



POTT SHRIGLEY CHURCH SCHOOL

'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you'

Acceptable Use Policy (Autumn 2023)

As a professional organisation with responsibility for children's safeguarding it is important that all staff take all possible and necessary measures to protect data and information systems from infection, unauthorised access, damage, loss, abuse and theft. All members of staff have a responsibility to use the school's computer system in a professional, lawful, and ethical manner. To ensure that members of staff are fully aware of their professional responsibilities when using Information Technology and the school systems, they are asked to read and sign this Acceptable Use Policy.

This is not an exhaustive list and all members of staff are reminded that IT use should be consistent with the school ethos, other appropriate school policies, relevant national and local guidance and expectations, and the Law.

1. I understand that Information Systems and IT include networks, data and data storage, online and offline communication technologies and access devices. Examples include laptops, mobile phones, tablets, digital cameras, email, instant messaging and social media sites.
2. School owned information systems must be used appropriately. I understand that the Computer Misuse Act 1990 makes the following criminal offences: to gain unauthorised access to computer material; to gain unauthorised access to computer material with intent to commit or facilitate commission of further offences or to modify computer material without authorisation.
3. I understand that any hardware and software provided by my workplace for staff use can only be used by members of staff and only for educational use. To prevent unauthorised access to systems or personal data, I will not leave any information system unattended without first logging out or locking my login as appropriate.
4. I will respect system security and I will not disclose any password or security information. I will use a 'strong' password (A strong password has numbers, letters and symbols, with 8 or more characters and is only used on one system and is changed regularly at least once a term).
5. I will not attempt to install any purchased or downloaded software, including browser toolbars, or hardware without permission from the system manager.

6. I will ensure that any personal data of pupils, staff or parents/carers is kept in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR regulations. This means that all personal data will be obtained and processed fairly and lawfully, only kept for specific purposes, held no longer than necessary and will be kept private and secure with appropriate security measures in place, whether used in the workplace, hosted online (only within countries or sites with suitable data protection controls that meet the EU and UK regulations) or accessed remotely (e.g. via VPN). Any data which is being removed from the school site (such as via email or on memory sticks) will be encrypted by a method approved by the school. Any images or videos of pupils will only be used as stated in the school image use policy and will always take into account parental consent.

7. I will not keep or access professional documents which contain school-related sensitive or personal information (including images, files, videos, emails etc.) on any personal devices (such as laptops, digital cameras, mobile phones), unless they are suitably secured and encrypted. Where possible I will use the School Shared area to upload any work documents and files. I will protect the devices in my care from unapproved access or theft.

8. I will not store any personal information on the school computer system including any school laptop or similar device issued to members of staff that is unrelated to school activities, such as personal photographs, files or financial information.

9. I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights.

10. I have read and understood the school online safety policy which covers the requirements for safe ICT use, including using appropriate devices, safe use of social media websites and the supervision of pupils within the classroom and other working spaces .

11. I will report all incidents of concern regarding children's online safety to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible. I will report any accidental access, receipt of inappropriate materials, filtering breaches or unsuitable websites to Designated Safeguarding Lead and the technician as soon as possible.

12. I will not attempt to bypass any filtering and/or security systems put in place by the school. If I suspect a computer or system has been damaged or affected by a virus or other malware, or if I have lost any school related documents or files, then I will report this to the Head teacher or IT support asap.

13. My electronic communications with pupils, parents/carers and other professionals will only take place within clear and explicit professional boundaries and will be transparent and open to scrutiny at all times. All communication will take place via school approved communication channels e.g. via a school provided email address or telephone number and not via personal devices or communication channels e.g. personal email, social networking or mobile phones. Any pre-existing relationships or situations that may compromise this will be discussed with the Senior Leadership team and/or Head teacher.

14. I will ensure that my online reputation and use of IT and information systems are compatible with my professional role, whether using school or personal systems. This includes the use of email, text, social media/networking, gaming and any other devices or websites. I will take appropriate steps to protect myself online and will ensure that my use of IT and internet will not undermine my professional role, interfere with my work duties and will be in accordance with the school AUP (Acceptable Use Policy) and the Law.

15. I will not create, transmit, display, publish or forward any material that is likely to harass, cause offence, inconvenience or needless anxiety to any other person, or anything which could bring my professional role or the school into disrepute.

16. I will promote online safety with the pupils in my care and will help them to develop a responsible attitude to safety online, system use and to the content they access or create.

17. If I have any queries or questions regarding safe and professional practise online either in school or off site, then I will raise them with the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies.

18. I understand that my use of the information systems, Internet and email may be monitored and recorded to ensure policy compliance.

19. I ensure that my mobile phone is turned to silent and kept in my bag/desk drawer during lesson time. I will not use my mobile phone to take photographs or store images of children.