



Ravensbury Community School

Online Safety Policy 2024

Key Details

Designated Safeguarding Lead(s): **Maureen Hughes HT, Louise Thewlis DHT, Joanne Wendt SENCO, Ann Roberts PSA**

Named Governor with lead responsibility:

Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: [Date]
Last reviewed on:	April 2024	
Next review due by:	April 2026	

This policy will be reviewed and revised following any concerns and/or updates to national and local guidance or procedures.

Contents

	Page no
1. Policy Aims	3
2. Policy Scope	3
2.1 Links with other policies and practices	4
3. Monitoring and Review	4
4. Roles and Responsibilities	4
4.1 The Governing Body	4
4.2 The Headteacher	5
4.3 DSL	5
4.4 The ICT manager	6
4.5 All staff and volunteers	6
4.6 Parents and carers	6
4.7 Visitors and members of the community	6
5. Educating pupils about online safety	7
6. Educating parents about online safety	7
7. Cyber Bullying	8
8. Safer Use of Technology	8
8.1 Classroom use	8
8.2 AI	9
8.3 Acceptable use of the internet in school	9
8.4 Staff using work devices outside of school	9
9. How the school will respond to issues of misuse	10
10. Training	10
11. Filtering and Monitoring	11
11.1 Decision Making	11
11.2 Filtering	11
11.3 Monitoring	11
12. Security and management of Information Systems	11
13. Managing the safety of the school website	12
14. Publishing images and videos online	12
15. Managing Email	12
15.1 Staff	12
16. Management of Applications used to Record Children's Progress	13
17. Social Media	13
17.1 Staff Personal Use of Social Media	13
17.2 Pupils' Personal Use of Social Media	13
18. Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones	13
18.1 Expectations	13
18.2 Staff Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones	14
18.3 Pupils' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones	14
18.4 Visitors' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones	15
18.5 Officially provided mobile phones and devices	15
19. Responding to Online Safety Incidents and Concerns	15
19.1 Concerns about Pupils Welfare	15
19.2 Staff Misuse	16
20. Procedures for Responding to Specific Online Incidents or Concerns	16
20.1 Sexting	16
20.2 Dealing with Sexting	16
20.3 Online child sexual abuse and exploitation	17
20.4 Dealing with online child sexual abuse and exploitation	17
20.5 Indecent images of children	17
20.6 Online Hate	18
20.7 Online Radicalisation and Extremism	19

1. Policy Aims

Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- Identify and support groups of pupils that are potentially at greater risk of harm online than others
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology, including mobile and smart technology (which we refer to as 'mobile phones')
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

The 4 key categories of risk

Our approach to online safety is based on addressing the following categories of risk:

- **Content** – being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, such as pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, antisemitism, radicalisation and extremism
- **Contact** – being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users, such as peer-to-peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes
- **Conduct** – personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, such as making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography), sharing other explicit images and online bullying; and
- **Commerce** – risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

- [Teaching online safety in schools](#)
- [Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for headteachers and school staff](#)
- [\[Relationships and sex education – remove if not applicable, see section 4\]](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#)

It also refers to the DfE's guidance on [protecting children from radicalisation](#).

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended), the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) and the [Equality Act 2010](#). In addition, it reflects the [Education Act 2011](#), which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyber-bullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

The policy also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

2. Policy Scope

- Ravensbury Community School believes that online safety is an essential part of safeguarding and acknowledges it's duty to ensure that all pupils and staff are protected from potential harm online.
- Ravensbury Community School identifies that the internet and associated devices, such as computers, tablets, mobile phones and games consoles, are an important part of everyday life.
- Ravensbury Community School believes that pupils should be empowered to build resilience and to develop strategies to manage and respond to risk online.
- This policy applies to all staff including the Governing Body, teachers, support staff, external contractors, visitors, volunteers and other individuals who work for, or provide services on behalf of the school (collectively referred to as 'staff' in this policy) as well as pupils and parents/carers.

