

Halton Lodge Primary School



Online Safety (and Data Security) Policy

Last Reviewed: by the Headteacher in October 2022 and updated by the Deputy Headteacher in September 2023

Review Cycle: No Recommendation

Approval Level: This policy should be considered to be part of the school's Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy which is a are Statutory Policies that are recommended to be reviewed annually by the Governing Body)

Date of next review: by the Full Governing Body in Autumn Term 2023

Introduction

Computing in the 21st Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, schools need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

Computing covers a wide range of resources including; web-based and mobile learning. It is also important to recognise the constant and fast paced evolution of ICT within our society as a whole. Currently the internet technologies children and young people are using both inside and outside of the classroom include:

Websites

E-mail, Instant Messaging and chat rooms

Social Media, including Facebook and Twitter

Mobile/ Smart phones with text, video and/ or web functionality

Other mobile devices with web functionality

Gaming, especially online

Learning Platforms and Virtual Learning Environments

Blogs and Wikis

Podcasting

Video Broadcasting

Music Downloading

Whilst exciting and beneficial both in and out of the context of education, much ICT, particularly web-based resources, are not consistently policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these internet technologies; and that some have minimum age requirements (which is usually 13 years of age and 18 in some cases).

At Halton Lodge Primary School, we understand the responsibility to educate our pupils on Online Safety issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Schools hold personal data on learners, staff and other people to help them conduct their day-to-day activities. Some of this information is sensitive and could be used by another person or criminal organisation to cause harm

or distress to an individual. The loss of sensitive information can result in media coverage, and potentially damage the reputation of the school. This can make it more difficult for your school to use technology to benefit learners.

Everybody in the school has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties and even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise them.

Both this policy and the Staff Acceptable Use Policy Agreement (for all staff, governors and visitors) are inclusive of both fixed and mobile internet; technologies provided by the school (such as PCs, laptops, mobile devices, webcams, whiteboards, iPads, digital video equipment, etc); and technologies owned by pupils and staff, but brought onto school premises (such as laptops, iPads, mobile phones, portable media players and other mobile devices).

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Act) places a duty on certain bodies ("specified authorities" listed in Schedule 6 to the Act), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" (Prevent Duty Guidance, *HM Government* 2015). All members of staff must have regard to this guidance when carrying out that duty

Halton Lodge Primary School ensures that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school. As with other online risks of harm, every teacher is aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups. All staff undergo WRAP (Prevent) training and 24/7 Technology provides our school with web filtering to keep our children safe.

Halton Lodge Primary School

Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement

Online Safety Rules

I will only use a laptop or computer when an adult has said I can.

I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules are to keep me safe.

I will only use ICT in school for school purposes - I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this, I will tell my teacher immediately.

I will only open/delete my own files.

I will not tell other people my computing or online passwords.

I will not give out my own details such as my name, phone number or home address online.

I will support the school approach to online safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community.

I know that my use of ICT can be checked and that my parent/ carer will be contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my Online Safety.



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Dear Parent/ Carer

ICT, including the internet, e-mail and mobile technologies have become an important part of learning in our school. We expect all children to be safe and responsible when using any ICT.

Please read and discuss these online Safety rules with your child and return the slip at the bottom of this page.

If you have any concerns or would like some explanation please contact us.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Hilldrup
Headteacher

Halton Lodge Primary School

We have discussed the Online Safety Rules and(child name)
agrees to follow these rules and to support the safe use of ICT at Halton Lodge Primary School.

Parent/ Carer Signature

Class Date

Computer Viruses

All files downloaded from the Internet, received via e-mail or on removable media such as a memory stick must be checked for any viruses.

Never interfere with any anti-virus software installed on school ICT equipment that you use

If you suspect there may be a virus on any school ICT equipment, stop using the equipment and contact 24/7 Technology immediately. Our ICT support provider will advise you of what actions to take and be responsible for advising others that need to know.

Data Security

The accessing and appropriate use of school data is something that the school takes very seriously.

Data protection does not prevent, or limit, the sharing of information for the purpose of keeping children safe.

As stated in KCSIE 2023 ' The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR do not prevent the sharing of information for the purpose of keeping children safe.

Security

The school gives staff access to the school website and Shared Drive with a unique username and password

- It is the responsibility of everyone to keep passwords secure
- Staff are aware of their responsibility when accessing school data
- Staff keep all school related data secure. This includes all personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data
- Staff should avoid leaving any portable or mobile ICT equipment or removable storage media in unattended vehicles. Where this is not possible, keep it locked out of sight
- Staff should always carry portable and mobile ICT equipment or removable media as hand luggage, and keep it under your control at all times
- It is the responsibility of individual staff to ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents faxed, copied, scanned or printed.

