

**Staff Acceptable Use Policy**

January 2021

Staff (and Volunteer) Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

All staff and volunteers using any of the college ICT systems must comply with this policy.

College Policy

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today’s society, both within college and in their lives outside college. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and raise awareness of context to promote effective learning. They also bring opportunities for staff to be more creative and productive in their work. All users should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

* that staff and volunteers will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
* that college ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
* that staff and volunteers are protected from potential risk in their use of ICT in their everyday work.
* that staff and volunteers comply with college policies on Data Protection and Safeguarding and Child Protection.

The college will try to ensure that staff and volunteers will have good access to ICT to enhance their work, to enhance learning opportunities for students and will, in return, expect staff and volunteers to agree to be responsible users.

Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

I understand that I must use college ICT systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the ICT systems and other users. I recognise the value of the use of ICT for enhancing learning and will ensure that students receive opportunities to gain from the use of ICT. I will, where possible, educate the young people in my care in the safe use of ICT and embed Online Safety in my work with young people.

For my professional and personal safety:

* I understand that the college will monitor my use of the ICT systems, email and other digital communications.
* I understand that the rules set out in this agreement also apply to use of all college ICT systems out of college, and to the transfer of personal data (digital or paper based) out of college.
* I understand that the college ICT systems are primarily intended for educational use and that I will only use the systems for personal or recreational use within the policies and rules set down by the college.
* I will not disclose my username or password to anyone else, nor will I try to use any other person’s username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.
* I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident, I become aware of, to the appropriate person.

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* I will abide by the college online safety policy.

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I will be professional in my communications and actions when using college ICT systems:

* I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user’s files, without their express permission.
* I will communicate with others in a professional manner, I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
* I will ensure that when I take and / or publish images of others I will do so with their permission and in accordance with the college’s policy on the use of digital / video images. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images, unless I have permission to do so. Where these images are published (eg on the college website) it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured.
* I will not use photographs / video of students if permission has not been granted by parents / carers.
* I will not write, send, publish, copy, distribute or forward derogatory or defamatory remarks about any person or organisation, either on the internet or by email. If I discover potentially defamatory material, I will report it to a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) immediately.
* I will not use chat or social networking sites in college for any reason. I will ensure that social networking site notifications are not delivered whilst in college.
* I will ensure that my personal social networking sites are set to private; that students are never listed as approved contacts and consider carefully any friend requests. I will never use or access social networking sites of students.
* I will only communicate with students and parents / carers using official college systems. Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner.
* I will not engage in any online activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.
* I will never give my personal contact details to students, including social networking, email and mobile communications / messaging services.

The college and the local authority have the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the college:

* When I use my mobile devices (PDAs / laptops / mobile phones) in college, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using college equipment. I will also follow any additional rules set by the college about such use. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date anti-virus software and are free from viruses.
* USB devices are not to be used in college without the permission of college management.
* I will not use personal email addresses on the college ICT systems.
* I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted, or if I have any concerns about the validity of the email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes)
* I will ensure that my data is regularly backed up, in accordance with relevant college policies. I understand that data is automatically backed up for me if it is stored on the network or on OneDrive, but not if it is stored locally. I understand that I have a duty to make sure that work related data and student data is backed up and secure.
* I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering / security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
* I will not try (unless I have permission) to make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
* I will only print essential resource material and will always check that the length of a document is reasonable before printing.
* I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings, without the express permission of college management.
* I will not disable or cause any damage to college equipment, or the equipment belonging to others. I will not unplug any wires connected to desktops or projectors without the permission of college management.
* I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the college Data Protection Policies. Where digital personal data is transferred outside the secure local network, it must be encrypted. Paper based protected and restricted data must be held in lockable storage.
* I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or student data to which I have access, will be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by college policy to disclose such information to an appropriate authority. I will therefore not give out personal addresses, telephone number or email addresses of any staff or students at the college, unless formally requested to do so by the Head.
* I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.

When using the internet in my professional capacity or for college sanctioned personal use:

* I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work.
* Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).

I understand that I am responsible for my actions in and out of the college:

* I understand that this Acceptable Use Policy applies not only to my work and use of college ICT equipment in college, but also applies to my use of college ICT systems and equipment off the premises and my use of personal equipment on the premises or in situations related to my employment by the college.
* I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Policy Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors and / or the Local Authority and in the event of illegal activities the involvement of the police.
* I will ensure that I keep up-to-date with any changes to this policy.

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the college ICT systems (both in and out of college) and my own devices (in college and when carrying out communications related to the college) within these guidelines.

Staff / Volunteer Name

Signed

Date