilst work will continue throughout the year, this will be a key time to reinforce the messages of respect, celebrating difference and understanding.

Additional Information

Legislation and Statutory Requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- Bullying at school
- Preventing and Tackling Bullying 2017
- The Children Act 1989
- The Equality Act 2010
- Use of reasonable force in schools
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school
- It is also based on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice.

In addition, this policy is based on:

- Section 175 of the Education Act 2002, which outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of its pupils

Responsibilities

The **Principal** is responsible for approving this policy and reviewing it in conjunction with the Governing Body. The **Principal** will ensure that the school environment encourages positive relationships and that staff effectively manage children who are involved in online bullying, including monitoring how staff implement this policy.

The Governing Body will also review this policy in conjunction with the **Principal** and monitor the policy's effectiveness and holding the principal to account.

All **staff** are responsible for implementing the policy, modelling positive behaviour, providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular pupils and recording bullying incidents. The senior leadership team will support staff in responding to online bullying incidents.

Parents and Carers should notify school if they are aware of any incidences of online bullying and are expected to support their child in adhering to the code of conduct.

It is important to be aware that in the past 12 months there has been an increase in anecdotal reports of fights being filmed and fake profiles being used to bully children in the name of others. When considering bullying, staff will be reminded of these issues.

Materials to support teaching about bullying and useful Department for Education guidance and case studies are at bullying.lgfl.net

Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment

Part 5 of Keeping Children Safe in Education covers 'Child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment' and it would be useful for all staff to be aware of many aspects outlined there to support a whole-school response; case studies are also helpful for training.

Any incident of sexual harassment or violence (online or offline) should be reported to the DSL who will follow the full guidance. Staff should work to foster a zero-tolerance culture and maintain an attitude of 'it

could happen here'. The guidance stresses that schools must take all forms of sexual violence and harassment seriously, explaining how it exists on a continuum and that behaviours incorrectly viewed as 'low level' are treated seriously and not allowed to perpetuate. The document makes specific reference to behaviours such as bra-strap flicking and the careless use of language.

In the online environment, the recent proliferation of misogynistic content is particularly relevant when it comes to considering reasons for and how to combat this kind of behaviour. At Heritage we have interventions from the safeguarding team on a 1:1 basis and we provide our students with access to external agency provision linked to contextual themes.

Misuse of School Technology (devices, systems, networks or platforms)

Clear and well communicated rules and procedures are essential to govern pupil and adult use of school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices, cloud platforms and social media (both when on school site and outside of school).

These are defined in the relevant Acceptable Use Policy as well as in this document, for example in the sections relating to the professional and personal use of school platforms/networks/clouds, devices and other technology, as well as to BYOD (bring your own device) policy.

Where pupils contravene these rules, the school behaviour policy will be applied; where staff contravene these rules, action will be taken as outlined in the staff code of conduct handbook.

It will be necessary to reinforce these as usual at the beginning of any school year but also to remind pupils that **the same applies for any home learning** that may take place in future periods of absence/ closure.

Further to these steps, the school reserves the right to withdraw – temporarily or permanently – any or all access to such technology, or the right to bring devices onto school property.

The new responsibilities for filtering and monitoring, led by the DSL and following the new DfE standards, may mean that more such incidents will be discovered in the coming year but the school will do its best to remind pupils and staff of this increased scrutiny at the start of the year.

Social Media Incidents

See the social media section later in this document for rules and expectations of behaviour for children and adults at Heritage Park. These are also governed by school Acceptable Use Policies.

Breaches will be dealt with in line with the school behaviour policy (for pupils) or code of conduct for staff).

Further to this, where an incident relates to an inappropriate, upsetting, violent or abusive social media post by a member of the school community, the school Principal will request that the post be deleted and will expect this to be actioned promptly.

Where an offending post has been made by a third party, the school may report it to the platform it is hosted on, and may contact the Professionals' Online Safety Helpline, POSH, (run by the UK Safer Internet Centre) for support or help to accelerate this process.