- This policy applies to all access to the internet and use of technology, including personal devices, or where staff have been provided with school issued devices for use off-site, such as a work laptops, tablets or mobile phones.

2.1 Links with other policies and practices

This online safety policy is linked to our:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Behaviour policy
- Staff disciplinary procedures
- Data protection policy and privacy notices
- Complaints procedure
- ICT and internet acceptable use policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Acceptable Use Policies (AUP) and/or the Code of conduct
- Confidentiality policy
- Privacy policy and notice
- Curriculum policies, such as: Computing, Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE), Citizenship and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)
- Image use policy

3. Monitoring and Review

- Ravensbury Community School will review this policy bi-annually
 - The policy will also be revised following any national or local policy requirements, any child protection concerns or any changes to the technical infrastructure
- We will ensure that we regularly monitor internet use and evaluate online safety mechanisms to ensure that this policy is consistently applied inline with our filtering and monitoring systems.
- To ensure they have oversight of online safety, the DSL will be informed of online safety concerns, as appropriate.
- The named Governor for safeguarding will report on a regular basis to the governing body on online safety incidents, including outcomes.
- Any issues identified will be incorporated into the school's action planning.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 The governing body

The governing board has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The governing board will make sure all staff undergo online safety training as part of child protection and safeguarding training, and ensure staff understand their expectations, roles and responsibilities around filtering and monitoring.

The governing board will also make sure all staff receive regular online safety updates (via email and staff meetings), as required and at least annually, to ensure they are continually provided with the relevant skills and knowledge to effectively safeguard children.

The governing board will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, requirements for training, and monitor online safety logs as provided by the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).

The governing board should ensure children are taught how to keep themselves and others safe, including keeping safe online.

The governing board must ensure the school has appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place on school devices and school networks, and will regularly review their effectiveness. The board will review the DfE filtering and monitoring standards, and discuss with IT staff and service providers what needs to be done to support the school in meeting the standards, which include:

- Identifying and assigning roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems;
- Reviewing filtering and monitoring provisions at least annually;
- Blocking harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning;
- Having effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs.

All governors will:

- Ensure they have read and understand this policy
- Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet
- Ensure that online safety is a running and interrelated theme while devising and implementing their whole-school or college approach to safeguarding and related policies and/or procedures
- Ensure that, where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, is adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This is because of the importance of recognising that a 'one size fits all' approach may not be appropriate for all children in all situations, and a more personalised or contextualised approach may often be more suitable

4.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

4.3 The designated safeguarding lead (DSL)

Details of the school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and deputies are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy, as well as relevant job descriptions.

The DSL takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

- Supporting the headteacher in ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the headteacher and governing board to review this policy annually and ensure the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly
- Taking the lead on understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place on school devices and school networks
- Working with the ICT manager to make sure the appropriate systems and processes are in place
- Working with the headteacher, ICT manager and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Managing all online safety issues and incidents in line with the school's child protection policy
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged on cpoms 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 policy
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety (appendix 4 contains a self-audit for staff on online safety training needs)
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary
- Providing regular reports on online safety in school to the headteacher and/or governing board
- Providing regular safeguarding and child protection updates, including online safety, to all staff, at least annually, in order to continue to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard effectively

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

4.4 The ICT manager

The ICT manager is responsible for:

- Putting in place an appropriate level of security protection procedures, such as filtering and monitoring systems on school devices and school networks, which are reviewed and updated at least annually to assess effectiveness and ensure pupils are kept safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material
- Ensuring that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly
- Conducting a full security check and monitoring the school's ICT systems on a monthly basis
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

4.5 All staff and volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- Maintaining an understanding of this policy
- Implementing this policy consistently
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet, and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use
- Knowing that the DSL is responsible for the filtering and monitoring systems and processes, and being aware of how to report any incidents of those systems or processes failing.
- Working with the DSL to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged (see appendix 5) and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Responding appropriately to all reports and concerns about sexual violence and/or harassment, both online and offline, and maintaining an attitude of 'it could happen here'

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

4.6 Parents/carers

Parents/carers are expected to:

- Notify a member of staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding this policy

Parents/carers can seek further guidance on keeping children safe online from the following organisations and websites:

- What are the issues? – [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- Hot topics – [Childnet](#)
- Parent resource sheet – [Childnet](#)

4.7 Visitors and members of the community

Visitors and members of the community who use the school's ICT systems or internet will be made aware of this policy, when relevant, and expected to read and follow it. If appropriate, they will be expected to agree to the terms on acceptable use (appendix 3).