Anyone expecting a confidential or sensitive fax should notify the sender before it is sent.

Disposal of Redundant ICT Equipment Policy

All redundant ICT equipment will be disposed of through an authorised agency or via Halton Borough Council. This should include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data

All redundant ICT equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media over written multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed. Or if the storage media has failed it will be physically destroyed. We will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen

Disposal of any ICT equipment will conform to:

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006
The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32084.aspx>
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi_20063289_en.pdf
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi_20073454_en.pdf?lang=_e

Data Protection Act 1998
http://www.ico.gov.uk/what_we_cover/data_protection.aspx

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si1989/Uksi_19890635_en_1.htm

The school will maintain a comprehensive inventory of all its ICT equipment including a record of disposal.

Email

The use of e-mail within most schools is an essential means of communication for both staff and pupils. In the context of school, e-mail should not be considered private. Educationally, e-mail can offer significant benefits including; direct written contact between schools on different projects, be they staff based or pupil based, within school or international. We recognise that pupils need to understand how to style an e-mail in relation to their age and good network etiquette (netiquette).

By the end of Key Stage 2 all pupils should have experienced sending and receiving e-mails.

Managing e-Mail

- It is the responsibility of each account holder to keep their password secure. For the safety and security of users and recipients, all mail is filtered and logged; if necessary e-mail histories can be traced. The school email account should be the account that is used for all school business.
- Under no circumstances should staff contact pupils, parents or conduct any school business using personal e-mail addresses.
- All e-mails should be written and checked carefully before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper.
- Staff sending e-mails to external organisations, parents or pupils are advised to cc. the Headteacher and/or their line manager.
- Pupils may only use school approved accounts on the school system and only under direct teacher supervision for educational purposes.
- All pupil e-mail users are expected to adhere to the generally accepted rules of netiquette particularly in relation to the use of appropriate language and not revealing any personal details about themselves or others in e-mail communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission, virus checking attachments.
- Pupils must immediately tell a teacher/ trusted adult if they receive an offensive e-mail.
- Staff must inform (the ICT subject leader or Headteacher) if they receive an offensive e-mail.
- Pupils are introduced to e-mail as part of the ICT National Curriculum.

- However you access your e-mail (whether directly, through webmail when away from the office or on non-school hardware) all the school e-mail policies apply.

Sending Emails

- Use your own school e-mail account so that you are clearly identified as the originator of a message.
- Keep the number and relevance of e-mail recipients, particularly those being copied, to the minimum necessary and appropriate.
- Do not send or forward attachments unnecessarily. Whenever possible, send the location path to the shared drive rather than sending attachments.

Check your e-mail regularly

- Never open attachments from an untrusted source.
- Do not use the e-mail systems to store attachments. Detach and save business related work to the appropriate shared drive/folder.
- The automatic forwarding and deletion of e-mails is not allowed.

Equal Opportunities

Pupils with Additional Needs

The school endeavours to create a consistent message with parents for all pupils and this in turn should aid establishment and future development of the schools' Online Safety rules.

However, staff are aware that some pupils may require additional support or teaching including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their existing knowledge and understanding of Online Safety issues.

Where a pupil has poor social understanding, careful consideration is given to group interactions when raising awareness of Online Safety. Internet activities are planned and well managed for these children and young people.

Online Safety - Roles and Responsibilities

As Online Safety is an important aspect of strategic leadership within the school, the Headteacher and governors have ultimate responsibility to ensure that the policy and practices are embedded and monitored.

The named Online Safety Co-ordinator in this school is Mrs N Lloyd, who has been designated this role as the Senior Designated Person for Safeguarding.

All members of the school community have been made aware of who holds this post and it is the role of the Online Safety Co-ordinator to keep abreast of current issues and guidance through organisations such as Halton LA, Halton SCIE (Safeguarding Children In Education), CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) and Childnet.

Senior Management and governors are updated by the Headteacher or Senior Designated Person; and all governors have an understanding of the issues and strategies at our school in relation to local and national guidelines and advice.

This policy - supported by the school's acceptable use agreements for staff, governors, visitors and pupils - are to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It is linked to the following mandatory school policies: Safeguarding & Child Protection, Health and Safety, Home-School Agreements, and Behaviour (including the Anti-Bullying) and PSHE.

Online Safety in the Curriculum

ICT and online resources are increasingly used across the curriculum. We believe it is essential for Online Safety guidance to be given to the pupils on a regular and meaningful basis. Online Safety is embedded within our curriculum and we continually look for new opportunities to promote Online Safety.