Data Protection

All pupils, staff, governors, volunteers, contractors and parents are bound by the school's data protection policy. It is important to remember that there is a close relationship between both data protection and cybersecurity and a school's ability to effectively safeguard children. Schools are reminded of this in KCSIE which also refers to the DfE Standards of Cybersecurity for the first time in 2023.

Schools should remember that data protection does not prevent, or limit, the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. As outlined in *Data protection in schools, 2023*, “It’s not usually necessary to ask for consent to share personal information for the purposes of safeguarding a child.” And in KCSIE 2023, “The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.”

Appropriate Filtering and Monitoring

Keeping Children Safe in Education has long asked schools to ensure “appropriate” web filtering and monitoring systems which keep children safe online but do not “overblock”.

Since KCSIE 2023, in recognition of the importance of these systems to keeping children safe, the designated safeguarding lead now has lead responsibility for filtering and monitoring (see page 1 for the DSL name and the named governor with responsibility for filtering and monitoring).

Schools are also asked to follow the new DfE filtering and monitoring standards, which require them to:

- identify and assign roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems
- review filtering and monitoring provision at least annually
- block harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning
- have effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs

As schools get to grips with these new standards, the challenge for DSLs and SLT is to better understand, review and drive the rationale behind decisions in this area. Tech teams and safeguarding teams will need to work much more closely together for this to be possible and technicians will be charged to carry out regular checks and feed back to DSL teams.

ALL STAFF need to be aware of the changes and renewed emphasis and play their part in feeding back about areas of concern, potential for students to bypass systems and any potential overblocking. They can submit concerns at any point via email to the safeguarding team and will be asked for feedback at the time of the regular checks which will now take place.

Staff will be reminded of the systems in place and their responsibilities at induction and start of year safeguarding as well as via AUPs and regular training reminders in the light of the annual review and regular checks that will be carried out.

It is very important that schools understand the difference between filtering and monitoring, the meaning of overblocking and other terms, as well as how to get the best out of systems. There are guidance videos and flyers to help with this at <https://safefiltering.lgfl.net>

At Heritage Park:

- web filtering is provided by Smoothwall on school site
- Lightspeed filtering is used for school devices used in the home
- changes can be made by Anne Dean and BlueBox
- overall responsibility is held by the DSL
- technical support and advice, setup and configuration are from BlueBox
- an annual review is carried out by using the online safety audit tool

According to the DfE standards, “a variety of monitoring strategies may be required to minimise safeguarding risks on internet connected devices and may include:

- physically monitoring by staff watching screens of users

- network monitoring using log files of internet traffic and web access
- individual device monitoring through software or third-party services

Messaging/Commenting Systems (incl. email, learning platforms & more)

Authorised systems

- Pupils at this school communicate with staff using their assigned school email addresses using the email system provided by school – Microsoft Outlook/Office 365.
- Pupils are not able to email other pupils using the school system.
- Staff at this school use the email system provided by Microsoft Outlook/Office 365 for all school emails. They never use a personal/private email account (or other messaging platform) to communicate with children or parents, or to colleagues when relating to school/child data, using a non-school-administered system. Staff are permitted to use this email system to communicate with all stakeholders of the school whether that be internal or external.
- Staff at this school use class mobile phones, emails, phone calls and letters home to communicate with parents/carers. Additional to this the school uses ‘text to parents’ to communicate whole school messages. This account is managed by the Principal and Admin team.

Any systems above are centrally managed and administered by the school or authorised IT partner (i.e. they can be monitored/audited/viewed centrally; are not private or linked to private accounts). This is for the mutual protection and privacy of all staff, pupils and parents, supporting safeguarding best-practice, protecting children against abuse, staff against potential allegations and in line with UK data protection legislation.

Use of any new platform with communication facilities or any child login or storing school/child data must be approved in advance by the school and centrally managed.

