

St Martin's CE Primary School

Friendship Love Honesty Hope Respect Responsibility

*A place of spirituality, diversity and opportunity;
Inspiring all, flourishing together.*



Online Safety Policy

Policy written by:	Mrs B McManus
Date policy published:	September 2023
Date of next review:	September 2024
Headteacher signature:	<i>Mrs B McManus</i>
Chair of Governors signature	<i>Mr M Oldham</i>

Leadership and Management

Who will write and review the policy?

Our online safety policy has been written by St Martin's Primary School, building on the Wiltshire e-safety template policy and government guidance. It has been agreed by the senior management and approved by governors. It will be reviewed annually.

How will Internet access be authorised?

- We will keep a record of all staff and pupils who are granted Internet access. The record will be kept up-to-date; for instance if a pupil's access is withdrawn.
- Our home-school agreement will include the acceptable use policy and guidance for video, sound and images for web publication from 2023/24
- Access to the Internet will be by adult demonstration with directly supervised access to specific, approved online materials.
- Use of iPads and computers for the purposes of research, homework and class work will be closely monitored by staff supervising the children.

How will filtering be managed?

- A log of all staff with unfiltered access to the Internet will be kept and regularly reviewed.
- The school will work in partnership with parents, Wiltshire Council, the DFE and Oakford Technology to ensure systems to protect pupils are reviewed and improved.
- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (web address) and content will be reported to the Internet Service Provider (Oakford Technology) via the Online Safety lead.
- Senior Management will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are appropriate, effective and reasonable.
- Any material that the school believes is illegal will be referred to the police.
- New/previously unknown popular websites are reviewed and filtered accordingly.

How will the risks be assessed?

- In common with other media such as magazines, books and video, some material available via the Internet is unsuitable for pupils. The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a school computer. Neither the school nor Wiltshire Council can accept liability for the material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.
- Oakford Technology will be made aware of any new websites, apps, links or key word searches (E.g. through Google etc) which lead to unsuitable websites, images or video material. At this point, the suitable blocks can be put on these websites to make use of the Internet safer for the children and adults in school.
- The use of computer systems without permission or for inappropriate purposes could constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- The headteacher will ensure that the online safety policy is implemented and compliance with the policy monitored.

2. Teaching and Learning

Why is Internet use important?

- Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils.
- The purpose of Internet use in school is to raise educational standards, to promote pupil achievement, well-being, and to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school's management information and business administration systems.
- Internet access is an entitlement for students who show a responsible and mature approach to its use.
- The Internet is an essential part of everyday life for education, business and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide students with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.
- Pupils use the Internet widely outside school and need to learn how to evaluate Internet information and to take care of their own safety and security.

How will Internet use enhance learning?

Benefits of using the Internet in education include:

- Access to worldwide educational resources including museums and art galleries;
- Inclusion in the National Education Network which connects all UK schools;
- Educational and cultural exchanges between pupils worldwide;
- Vocational, social and leisure use in libraries, clubs and at home;
- Access to experts in many fields for pupils and staff;
- Professional development for staff through access to national developments,
- Educational materials and effective curriculum practice;
- Collaboration across networks of schools, support services and professional associations;
- Improved access to technical support including remote management of networks and automatic system updates;
- Access to learning wherever and whenever convenient;
- Provide a network of support/educational enrichment through home and school links e.g. school website/Reading Eggs/class webpages/blogs.

How will pupils learn to evaluate Internet content?

- Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- Pupils will use age-appropriate tools to research Internet content with guidance from adults.
- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address) and content will be reported to Oakford Technology – children feel happy to share their concerns, adults remind children of this.
- St Martin's Primary School ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and by pupils complies with copyright law.
- Pupils will be taught to acknowledge the source of information used and to respect copyright when using Internet material in their own work.
- Children are not permitted to “log-in” to any websites they have registered with outside school.

3. Communication and Content

Website content

- The point of contact on St Martin's Primary School's website is the school address, school e-mail and telephone number. Staff or pupils' personal information is not published.
- Written permission from parents or carers is obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the school website. All photographs used are carefully selected and pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on the website, particularly in association with photographs.
- The headteacher takes overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.
- St Martin's Primary School website complies with the school's guidelines for publications including respect for intellectual property rights, privacy policies and copyright.
- Content does not compromise privacy of any member of staff, families or children associated with St Martin's.
- All members of staff are provided with up-to-date lists of children prohibited from having photographs published on the website.

Managing e-mail

E-mail is an essential means of communication for both staff and pupils. Directed e-mail use can bring significant educational benefits and interesting projects between schools.

- Pupils may only use approved e-mail accounts on the school system. (Children do not have assigned @st-martins.wilts.sch.uk addresses)
- Pupils must immediately tell a responsible adult if they receive offensive e-mail, be this at home or school.
- Staff will use official school provided email accounts.
- Pupils should use email in an acceptable way. Sending images without consent, messages that cause distress and harassment to others are considered significant breaches of school conduct and will be dealt with accordingly.
- Children are not permitted to access personal email accounts during school hours. Children who have such, are taught to open/send emails responsibly and to report messages that cause distress/concern during computing and PSHE sessions.

