

ACCEPTABLE USE OF IT POLICY

Bearwood Primary and Nursery School

Prepared By	Head of IT
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Next Review	September 2022

Introduction

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within school and outside school. These technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. People should have an entitlement to safe access at all times.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

That people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other digital technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.

That school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.

The school will try to ensure that everyone has good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect them to agree to be responsible users.

Terms of use

Responsibility: School IT systems must be used in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to your safety or to the safety and security of the IT systems and other users.

Monitoring: The school will monitor use of the systems, devices and digital communications.

Vandalism: Please report any cases of vandalism to the IT support team/school/Trust, and appropriate action will be taken by the school to recover any costs for loss or damage. In case of students vandalising any equipment, parents may potentially be asked to pay for any damaged equipment.

Personal use: The school systems and devices are primarily intended for educational use and you cannot use them for personal or recreational use unless you have permission.

Own devices: If allowed to use your own devices in school, you agree to follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if you were using school equipment.

Concerns: If you have any concerns about the validity of an email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes), please inform the IT support team immediately.

Data security and retention: Data is backed up daily. If you should accidentally delete/lose files in your folder or shared area, please inform the IT support team immediately so that they can check if it can be recovered.

DO'S	DON'TS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep usernames and passwords safe and secure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not share it, or use any other person's username and password.Do not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone will steal it.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be aware of "stranger danger", when communicating on-line.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not disclose or share personal information about yourself or others when on-line (this could include names, addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers, age, gender, educational details, financial details etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report any unpleasant or inappropriate material, messages, or anything that makes you feel uncomfortable when you see it on-line.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Respect others' work and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without the owner's knowledge and permission.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not take or distribute images of anyone without their permission.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that you use any remote access systems from safe locations where you cannot compromise any sensitive information that you may need to access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lock screen if away from desk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not use any programmes or software that might bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to inappropriate content.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to notify of change in circumstances e.g. address/bank details annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless from a trusted person/organisation who sent the email.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use secure systems for file transfers and/or sharing. Where possible keep all files stored on the school network and provide the location to the person so they can access it from there, rather than emailing the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not send emails with personal details that could identify a data subject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not forward emails to home computers or personal email addresses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not leave documents in vehicles
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When using social media, do not share information that can identify a data subject without permission

School specific systems

Email

You will be provided with an email address by the school, and the expectation is that you will use this facility for legitimate educational and research activity. No messages that contain material of a sexist, racist, unethical or illegal nature, or that are likely to cause offence, should be sent or received.

Remember when sending an email to:

- Be polite - never send, or encourage others to send, abusive messages.
- Use appropriate language - remember that you are a representative of the school on a global public system. What you say and do can be viewed by others. Never swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- Do not reveal any personal information about yourself or anyone else, especially home addresses, personal telephone numbers, usernames or passwords. Remember that electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private.
- Consider the file size of an attachment, files exceeding 1MByte in size are generally considered to be excessively large and you should consider using other methods to transfer such files.
- Do not download or open file attachments unless you are certain of both their content and origin. File attachments may contain viruses that may cause loss of data or damage to the school network

Remote access

The school offers remote access to students and/or staff members, and appropriate use of this technology is important.

The remote access system will enable users to access their documents and some school programs from anywhere they have internet access. Users are expected to use the remote systems in a safe and secure manner ensuring all data is kept secure and on the school storage systems for backup and compliance. School data must not be stored on any system other than issued equipment.

All issued laptops will be encrypted and the IT support team will be able to track the device when it is off the school premises.

Any breach or misuse of this technology will lead to disciplinary procedures.

Printers and consumables

Printers are provided across the school for use by staff and students. Students/staff are provided with a code/badge that they must keep private and use it to release the print jobs. You must use the printers sparingly and for school purposes only.

All printer use is recorded and monitored and therefore if you deliberately use the printer for non-education or offensive material you will be subject to the behaviour management measures of the school.

A printer security and accounting system is in operation across the school. This facility is used to monitor staff and student use. Where students are unable to act responsibly when using the printing services, their use of these facilities will be removed. Staff must not allow students to use their badges/codes to access the printers

Facilities are provided in as unrestricted manner as possible to offer the best possible quality of service. It is the users' responsibility to ensure that they comply with the policy.

Usage of school systems is subject to agreement to abide by this policy and any breach of the conditions will be dealt with in line with the school behaviour and/or disciplinary procedure:

- A warning
- A removal of access to services and/or devices i.e. internet, email, school computers and mobile devices
- Letter home to parents
- Consequences such as SLT Detention

In more serious cases or persistent breaches of this policy:

- Call parents into school
- Report to the school governors
- Report to appropriate external agencies like the police, CEOP or trade union
- Consequences such as inclusion/exclusion for students or disciplinary action for staff

All students and parent(s)/guardian(s) must agree to the terms of this policy, and parent(s)/guardian(s) need to sign below in acceptance of this. Failure to do so will result in no access to the systems.

I understand that the school also has the right to take action against me if I am involved in incidents of inappropriate behaviour, that are covered in this agreement, or when I am out of school and where they involve my membership of the school community (examples would be cyber-bullying, use of images or personal information).	Yes / No
I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Policy Agreement, I will be subject to disciplinary action. This may include loss of access to the school network/internet, detentions, suspensions, contact with parents and in the event of illegal activities involvement of the police.	Yes / No

I have read and understood the above information.

Student Name:	Year Group:
Parent Name:	Parent Signature:
Date:	