5. Educating pupils about online safety

Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum:

The information below is taken from the [National Curriculum computing programmes of study](#) and also from the [guidance on relationships education, relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and health education](#).

All schools have to teach:

- [Relationships education and health education](#) in primary schools

In **Key Stage (KS) 1**, pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private
- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Pupils in **Key Stage (KS) 2** will be taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact

By the **end of primary school**, pupils will know:

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online, including when we are anonymous
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- How information and data is shared and used online
- What sorts of boundaries are appropriate in friendships with peers and others (including in a digital context)
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know

The safe use of social media and the internet will also be covered in other subjects where relevant.

Where necessary, teaching about safeguarding, including online safety, will be adapted for vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some pupils with SEND.

6. Educating parents/carers about online safety

The school will raise parents/carers' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website and parent workshops. This policy will also be shared with parents/carers.

Online safety will also be covered during parents' evenings.

The school will let parents/carers know:

- What systems the school uses to filter and monitor online use
- What their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access and who from the school (if anyone) their child will be interacting with online

If parents/carers have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the headteacher and/or the DSL.

Concerns or queries about this policy can be raised with any member of staff or the headteacher.

7. Cyber-bullying

7.1 Definition

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

7.2 Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be. Class teachers will discuss cyber-bullying with their pupils.

Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, and other subjects where appropriate.

All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training (see section 11 for more detail).

The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents/carers so they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

The DSL will report the incident and provide the relevant material to the police as soon as is reasonably practicable, if they have reasonable grounds to suspect that possessing that material is illegal. They will also work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so.

8. Safer Use of Technology

8.1 Classroom Use

- Ravensbury Community School uses a wide range of technology. This includes access to:
 - Chromebooks, laptops ipads and other digital devices
 - Internet which may include search engines and educational websites
 - Email
 - Digital cameras and web cams.
- All school owned devices will be used in accordance with the school's AUP and with appropriate safety and security measures in place.
- Members of staff will always evaluate websites, tools and apps fully before use in the classroom or recommending for use at home.
- The school will use age appropriate search tools following an informed risk assessment, to identify which tool best suits the needs of our community.
- The school will ensure that the use of internet-derived materials, by staff and pupils, complies with copyright law and acknowledge the source of information.
- Supervision of pupils will be appropriate to their age and ability.
 - **Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1**

- Pupils' access to the internet will be by adult demonstration, with directly supervised access to specific and approved online materials, which supports the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- **Key Stage 2**
 - Pupils will use age-appropriate search engines and online tools.
 - Children will be directed by the teacher to online materials and resources which support the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
 - Children will log in with their own school account and their activity is monitored and logged by our filtering service.

8.2 Artificial intelligence (AI)

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard.

Ravensbury Community School recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also have the potential to be used to bully others. For example, in the form of 'deepfakes', where AI is used to create images, audio or video hoaxes that look real. This includes deepfake pornography: pornographic content created using AI to include someone's likeness.

Ravensbury Community School will treat any use of AI to bully pupils in line with our anti-bullying/behaviour policy.

Staff should be aware of the risks of using AI tools whilst they are still being developed and should carry out a risk assessment where new AI tools are being used by the school.

8.3 Acceptable use of the internet in school

All pupils, parents/carers, staff, volunteers and governors are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet (appendices 1 to 3). Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant.

Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

We will monitor the websites visited by pupils, staff, volunteers, governors and visitors (where relevant) to ensure they comply with the above and restrict access through filtering systems where appropriate.

More information is set out in the acceptable use agreements in appendices 1 to 3.