Online communications, social networking and social media

Online communications, social networking and social media services are filtered in school by Oakford Technology but are likely to be accessible from home.

- Students/pupils will be taught about how to keep personal information safe when using online services.
- Pupils will also be taught not to reveal personal details of themselves or others in online communication, or arrange to meet anyone.
- Staff wishing to use social media tools with students as part of the curriculum will risk assess the sites before use and check the sites terms and conditions to ensure the site is age appropriate. Staff will obtain documented consent from the Senior Leadership Team before using social media tools in the classroom.
- Pupils will be advised on security and privacy online and will be encouraged to set passwords, deny access to unknown individuals and to block unwanted

communications. Pupil will be encouraged to approve and invite known friends only on social networking sites and to deny access to others by making profiles private.

- All members of the school community are advised not to publish specific and detailed private thoughts, especially those that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory.
- Concerns regarding students' use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites (in or out of school) will be raised with their parents/carers, particularly when concerning students' underage use of sites.
- Pupils will be taught online safety a minimum of once a term (three times a year).

Mobile phones and personal devices

The use of mobile phones and personal devices during school hours is not allowed by pupils and any devices brought into school should be left in the School Office for the duration of the school day. All pupils and staff are made aware of the following:

- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages or content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the school community.
- School staff may confiscate a phone or device if they believe it is being used to contravene the school's behaviour or bullying policy. If there is suspicion that the material on the mobile may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence the phone will be handed over to the police for further investigation.
- Mobile phones will not be used during school.
- Electronic devices of all kinds that are brought in to school are the responsibility of the user. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items.
- Staff are not permitted to use their own personal phones or devices for contacting children, young people and their families within or outside of the setting in a professional capacity.
- Images/video taken on iPads or school cameras will remain property of the school, be kept securely and not removed from the school premises – staff iPads may be removed from the premises by teaching staff and used for PPA purposes.

Video conferencing

Videoconferencing enables users to see and hear each other between different locations. This 'real time' interactive technology has many potential benefits in education.

- Staff must refer to the Internet consent agreements prior to children taking part in videoconferences.
- All videoconferencing equipment in the classroom must be switched off when not in use and not set to auto answer.
- Pupils will ask permission from a teacher before making or answering a videoconference call.
- The school are using Zoom in order to teach remotely during Government Lockdown where the majority of children are not in school.

3.7 Emerging technologies

- Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and a risk assessment will be carried out before use in school is allowed.
- Staff will receive guidance/training from the Head, Computing Subject Leader or external agencies before any new technology is used in a classroom setting.

Peer on peer abuse (Including cyberbullying)

- Cyberbullying (along with all other forms of bullying) of any member of the school community will not be tolerated. Full details are set out in the school's policy on anti-bullying and behaviour.
- There will be clear procedures in place to investigate incidents or allegations of cyberbullying.
- There are clear procedures in place to support anyone in the school community affected by cyberbullying.
- All incidents of cyberbullying reported to the school will be recorded.
- The school will take steps to identify the bully, where possible and appropriate. This may include examining school system logs, identifying and interviewing possible witnesses, and contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary.
- Pupils, staff and parents/carers will be required to work with the school to support the approach to cyberbullying and the school's online safety ethos.
- We have an Online Safety week annually as a focus.
- Any forms of *peer on peer abuse* outlined in paragraphs 46-49 of KCSiE 2021 will be followed up in line with the LA Child Protection procedures.

Data protection

- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available in line with our Data Protection Policy (2015)

4 Implementation

Introducing the policy to pupils

- All users will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored.
- Pupil instruction regarding responsible and safe use will precede Internet access.
- An Online Safety module will be included in the Computing Curriculum along with PSHE covering both safe school and home use.
- Safe and responsible use of the Internet and technology will be reinforced across the school.

Consulting with staff

- The Online Safety Policy will be formally provided to and discussed with all members of staff.
- Staff should be aware that Internet traffic is monitored and reported by Oakford Technology and can be traced to the individual user. Discretion and professional conduct is essential.
- Up-to-date and appropriate staff training in safe and responsible Internet use, both professionally and personally, will be provided for all members of staff.
- All members of staff will be made aware that their online conduct out of school could have an impact on their role and reputation within school. Civil, legal or disciplinary action could be taken if they are found to bring the profession or institution into disrepute, or if something is felt to have undermined confidence in their professional abilities.

Parents and online safety

- Parents' attention will be drawn to the School Online Safety Policy in the school prospectus and on the school Website.
- A partnership approach with parents will be encouraged. This will include offering parent evenings, demonstrations, practical sessions and suggestions for safe Internet use at home.
- Regular information will be provided to parents about how they can work with the school to ensure this resource is used appropriately both within school and home.
- Internet issues will be handled sensitively to inform parents without undue alarm.
- Advice on filtering systems and educational and leisure activities that include responsible use of the Internet will be made available to parents.

How will complaints be handled?

Prompt action will be required if a complaint is made. Complaints of a child protection nature will be dealt with in accordance with the LA Child Protection procedures.

- Responsibility for handling incidents will be delegated to a senior member of staff.
- Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the headteacher.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure.
- Parents and pupils will need to work in partnership with staff to resolve issues.