Any unauthorised attempt to use a different system may be a safeguarding concern or disciplinary matter and should be notified to the DSL (if by a child) or to the Principal (if by a staff member).

Where devices have multiple accounts for the same app, mistakes can happen, such as an email being sent from or data being uploaded to the wrong account. If this a private account is used for communication or to store data by mistake, the DSL/Principal/DPO (the particular circumstances of the incident will determine whose remit this is) should be informed immediately.

Behaviour / usage principles

- More detail for all the points below is given in the [social media](#) section of this policy as well as the school’s acceptable use agreements, behaviour policy and staff code of conduct.
- 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.
- Data protection principles will be followed at all times when it comes to all school communications, in line with the school Data Protection Policy and only using the authorised systems mentioned above.

- Pupils are only allowed to use the email for lesson-based activities, communicate with staff members and use to support college applications.
- Staff are allowed to use the email for reasonable (not excessive, not during lessons) personal use but should be aware that all use is monitored, their emails may be read, and the same rules of appropriate behaviour apply at all times. Emails using inappropriate language, images, malware or to adult sites may be blocked and not arrive at their intended destination (and will be dealt with according to the appropriate policy and procedure).

Online Storage or Learning Platforms

All the principles outlined above also apply to any system to which you log in online to conduct school business, whether it is to simply store files or data (an online 'drive') or collaborate, learn, teach, etc.

For all these, it is important to consider data protection and cybersecurity before adopting such a platform or service and at all times when using it. Heritage Park has a clear cybersecurity and data protection policy which staff, governors and volunteers must follow at all times.

School Website

The school website is a key public-facing information portal for the school community (both existing and prospective stakeholders) with a key reputational value. The Principal and Governors have delegated the day-to-day responsibility of updating the content of the website and ensuring compliance with DfE stipulations to Anne Dean.

Where staff submit information for the website, they are asked to remember that schools have the same duty as any person or organisation to respect and uphold copyright law – schools have been fined thousands of pounds for copyright breaches. Sources must always be credited and material only used with permission. There are many open-access libraries of public-domain images/sounds etc that can be used. Finding something on Google or YouTube does not mean that copyright has been respected.

Digital Images and Video

When a pupil joins the school, parents/carers are asked if they give consent for their child's image to be captured in photographs or videos.

Parents answer as follows:

- For displays around the school
- For the newsletter
- For use in paper-based school marketing
- For online prospectus or websites
- For a specific high-profile image for display or publication

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.

For any pupils shown in public facing materials Heritage Park will seek further consent for the image from the parent/carer, so informed consent can be given about that particular article or piece. At this point further consideration will be given if the pupil has a reason not to have their information shared in the public domain.

All staff are governed by their contract of employment and the school's Acceptable Use Policy, which covers the use of mobile phones/personal equipment for taking pictures of pupils, and where these are stored. At Heritage Park, members of staff will not use their personal phone and wherever possible use school devices to capture photos or videos of pupils. In exceptional circumstances members of staff may occasionally use personal phones to capture photos or videos of pupils, but these will be appropriate, linked to school activities, taken without secrecy and not in a one-to-one situation, and always moved to school storage as soon as possible, after which they are deleted from personal devices or cloud services.

Photos are stored in line with the retention schedule of the school Data Protection Policy.

Staff and parents are reminded annually about the importance of not sharing without permission, due to reasons of child protection (e.g. looked-after children often have restrictions for their own protection), data protection, religious or cultural reasons, or simply for reasons of personal privacy.

We encourage young people to think about their online reputation and digital footprint, so we should be good adult role models by not oversharing (or providing embarrassment in later life and it is not for us to judge what is embarrassing or not).

Pupils 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.

Pupils 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.

Pupils 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.

Social Media

Our SM presence

Heritage Park works on the principle that if we don't manage our social media reputation, someone else will.

Online Reputation Management (ORM) is about understanding and managing our digital footprint (everything that can be seen or read about the school online). Few parents will apply for a school place without first Googling the school, and the Ofsted pre-inspection check includes monitoring what is being said online.