8.4. Staff using work devices outside school

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected – strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Ensuring their hard drive is encrypted – this means if the device is lost or stolen, no one can access the files stored on the hard drive by attaching it to a new device
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Keeping operating systems up to date by always installing the latest updates

Staff members must not use the device in any way that would violate the school's terms of acceptable use.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities unless alternate permission is given by the headteacher.

If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from ICT manager.

9. How the school will respond to issues of misuse

Where a pupil misuses the school's ICT systems or internet, we will follow the procedures set out in our policies on behaviour and ICT and internet acceptable use. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident, and will be proportionate.

Where a staff member misuses the school's ICT systems or the internet, or misuses a personal device where the action constitutes misconduct, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the staff disciplinary procedures / staff code of conduct. The action taken will depend on the individual circumstances, nature and seriousness of the specific incident.

The school will consider whether incidents that involve illegal activity or content, or otherwise serious incidents, should be reported to the police.

10. Training

All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues, including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation.

All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required through emails, staff briefing and staff meetings.

By way of this training, all staff will be made aware that:

- Technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues, and that children are at risk of online abuse
- Children can abuse their peers online through:
 - Abusive, threatening, harassing and misogynistic messages
 - Non-consensual sharing of indecent nude and semi-nude images and/or videos, especially around chat groups
 - Sharing of abusive images and pornography, to those who don't want to receive such content
- Physical abuse, sexual violence and initiation/hazing type violence can all contain an online element

Training will also help staff:

- Develop better awareness to assist in spotting the signs and symptoms of online abuse
- Develop the ability to ensure pupils can recognise dangers and risks in online activity and can weigh up the risks
- Develop the ability to influence pupils to make the healthiest long-term choices and keep them safe from harm in the short term

The DSL and deputies will undertake child protection and safeguarding training, which will include online safety, at least every 2 years. They will also update their knowledge and skills on the subject of online safety at regular intervals, and at least annually.

Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.

Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy

11 Filtering and Monitoring

11.1 Decision Making

- Ravensbury Community School Governors and leaders have ensured that the school has age and ability appropriate filtering and monitoring in place, to limit children's exposure to online risks.

- The governors and leaders are aware of the need to prevent “over blocking”, as that may unreasonably restrict what children can be taught, with regards to online activities and safeguarding.
- The school’s decision regarding filtering and monitoring has been informed by a risk assessment, taking into account our school’s specific needs and circumstances.
- Changes to the filtering and monitoring approach will be risk assessed by staff with educational and technical experience and, where appropriate, with consent from the leadership team; all changes to the filtering policy are logged and recorded.
- The leadership team will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering and monitoring methods are effective and appropriate.
- All members of staff are aware that they cannot rely on filtering and monitoring alone to safeguard pupils; effective classroom management and regular education about safe and responsible use is essential.

11.2 Filtering

- The school uses Securly which blocks sites which can be categorised as: pornography, racial hatred, extremism, gaming and sites of an illegal nature.
 - The school filtering system blocks all sites on the [Internet Watch Foundation](#) (IWF) list.
- The school works with (Computeam) to ensure that our filtering policy is continually reviewed.

Dealing with Filtering breaches

- The school has a clear procedure for reporting filtering breaches.
 - If pupils discover unsuitable sites, they will be required to close the device and **report the concern immediate to a member of staff**).
 - The member of staff will report the concern (including the URL of the site if possible) to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
 - The breach will be recorded and escalated as appropriate.
 - Parents/carers will be informed of filtering breaches involving their child.
- Any material that the school believes is illegal will be reported immediately to the appropriate agencies.

11.3. Monitoring arrangements

- The school will appropriately monitor internet use on all school owned or provided internet enabled devices.
- The school has a clear procedure for responding to concerns identified via monitoring approaches. This will then be reported to the DSL who will respond in line with the child protection policy
- All users will be informed that use of school systems can be monitored and that all monitoring will be in line with data protection, human rights and privacy legislation.

