



e-Safety Policy

June 2017

1. The importance of e-safety

1.1 The Internet and other digital information and communications technologies are integral to the lives of children and young people.

1.2 Within school, electronic media are powerful tools that can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and enhance effective learning. However, their use can also put students and staff at risk.

1.3 This policy recognises the importance of e-safety, especially in the context of safeguarding, and outlines The Bulmershe School's commitment to the safe use of e-technologies for the whole school community.

2. Scope

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

2.2 It may also apply to cyber-bullying by students (or other contraventions of this policy) that take place away from school but are directly linked to it.

2.3 The school will deal with contraventions of this policy by application of the appropriate disciplinary policies.

2.4 This is one of The Bulmershe School's policies to ensure the safeguarding of its students.

3. The aims of the policy

3.1 It is recognised that it is not possible to eliminate all risks and therefore the aim is to equip students and staff with knowledge of the risks and the confidence and skills to deal with them. This will be done by:

- Ensuring e-safety is embedded within the curriculum
- Highlighting the issues in tutor groups, assemblies and staff briefings
- Providing information and training for staff

3.2 Students and parents should be involved in the implementation and development of the e-safety policy and procedures.

4. Areas of risk for students

4.1 Staff should be aware of the current areas of risk for students posed by the use of electronic devices. These include (but are not limited to):

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate images or other content (violence, pornography, hate sites, avocation of extremism and terrorism, etc)
- Access to unsuitable video / Internet games
- Inappropriate communication and contact and the risk of being groomed by



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Internet contacts.

- The sharing or distribution of personal images without an individual's consent or knowledge
- 'Sexting' – the sending of intimate messages or images and the possibility of 'Revenge porn'
- Cyber-bullying
- Disclosure of personal information

4.2 Staff should also be aware of other risks posed by ICT use such as:

- Health and wellbeing – the effects of excessive time spent online (e.g. while gaming)
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement
- the authenticity and accuracy of online content

5. Roles and obligations

5.1 E-safety shall be delivered as part of the SMSC curriculum as well as in ICT lessons, in order to build students' resilience to risks and to give them the confidence and skills to deal with them.

5.2 The school's leadership team will ensure that any e-safety incidents (e.g. cyber bullying) are dealt with promptly and will, if necessary, intervene and provide support for victims.

5.3 The ITC Manager will ensure that, as far as is reasonably possible, the school's systems are secure and that all users adhere to policies, procedures and protocols.

5.4 Governors will maintain an overview on e-safety. This will be done through the briefings made by staff to the Inclusion governor, who will in turn report to the governing body.

5.5 No professional communication between staff and students should take place outside of the school's systems (ie, teachers, etc should not communicate with students using their personal accounts and equipment). Staff (and governors) should be careful not to share any personal information with students.

5.6 Students and staff shall be required to read and sign an agreement on the acceptable use of e-technology (see appendices).

6. Resources

6.1 The CEOP (Child Exploitation and Protection) Command of the National Crime Agency has a website with advice and guidance for students and parents and also resources for teachers: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

6.2 *Inspecting e-safety in schools* - guidance on what Ofsted will look for on esafety within the context of behaviour and safety of pupils:

<http://www.slideshare.net/Ofstednews/inspecting-esafety-in-schools>