Negative coverage almost always causes some level of disruption. Up to half of all cases dealt with by the Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH: helpline@saferinternet.org.uk) involve schools' (and staff members') online reputation.

Accordingly, we manage and monitor our social media footprint carefully to know what is being said about the school and to respond to criticism and praise in a fair, responsible manner.

Staff, pupils' and parents' SM presence

Social media (including all apps, sites and games that allow sharing and interaction between users) is a fact of modern life, and as a school, we accept that many parents, staff and pupils will use it. However, as stated in the acceptable use policies which all members of the school community sign, we expect everybody to behave in a positive manner, engaging respectfully with the school and each other on social media, in the same way as they would face to face.

This positive behaviour can be summarised as not making any posts which are or could be construed as bullying, aggressive, rude, insulting, illegal or otherwise inappropriate, or which might bring the school or (particularly for staff) teaching profession into disrepute. This applies both to public pages and to private posts, e.g. parent chats, pages or groups.

If parents have a concern about the school, we 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, pupils and parents, also undermining staff morale and the reputation of the school (which is important for the pupils we serve).

Many social media platforms have a minimum age of 13 (note that WhatsApp is 16+), but the school regularly deals with issues arising on social media involving pupils 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 Online Harms regulation is likely to require more stringent age verification measures over the coming years.

However, the school has to strike a difficult balance of not encouraging underage use at the same time as needing to acknowledge reality in order to best help our pupils/students to avoid or cope with issues if they arise. Online safety lessons will look at social media and other online behaviour, how to be a good friend online and how to report bullying, misuse, intimidation or abuse. However, children will often learn most from the models of behaviour they see and experience, which will often be from adults.

Parents can best support this by talking to their children about the apps, sites and games they use (you don't need to know them – ask your child to explain it to you), with whom, for how long, and when (late at night / in bedrooms is not helpful for a good night's sleep and productive teaching and learning at school the next day). You may wish to refer to the **Digital Family Agreement** to help establish shared expectations and the **Top Tips for Parents** poster along with relevant items and support available from **parentsafe.lgfl.net** and introduce the **Children's Commission Digital 5 A Day**.

Although the school has an official X-Twitter account and will respond to general enquiries about the school, it asks parents/carers not to use these channels, especially not to communicate about their children.

Email is the official electronic communication channel between parents and the school. Social media, including chat apps such as WhatsApp, are not appropriate for school use.

Pupils 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.

Pupils/students are discouraged from 'following' staff, governor, volunteer or contractor public accounts (e.g. following a staff member with a public Instagram account) as laid out in the AUPs. However, we accept that this can be hard to control (but this highlights the need for staff to remain professional in their private lives). 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 pupil 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 Principal (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 serious consequences of inappropriate behaviour on social media are underlined by the fact that there has been a significant number of Prohibition Orders issued by the Teacher Regulation Agency to teaching staff that involved misuse of social media/technology.

All members of the school community are reminded that particularly in the context of social media, it is important to comply with the school policy on Digital images and video and permission is sought before uploading photographs, videos or any other information about other people.

The statements of the Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) which all members of the school community have signed are also relevant to social media activity, as is the school's Data Protection Policy.

Device Usage

AUPs remind those with access to school devices about rules on the misuse of school technology – devices used at home should be used just like if they were in full view of a teacher or colleague. Please read the following in conjunction with those AUPs and the sections of this document which impact upon device usage, e.g. copyright, data protection, social media, misuse of technology, and digital images and video.

Personal devices including wearable technology and bring your own device (BYOD)

- **Pupils** are allowed to bring mobile phones in for safety to and from school. As pupils enter the school the expectation is that all phones are handed and stored by school until the end of the school day. Important messages and phone calls to or from parents can be made at the school office, which will also pass on messages from parents to pupils in emergencies.

(If a pupil uses their mobile phone/device during the school day and takes pictures or videos of an illicit nature the pupil will be asked to remove it from their device. Also, parents/carers may be asked to attend school that day and school will ask for any images/videos to be removed from the device).

