Burbage C of E Infant School

E-SAFETY POLICY

Policy Date: February 2021

Review Due: Spring 2022

Adopted by Governors

www.dpoforschools.co.uk

What we do

At Burbage C of E Infant School, we encourage pupils and staff to use technology to support teaching and learning, including access to the Internet. We also encourage and continue to explore ways of using technology to better streamline and improve our administration tasks. This E-Safety Policy for Burbage C of E Infant School is designed to help to ensure safe and appropriate access and usage for all digital technologies across the school community.

For the purpose of this policy, digital technologies are defined as electronic tools, systems, devices and resources that generate, store or process data that can include, but are not restricted, to the following:

- Computers
- Laptops
- Websites
- Email
- Social media
- Mobile phones
- Tablets
- Blogs
- Podcasts
- Downloads
- Forums

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers headteachers, to such extent as is reasonable, to regulate the behaviour of pupils when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour. This is pertinent to incidents of online-bullying or other e-safety incidents covered by this policy, which may take place outside of the school, but are linked to membership of the school. The 2011 Education Act increased these powers with regard to the searching for and of electronic devices and the deletion of data. In the case of both acts, action can only be taken over issues covered by the published Behaviour Policy.

The school will deal with such incidents within this policy as well as associated behaviour and anti-bullying policies and will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate e-safety behaviour that take place out of school.

Why do we have an E-Safety Policy?

With the ever-increasing manner in the way technology is being used in education, it is paramount that as educators we have in place policies and strategies that help us to keep both staff and pupils safe. We have highly functional school-based and personal devices that give us access to powerful digital tools wherever we go. The Internet has the capacity to instantly connect us to content and to each other, but, due to its vast nature and relative immaturity as a medium, also presents unprecedented levels of risk to young people. Some of the dangers pupils may face include:

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate content;
- Access to content that promotes extremism and/or radicalisation;

- Losing control over personal information/images;
- The risk of being groomed by those with whom they make contact, exposing them to physical and sexual risk;
- Exposure to, or engagement in cyber-bullying;
- An over-reliance on unreliable sources of information and an inability to evaluate the quality accuracy and relevance of information on the Internet.

Other school policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant school policies:

- Acceptable Use for Staff
- Acceptable Use for Pupils
- Safeguarding Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- PSHCE Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- UK-GDPR Policy

Legal frameworks

It is the user's responsibility to ensure they are compliant and work within all UK and E.U. applicable legislation in regards to the safe and legal use of ICT in schools. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- The Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006
- The Computer Misuse Act 1990
- The Police and Justice Act 2006
- Communications Act 2003
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Malicious Communications Act 1988
- Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988
- Public Order Act 1986
- Protection of Children Act 1978
- Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIP)
- The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011

Governor responsibilities

Governors are responsible for the approval of the E-Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy. This will be carried out by the Governors receiving regular information about e-safety incidents and monitoring reports. The school's E-Safety Governor will monitor compliance with this policy by:

- Holding meetings with the E-Safety Co-ordinator/Officer;
- Attending e-safety group meetings;
- Monitoring of e-safety incident logs;
- Monitoring of filtering/change control logs;
- Reporting to relevant meeting.

School leadership and management responsibilities

The Executive Headteacher has a duty of care for ensuring the safety (including e-safety) of members of the school community, though the day-to-day responsibility for e-safety will be delegated to the E-Safety Officer. The Executive Headteacher and another member of the Senior Leadership Team should be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious e-safety allegation being made against a member of staff. They are responsible for ensuring that the E-Safety Officer and other relevant staff receive suitable training to enable them to carry out their e-safety roles and to train other colleagues as relevant.

The Executive Headteacher/Senior Leadership Team will ensure that there is a system in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in school who carry out the internal e-safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also to support those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles.

Responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL)

Details of the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) are set out in our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

As DSL, the Executive Headteacher takes lead responsibility for e-safety in school, in particular:

- Ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school;
- Working with the DDSL's, Computing Co-ordinator and other staff, as necessary, to address any e-safety issues or incidents;
- Ensuring that any e-safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy.
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school Behaviour & Discipline Policy;
- Updating and delivering staff training on e-safety;
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary.

Teaching and support staff responsibilities

All staff shall make themselves aware of the content of this policy and attend relevant e-safety training. Staff shall be responsible for contributing to the positive re-enforcement of e-safe behaviours through their day-to-day interaction with pupils and technology. Staff should act as good role models in their use of ICT, the Internet and mobile devices.