12 Security and Management of Information Systems

- The school takes appropriate steps to ensure the security of our information systems, including:
 - Virus protection being updated regularly.
 - Encryption for personal data sent over the Internet or taken off site (such as via portable media storage) or access via appropriate secure remote access systems.
 - Not using portable media without specific permission; portable media will be checked by an anti-virus /malware scan before use.
 - Not downloading unapproved software to work devices or opening unfamiliar email attachments.
 - Regularly checking files held on the school’s network,
 - The appropriate use of user logins and passwords to access the school network.
 - Specific user logins and passwords will be enforced for all
 - All users are expected to log off or lock their screens/devices if systems are unattended.

12.1 Password policy

- All members of staff will have their own unique username and private passwords to access school systems; members of staff are responsible for keeping their password private.
- Children have personal school log ins to access the school chrome books.

13 Managing the Safety of the School Website

- The school will ensure that information posted on our website meets the requirements as identified by the Department for Education (DfE).
- The school will ensure that our website complies with guidelines for publications including: accessibility; data protection; respect for intellectual property rights; privacy policies and copyright.
- Staff or pupils' personal information will not be published on our website without consent; the contact details on the website will be the school address, email and telephone number.
- The administrator account for the school website will be secured with an appropriately strong password.
- The school will post appropriate information about safeguarding, including online safety, on the school website for members of the community.

14 Publishing Images and Videos Online

- The school will ensure that all images and videos shared online are used in accordance with the associated policies, including (but not limited to): the Image use policy, Data security, AUPs, Codes of conduct, Social media and use of personal devices and mobile phones.

15 Managing Email

- Access to school email systems will always take place in accordance with Data protection legislation and in line with other school policies, including: Confidentiality, AUPs and Code of conduct.
 - The forwarding of any chain messages/emails is not permitted. Spam or junk mail will be blocked and reported to the email provider.
 - Any electronic communication which contains sensitive or personal information will only be sent using secure and encrypted email.
 - School email addresses and other official contact details will not be used for setting up personal social media accounts.
- Members of the school community will immediately tell Louise Thewlis DHT, DSL if they receive offensive communication, and this will be recorded in the school safeguarding files/records.
- Excessive social email use can interfere with teaching and learning and will be restricted.

15.1 Staff

- The use of personal email addresses by staff for any official school business is not permitted.
 - All members of staff are provided with a specific school email address, to use for all official communication.
- Members of staff are encouraged to have an appropriate work life balance when responding to email, especially if communication is taking place between staff and pupils and parents. A statement relating to this will be added to the footers on emails.

16 Management of Applications used to Record Children's Progress

- The school uses Sims to track pupils progress and share appropriate information with parents and carers.
- The headteacher is ultimately responsible for the security of any data or images held of children. As such, they will ensure that the use of tracking systems is appropriately risk assessed prior to use, and that they are used in accordance with data protection legislation
- In order to safeguard pupils data:
 - Only school issued devices will be used for apps that record and store children's personal details, attainment or photographs.
 - Personal staff mobile phones or devices will not be used to access or upload content to any apps which record and store children's personal details, attainment or images.
 - School devices will be appropriately encrypted if taken off site, to reduce the risk of a data security breach, in the event of loss or theft.
 - All users will be advised regarding safety measures, such as using strong passwords and logging out of systems.
 - Parents and carers will be informed of the expectations regarding safe and appropriate use, prior to being given access; for example, not sharing passwords or images.

17. Social Media

17.1 Staff Personal Use of Social Media

- See the Acceptable use policy which outlines clear procedures for personal use of social media.

17.2 Pupils' Personal Use of Social Media

- Safe and appropriate use of social media will be taught to pupils as part of an embedded and progressive education approach, via age appropriate sites and resources.
- The school is aware that many popular social media sites state that they are not for children under the age of 13, therefore the school will not create accounts specifically for children under this age.
- Any concerns regarding pupils' use of social media, both at home and at school, will be dealt with in accordance with existing school policies including anti-bullying and behaviour. Concerns will also be raised with parents/carers as appropriate, particularly when concerning underage use of social media sites or tools.

18. Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- Ravensbury Community School recognises that personal communication through mobile technologies is an accepted part of everyday life for pupils, staff and parents/carers, but technologies need to be used safely and appropriately within school.

18.1 Expectations

- All use of personal devices and mobile phones will take place in accordance with the law and other appropriate school policies, including, but not limited to: Anti-bullying, Behaviour and Child protection.
- Electronic devices of any kind that are brought onto site are the responsibility of the user at all times.
 - All members of Ravensbury community are advised to take steps to protect their mobile phones or devices from loss, theft or damage; the school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items on school premises.

- All members of Ravensbury community are advised to use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised calls or actions cannot be made on their phones or devices; passwords and pin numbers should be kept confidential and mobile phones and personal devices should not be shared.
- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages/ content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the community; any breaches will be dealt with as part of our Behaviour policy.
- All members of Ravensbury community are advised to ensure that their mobile phones and personal devices do not contain any content which may be considered to be offensive, derogatory or would otherwise contravene the school Behaviour or Child protection policies.

18.2 Staff Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- Members of staff will ensure that use of personal phones and devices takes place in accordance with the law, as well as, relevant school policy and procedures, such as: Confidentiality, Child protection, Data security and Acceptable use.
- Staff will be advised to:
 - Keep mobile phones and personal devices in a safe and secure place during lesson time eg locked in a locker or draw.
 - Keep mobile phones and personal devices switched off or switched to 'silent' mode during lesson times.
 - Ensure that Bluetooth or other forms of communication (such as 'airdrop') are hidden or disabled during lesson times.
 - Not use personal devices during teaching periods, unless written permission has been given by the headteacher, such as in emergency circumstances.
 - Ensure that any content bought onto site via mobile phones and personal devices are compatible with their professional role and expectations.
- Members of staff are not permitted to use their own personal phones or devices for contacting pupils or parents and carers.
 - Any pre-existing relationships, which could undermine this, will be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Headteacher.
- Staff will not use personal devices, such as: mobile phones, tablets or cameras:
 - To take photos or videos of pupils and will only use work-provided equipment for this purpose.
 - Directly with pupils, and will only use work-provided equipment during lessons/educational activities.
- If a member of staff breaches the school policy, action will be taken in line with the code of conduct policy
 - If a member of staff is thought to have illegal content saved or stored on a mobile phone or personal device or have committed a criminal offence, the police will be contacted.

18.3 Pupils' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- Pupils will be educated regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal devices and mobile phones and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.
- In exceptional circumstances where it has been agreed that personal devices and mobile phones have been brought into school they must be handed in to the class teacher to keep securely during the school day.
- If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents or carers they will be allowed to use a school phone.
 - Parents are advised to contact their child via the school office during school hours.

18.4 Visitors' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- Parents, carers and visitors (including volunteers and contractors) must use their mobile phones and personal devices in accordance with the school's Acceptable use policy and other associated policies, such as: Anti-bullying, Behaviour, Child protection and Image use.
- The school will ensure appropriate signage and information is provided to inform parents, carers and visitors of expectations of use.
- Members of staff are expected to challenge visitors if they have concerns and will always inform the DSL of any breaches of school policy.

18.5 Officially provided mobile phones and devices

- School mobile phones and devices will be suitably protected via a passcode/password/pin and must only be accessed or used by members of staff.
- School mobile phones and devices will always be used in accordance with the Acceptable use policy and other relevant policies.