- **All staff who work directly with children** should leave their mobile phones on silent and only use them in private staff areas during school hours. See also the 'Digital images and video' section of this document and the school data protection cybersecurity policies. Child/staff data should never be downloaded onto a private phone. If a staff member is expecting an important personal call when teaching or otherwise on duty, they may request permission from the Principal to keep their phone with them and on 'loud'.
- **Volunteers, contractors, governors** should leave their phones in their pockets and turned off. Under no circumstances should they be used in the presence of children or to take photographs or videos. If this is required (e.g. for contractors to take photos of equipment or buildings), permission of the Principal should be sought and this should be done in the presence of a member staff.

- **Parents** are asked to leave their phones in their pockets and turned off when they are on site. They should ask permission before taking any photos, e.g. of displays in corridors or classrooms, and avoid capturing other children. Parents are asked not to call pupils on their mobile phones during the school day; urgent messages can be passed via the school office.

Use of school devices

Staff and pupils are expected to follow the terms of the school acceptable use policies for appropriate use and behaviour when on school devices, whether on site or at home.

School devices are not to be used in any way which contravenes AUPs, behaviour policy / staff code of conduct.

Wifi is accessible to school staff and external visitors but only on their work devices. Please note external visitors will be provided with a Wifi voucher code to support this. All such use is monitored.

School devices for staff or students are restricted to the apps/software installed by the school, whether for use at home or school, and may be used for learning and reasonable as well as appropriate personal use.

All and any usage of devices and/or systems and platforms may be tracked.

Trips / events away from school

For school trips/events away from school, teachers will be issued a school duty phone and this number used for any authorised or emergency communications with pupils/students and parents. Any deviation from this policy (e.g. by mistake or because the school phone will not work) will be notified immediately to the Principal. Teachers using their personal phone in an emergency will ensure that the number is hidden to avoid a parent or student accessing a teacher's private phone number.

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 pupils/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.

Full details of the school's search procedures are available in the school Behaviour Policy.

Appendix 1 – Roles

Please read the relevant roles & responsibilities section from the following pages.

All school staff must read the "All Staff" section as well as any other relevant to specialist roles.

Roles:

- All Staff

- Principal
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Governing Body, led by Online Safety / Safeguarding Link Governor
- PSHE / RSHE Lead/s
- Computing Lead
- Subject leaders
- Network Manager/technician
- Data Protection Officer (DPO)
- Volunteers and contractors
- Pupils
- Parents/carers
- External groups including parent associations

All staff

All staff should sign and follow the staff acceptable use policy in conjunction with this policy, the school's main safeguarding policy, the code of conduct/handbook and relevant parts of Keeping Children Safe in Education to support a whole-school safeguarding approach.

This includes reporting any concerns, no matter how small, to the designated safety lead as named in the AUP, maintaining an awareness of current online safety issues (see the start of this document for issues in 2023) and guidance (such as KCSIE), modelling safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology at school and beyond and avoiding scaring, victim-blaming language.

Staff should also be aware of the new DfE standards and relevant changes to filtering and monitoring and play their part in feeding back about overblocking, gaps in provision or pupils bypassing protections.

Principal – Mark Fairbrother

Key responsibilities:

- Foster a culture of safeguarding where online-safety is fully integrated into whole-school safeguarding
- Oversee and support the activities of the designated safeguarding lead team and ensure they work technical colleagues to complete an online safety audit in line with KCSIE (including technology in use in the school)
- Undertake training in offline and online safeguarding, in accordance with statutory guidance and Local Safeguarding Children Partnership support and guidance
- Ensure ALL staff undergo safeguarding training (including online-safety) at induction and with regular updates and that they agree and adhere to policies and procedures
- Ensure ALL governors and trustees undergo safeguarding and child protection training and updates (including online-safety) to provide strategic challenge and oversight into policy and practice and that governors are regularly updated on the nature and effectiveness of the school's arrangements
- 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 remote systems are implemented according to child-safety first principles