Where personal devices are allowed, all teaching staff shall ensure that pupils' use of these devices is for legitimate educational purposes and not for texting, accessing social networking sites or recording audio, video or still imagery without permission.

All members of staff are provided with a school email address. Electronic communications with students, parents/carers and other professionals will only take place via work-approved communication channels eg. via a school-provided email address or telephone number. Staff are advised to ensure that business correspondence is received to and sent from the school email address. This is to protect staff's privacy and ensure that school business is kept separate from private correspondence.

Parents' and carers' responsibilities

Parents and carers may have a limited understanding of e-safety risks and issues, yet they play an essential role in the education of their children and in the monitoring/regulation of their children's online experiences. Parents can often underestimate how often children and young people come across potentially harmful and inappropriate material on the Internet and can be unsure about what they should do about it.

At Burbage C of E Infant School, we will, therefore, seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through:

- Letters, newsletters, our website and other digital communications;
- Parents evenings;
- Family learning courses in e-safety, so that parents and children can together gain a better understanding of these issues.

System management responsibilities

The school, in conjunction with their ICT support provider, will be responsible for ensuring that their infrastructure/network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that procedures set out within this policy are implemented:

- There will be regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of ICT systems;
- All users will have clearly defined access rights to the ICT systems of the school. This will be defined and accountable by the respective ICT lead/co-ordinator(s);
- Users will be made responsible for the security of their username and password; must not allow other users to access the systems using their login details; and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security to the school's Data Protection Officer.

The administrator passwords for the ICT system must also be available to the Executive Headteacher and kept in a secure, physical (eg. fire safe) or electronic location software with encrypted storage. The school, in conjunction with the ICT support provider, will use a sufficient Internet filtering system to restrict access to certain materials, adhering to current government guidelines and recommendations.

However, the school is aware that children must be educated in how to deal with inappropriate material.

Pupil's responsibilities

Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating pupils to take a responsible approach. The education of pupils in online safety/digital literacy is, therefore, an essential part of the school's e-safety provision. Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid e-safety risks and build their resilience.

E-safety should be a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce e-safety messages across the curriculum. The e-safety curriculum should be broad, relevant and provide progression, with opportunities for creative activities. E-safety should be referenced in all areas of the curriculum and staff should reinforce e-safety messages whenever ICT is being used.

A planned e-safety programme will be provided as part of both ICT and PSHCE lessons and will be regularly revisited – this will cover the use of ICT both in and outside school and will include:

- The safe and responsible use of the Internet
- The safe and responsible use of mobile devices
- The safe and responsible use of social media
- The management of digital identity

Whenever the Internet is used for research, pupils should be taught to be critically aware of the content they access online and be guided to validate the accuracy of information. It is accepted that pupils may need to research topics (eg. racism, drugs and discrimination) that would normally result in Internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request a temporary removal of those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so should be auditable, time-limited and with clear reasons given.

Responding to incidents of abuse and misuse

At Burbage C of E Infant School, we understand the importance of acting on reported incidents of abuse and misuse of our ICT systems in school. The incidents may involve illegal or inappropriate activities. Burbage C of E Infant School actively encourages a safe and secure approach to the management of the incidents.

Pupils are encouraged to report any incidents immediately to a member of staff. Staff will liaise with the Senior Leadership Team and the Designated Safeguarding Lead, ICT support as necessary to investigate the alleged incident and establish evidence of any breach or wrongdoing. Staff will:

- Work with any pupils involved to resolve issues and educate users as necessary;
- Inform parents/carers of the incident and any outcomes;
- Where the alleged incident involves staff misuse, the Executive Headteacher should be informed;

- Outcomes of investigations will be reported to the Executive Headteacher and to external services where appropriate (eg. Social Services, Police Service, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Service). The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident;
- Where the alleged incident involves misuse by the Executive Headteacher, the Chair of Governors should be informed.

Useful websites

www.gov.uk
In the search box at the top of the page type:

- Preventing and tackling bullying
- Searching, screening and confiscation at school
- The Prevent Duty

www.leicestershire.gov.uk
In the search box at the top of the page type:

- E-Safety

www.thinkuknow.co.uk
Thinkuknow is the education programme from CEOP, a UK organisation that protects children both online and offline.

Explore one of the six Thinkuknow websites for advice about staying safe when you are on a phone, tablet or computer.