19. Responding to Online Safety Incidents and Concerns

- All members of the school community will be made aware of the reporting procedure for online safety concerns, including: breaches of filtering, youth produced sexual imagery (sexting), cyberbullying and illegal content.
- All members of the community must respect confidentiality and the need to follow the official school procedures for reporting concerns.
 - Pupils, parents and staff will be informed of the school's complaints procedure and staff will be made aware of the whistleblowing procedure.
- The school requires staff, parents, carers and pupils to work in partnership to resolve online safety issues.
- After any investigations are completed, the school will debrief, identify lessons learnt and implement any policy or curriculum changes as required.
- If the school is unsure how to proceed with an incident or concern, the DSL will seek advice from the Education Safeguarding Team.
- Where there is suspicion that illegal activity has taken place, the school will contact the Education Safeguarding Team or GMP using 101, or 999 if there is immediate danger or risk of harm.
- If an incident or concern needs to be passed beyond the school community (for example if other local schools are involved or the public may be at risk), the school will speak with Police and/or the Education Safeguarding Team first, to ensure that potential investigations are not compromised.

19.1 Concerns about Pupils Welfare

- The DSL will be informed of any online safety incidents involving safeguarding or child protection concerns.
 - The DSL will record these issues in line with the school's child protection policy.
- The DSL will ensure that online safety concerns are escalated and reported to relevant agencies.
- The school will inform parents and carers of any incidents or concerns involving their child, as and when required.

19.2 Staff Misuse

- Any complaint about staff misuse will be referred to the Headteacher, according to the Allegations policy.

- Any allegations regarding a member of staff's online conduct will be discussed with the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer).
- Appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the Code of Conduct Policy.

20. Procedures for Responding to Specific Online Incidents or Concerns

20.1 "Sexting"

- Ravensbury Community School recognises sexting as a safeguarding issue; therefore all concerns will be reported to and dealt with by the DSL.
- The school will follow the advice as set out in the non-statutory UKCCIS guidance: ['Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people'](#) guidance: "Responding to sexting".
- Ravensbury Community School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of the potential social, psychological and criminal consequences of 'sexting' by implementing preventative approaches, via a range of age and ability appropriate educational methods.
- The school will ensure that all members of the community are aware of sources of support regarding sexting.

20.2 Dealing with 'Sexting'

- If the school are made aware of an incident involving the creation or distribution of sexting the school will:
 - Act in accordance with our Child protection and Safeguarding policies and the relevant Safeguarding Child Board's procedures.
 - Immediately notify the DSL.
 - Store the device securely.
 - If an indecent image has been taken or shared on the school network or devices, the school will take action to block access to all users and isolate the image.
 - Carry out a risk assessment which considers any vulnerability of pupil(s) involved; including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies.
 - Inform parents and carers, if appropriate, about the incident and how it is being managed.
 - Make a referral to Specialist Children's Services and/or the Police, as appropriate.
 - Provide the necessary safeguards and support for pupils, such as offering counselling or pastoral support.
 - Implement appropriate sanctions in accordance with the school's Behaviour policy, but taking care not to further traumatise victims where possible.
 - Consider the deletion of images in accordance with the UKCCIS: ['Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people'](#) guidance.
 - Images will only be deleted once the school has confirmed that other agencies do not need to be involved; and are sure that to do so would not place a child at risk or compromise an investigation.
 - Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that best practice was implemented; the leadership team will also review and update any management procedures, where necessary.
- The school will take action regarding youth produced sexual imagery, regardless of whether the incident took place on/off school premises, using school or personal equipment.
- The school will not:
 - View any images suspected of being youth produced sexual imagery, unless there is no other possible option, or there is a clear need or reason to do so.
 - In this case, the image will only be viewed by the DSL and their justification for viewing the image will be clearly documented.
 - Send, share, save or make copies of content suspected to be an indecent image of children (i.e. youth produced sexual imagery) and will not allow or request pupils to do so.

20.3 Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

- At Ravensbury Community School we will ensure that all members of the community are aware of online child sexual abuse, including: exploitation and grooming; the consequences; possible approaches which may be employed by offenders to target children and how to respond to concerns.
- Ravensbury Community School will recognise online child sexual abuse as a safeguarding issue and, as such, all concerns will be reported to and dealt with by the DSL.
- The school will implement preventative approaches for online child sexual abuse via a range of age and ability appropriate education for pupils, staff and parents/carers.
- The school will ensure that all members of the community are aware of the support available regarding online child sexual abuse, both locally and nationally.
- Upskirting as a form of peer on peer type of abuse is now a criminal offence and has been included in KCSIE 2019. A definition of upskirting is outlines in KCSIE 2019 and any incidents will be dealt with in line with this guidance.