- Better understand, review and drive the rationale behind decisions in filtering and monitoring as per the new DfE standards—through regular liaison with technical colleagues and the DSL— in particular understand what is blocked or allowed for whom, when, and how as per KCSIE
 - In 2023/4 this will involve starting regular checks and annual reviews, upskilling the DSL and appointing a filtering and monitoring governor
- 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
- Support safeguarding leads and technical staff as they review protections for pupils in the home and remote-learning procedures, rules and safeguards
- 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 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
- 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 pupils, including risk of children being radicalised
- Ensure the school website meets statutory requirements

Jake Bower – Co Designated Safeguarding Lead & Online Safety Lead

Sarah Davidson – Co Designated Safeguarding Lead

Key responsibilities (remember the DSL can delegate certain online-safety duties but not the overall responsibility; this assertion and all quotes below are from Keeping Children Safe in Education):

- The DSL should “take **lead responsibility** for safeguarding and child protection (**including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring** systems and processes in place).
- Ensure “An effective whole school approach to online safety as per KCSIE
- In 2023/4 working to take up the new responsibility for filtering and monitoring by working closely with technical colleagues, SLT and the new filtering governor to learn more about this area, better understand, review and drive the rationale behind systems in place and initiate regular checks and annual reviews, including support for devices in the home.
- Where online-safety duties are delegated and in areas of the curriculum where the DSL is not directly responsible but which cover areas of online safety (e.g. RSHE), ensure there is regular review and open communication and that the DSL’s clear overarching responsibility for online safety is not compromised or messaging to pupils confused
- Ensure ALL staff and supply staff undergo safeguarding and child protection training (including online-safety) at induction and that this is regularly updated.
 - In 2023/4 this must include filtering and monitoring and help them to understand their roles
 - all staff must read KCSIE Part 1 and all those working with children
 - cascade knowledge of risks and opportunities throughout the organisation
- Ensure that ALL governors and trustees undergo safeguarding and child protection training (including online-safety) at induction to enable them to provide strategic challenge and oversight into policy and practice and that this is regularly updated

- Take day-to-day responsibility for safeguarding issues and be aware of the potential for serious child protection concerns
- Be mindful of using appropriate language and terminology around children when managing concerns, including avoiding victim-blaming language
- Remind staff of safeguarding considerations as part of a review of remote learning procedures and technology, including that the same principles of online-safety and behaviour apply
- Work closely with SLT, staff and technical colleagues to complete an online safety audit (including technology in use in the school)
- Work with the headteacher, DPO and governors to ensure a 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 safeguarding and “undertake Prevent awareness training.”
- 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 governors/trustees.
- 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 in line with the statutory RSHE guidance (e.g. by use of the updated UKCIS framework ‘[Education for a Connected World – 2020 edition](#)’) and beyond, in wider school life
- Promote an awareness of and commitment to online-safety throughout the school community, with a strong focus on parents, including hard-to-reach parents
- Communicate regularly with SLT and the safeguarding governor/committee to discuss current issues (anonymised), review incident logs and filtering/change control logs and discuss how filtering and monitoring work and have been functioning/helping.
- 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.
- Ensure adequate provision for staff to flag issues when not in school and for pupils to disclose issues when off site, especially when in isolation/quarantine - an online form on the school home page about ‘something that worrying me’ that gets mailed securely to the DSL inbox
- Ensure staff adopt a zero-tolerance, whole school approach to all forms of child-on-child abuse, and don’t dismiss it as banter (including bullying).
- Pay particular attention to **online tutors**, both those engaged by the school as part of the DfE scheme who can be asked to sign the contractor AUP.