20.4 Dealing with Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

- If the school are made aware of incident involving online sexual abuse of a child, the school will:
 - Act in accordance with the school's Child protection and Safeguarding policies and the relevant Safeguarding Child Board's procedures.
 - Immediately notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
 - Store any devices involved securely.
 - Immediately inform police via 101 (or 999 if a child is at immediate risk)
 - Carry out a risk assessment which considers any vulnerabilities of pupil(s) involved (including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies).
 - Inform parents/carers about the incident and how it is being managed.
 - Make a referral to Specialist Children's Services (if required/ appropriate).
 - Provide the necessary safeguards and support for pupils, such as, offering counselling or pastoral support.
 - Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that best practice is implemented; school leadership team will review and update any management procedures, where necessary.
- The school will take action regarding online child sexual abuse, regardless of whether the incident took place on/off school premises, using school or personal equipment.
- If the school is unclear whether a criminal offence has been committed, the DSL will obtain advice immediately through the Education Safeguarding Team and/or Police.
- If the school is made aware of intelligence or information which may relate to child sexual exploitation (on or offline), it will be passed through to the [Child Sexual Exploitation Team](#) (CSET) by the DSL.
- If pupils at other schools are believed to have been targeted, the school will seek support from Police and/or the Education Safeguarding Team first to ensure that potential investigations are not compromised.

20.5 Indecent Images of Children (IIOC)

- Ravensbury Community School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of the possible consequences of accessing Indecent Images of Children (IIOC).
- The school will take action regarding IIOC on school equipment and/or personal equipment, even if access took place off site.
- The school will take action to prevent accidental access to IIOC by using an internet Service provider (ISP) which subscribes to the Internet Watch Foundation block list and by implementing appropriate filtering, firewalls and anti-spam software.
- If the school is unclear if a criminal offence has been committed, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through GMP Police and/or the Education Safeguarding Team.

- If made aware of IIOC, the school will:
 - Act in accordance with the schools child protection and safeguarding policy and the relevant Safeguarding Child Boards procedures.
 - Immediately notify the school Designated Safeguard Lead.
 - Store any devices involved securely.
 - Immediately inform appropriate organisations, such as the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), police or the LADO.

- If made aware that a member of staff or a pupil has been inadvertently exposed to indecent images of children whilst using the internet, the school will:
 - Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
 - Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via www.iwf.org.uk .
 - Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted.
 - Report concerns, as appropriate to parents and carers.

- If made aware that indecent images of children have been found on the school devices, the school will:
 - Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
 - Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via www.iwf.org.uk .
 - Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted.
 - Inform the police via 101 (999 if there is an immediate risk of harm) and children's social services (as appropriate).
 - Only store copies of images (securely, where no one else has access to them and delete all other copies) at the request of the police only.
 - Report concerns, as appropriate to parents and carers.

- If made aware that a member of staff is in possession of indecent images of children on school devices, the school will:
 - Ensure that the headteacher is informed.
 - Inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and other relevant organisations in accordance with the schools managing allegations policy.
 - Quarantine any devices until police advice has been sought.

20.6 Online Hate

- Online hate content, directed towards or posted by, specific members of the community will not be tolerated at Ravensbury Community School and will be responded to in line with existing school policies, including Anti-bullying and Behaviour.
- All members of the community will be advised to report online hate in accordance with relevant school policies and procedures.
- The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.
- If the school is unclear on how to respond, or whether a criminal offence has been committed, the DSL will obtain advice through the Education Safeguarding Team and/or Police.

20.7 Online Radicalisation and Extremism

- The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.
- If the school is concerned that a child or parent/carer may be at risk of radicalisation online, the DSL will be informed immediately and action will be taken in line with the Child protection policy.
- If the school is concerned that member of staff may be at risk of radicalisation online, the Headteacher will be informed immediately and action will be taken in line with the Child protection and Complaints policies.