Governing Body, led by Online Safety / Safeguarding Link Governor – Andy Wynne

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

- Approve this policy and strategy and subsequently review its effectiveness
- Undergo (and signpost all other governors and Trustees to attend) safeguarding and child protection training (including online safety) at induction to provide strategic challenge and into policy and practice, ensuring this is regularly updated

- Ensure that all staff also receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection (including online) training at induction and that this is updated
- Appoint a filtering and monitoring governor to work closely with the DSL on the new filtering and monitoring standards
- 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 coordinator / DSL and incorporate online safety into standing discussions of safeguarding at governor meetings
- Work with the DPO, DSL and headteacher to ensure a 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 B
- Ensure that all staff undergo safeguarding and child protection training (including online safety and now also reminders about filtering and monitoring
- “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.”

PSHE / RSHE Lead – Nicky Sulley

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the ‘all staff’ section, plus:
- Embed consent, mental wellbeing, healthy relationships and staying safe online as well as raising awareness of the risks and challenges from recent trends in self-generative artificial intelligence, financial extortion and sharing intimate pictures 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 pupils’ lives
- Focus on the underpinning knowledge and behaviours outlined in **Teaching Online Safety in Schools** in an age-appropriate way to help pupils to navigate the online world safely and confidently regardless of their device, platform or app.
- Assess teaching to identify where pupils need extra support or intervention
- Work closely with the DSL/OSL and all other staff to ensure an understanding of the issues, approaches and messaging within PSHE / RSHE.
- Note that an RSHE policy should be included on the school website.
- Work closely with the Computing subject leader to avoid overlap but ensure a complementary whole-school approach, and with all other lead staff to embed the same whole-school approach.

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 RSHE lead to avoid overlap but ensure a complementary whole-school approach
- 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 Leaders

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:
- Look for opportunities to embed online safety in your subject or aspect, especially as part of the RSHE curriculum, and model positive attitudes and approaches to staff and pupils 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

Network Manager / other technical support roles – Anne Dean

Key responsibilities:

- As listed in the 'all staff' section, plus:
- Collaborate regularly with the DSL and leadership team to help them make key strategic decisions around the safeguarding elements of technology.
- Note that KCSIE changes expect a great understanding of technology and its role in safeguarding when it comes to filtering and monitoring and in 2023/4 you will be required to support safeguarding teams to understand and manage these systems and carry out regular reviews and annual checks.
- Support DSLs and SLT to carry out an annual online safety audit as now recommended in KCSIE. This should also include a review of technology, including filtering and monitoring systems (what is allowed, blocked and why and how 'over blocking' is avoided as per KCSIE) to support their role as per the new DfE standards, protections for pupils in the home and remote learning.
- Keep up to date with the school's online safety policy and technical information 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 / RSHE lead to ensure that school systems and networks reflect school policy and there are no conflicts between educational messages and practice.

- Ensure the above 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
- 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.
- Ensure the data protection policy and cybersecurity policy are up to date, easy to follow and practicable
- Monitor the use of school technology and online platforms 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

Data Protection Officer (DPO) – Toby Wilson

Key responsibilities:

- Alongside those of other staff, provide data protection expertise and training and support the DP and cybersecurity policy and compliance with those and legislation and ensure that the policies conform with each other and with this policy.
- Not prevent, or limit, the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. As outlined in *Data protection in schools, 2023*, “It’s not usually necessary to ask for consent to share personal information for the purposes of safeguarding a child.” And in KCSIE 2023, “The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.”
- Note that retention schedules for safeguarding records may be required to be set as ‘Very long-term need (until pupil is aged 25 or older)’. However, some local authorities require record retention until 25 for all pupil records.
- Ensure that all access to safeguarding data is limited as appropriate, and also monitored and audited

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
- Maintain an awareness of current online safety issues and guidance
- Model safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology at school and as part of remote teaching or any online communications

Pupils

Key responsibilities:

- Read, understand, sign and adhere to the student/pupil acceptable use policy

Parents / Carers

Key responsibilities:

- Read, sign and adhere to the school's parental acceptable use policy (AUP), read the pupil AUP and encourage their children to follow it

External Groups

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, pupils or other parents/carers