The school provides opportunities within a range of curriculum areas to teach our pupils about Online Safety.

Educating pupils about the online risks that they may encounter outside school is done informally when opportunities arise and as part of the Online Safety curriculum.

Pupils are aware of the relevant legislation when using the internet such as data protection and intellectual property which may limit what they want to do but also serves to protect them.

Pupils are taught about copyright, respecting other people's information, safe use of images and other important areas through discussion, modelling and appropriate activities.

Pupils are aware of the impact of Cyberbullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying. Pupils are also aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet

and related technologies; i.e. parent/ carer, teacher/ trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Cybermentors, Childline or the CEOP report abuse button.

Pupils are taught to critically evaluate materials and how to effectively search for information through cross curricular teacher models, discussions and via the ICT curriculum.

Online Safety rules are discussed with the children at the start of the school year and the rules are kept on display throughout the year.

Online Safety Skills Development for Staff

Our staff receive regular information and training on Online Safety and how they can promote the 'Stay Safe' online messages through regular emails sent by the Senior Designated Person (which are followed up during staff meetings and/or staff briefings, where necessary).

New staff receive information on the school's acceptable use policy as part of their induction.

All staff have been made aware of their individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of Online Safety and know what to do in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community.

All staff are supported to incorporate Online Safety activities and awareness within their curriculum areas.

From September 2023- due to its inclusion within Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023- Cybersecurity will be a key focus within staff safeguarding training.

Incident Reporting

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the Headteacher or ICT Subject Leader. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data, virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to the subject leader or the school's computer support team (24/7 Technology).

Inappropriate Material

- All users are aware of the procedures for reporting accidental access to inappropriate materials. (The breach must be immediately reported to the subject leader or the Headteacher).
- Deliberate access to inappropriate materials by any user will lead to the incident being logged by the Headteacher. Furthermore, depending on the seriousness of the offence an internal investigation by the Headteacher/LA or an immediate suspension (possibly leading to dismissal and involvement of police - for very serious offences) may be necessary.

Internet Access

The internet is an open worldwide communication medium, available to everyone, at all times. Anyone can view information, send messages, discuss ideas and publish material which makes it both an invaluable resource for education, business and social interaction, as well as a potential risk to young and vulnerable people.

Managing the Internet

The school provides pupils with supervised access to Internet resources (where reasonable) through the school's fixed and mobile internet connectivity.

Staff will preview any recommended sites before use by pupils.

Raw image searches are always supervised by staff.

If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research.

All users must observe software copyright at all times. It is illegal to copy or distribute school software or illegal software from other sources.

All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic resources.

Internet Use

You must not post personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information - or disseminate such information in any way - that may compromise the intended restricted audience.

Do not reveal names of colleagues, pupils, others or any other confidential information acquired through your job on any social networking site or other online application.

On-line gambling or gaming is not allowed.

It is at the Headteacher's discretion as to what internet activities are permissible for staff and pupils and how this is disseminated.

Managing Other Web Technologies

Online technologies, including social networking sites, if used responsibly both outside and within an educational context can provide easy to use, creative, collaborative and free facilities.

However it is important to recognise that there are issues regarding the appropriateness of some content, contact, culture and commercialism. To this end, we encourage our pupils to think carefully about the way that information can be added and removed by all users, including themselves, from these sites.

At present, the school endeavours to deny access to social networking (unless it is through the school's Facebook account or Twitter page).

All pupils are advised to be cautious about the information given by others on such websites, for example users not being who they say they are.

Pupils are taught to avoid placing images of themselves (or details within images that could give background details) on such websites and to consider the appropriateness of any images they post due to the difficulty of removing an image once online.

Pupils are always reminded to avoid giving out personal details on websites which may identify them or where they are (full name, address, mobile/ home phone numbers, school details, IM/ email address, specific hobbies/ interests).

Our pupils are advised to set and maintain their online profiles to maximum privacy and deny access to unknown

individuals.

Pupils are encouraged to be wary about publishing specific and detailed private thoughts and information online.

Our pupils are asked to report any incidents of Cyberbullying to the school by reporting this immediately to their class teacher – or any staff member who they trust – in the same manner that they would disclose any other safeguarding concerns. Reminders to children “Don’t Keep It A Secret!” are displayed throughout the school with the message: *“Remember, you can tell... a member of your family... a teacher or teaching assistant... Mrs Lloyd or Mr Hilldrup”*.

Staff may only create blogs, wikis or other online areas in order to communicate with pupils using the school learning platform or other systems approved by the Headteacher.

Schools in England (and Wales) are required “to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering” (Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales, 2015).

Halton Lodge Primary School aims to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school. *As with other online risks of harm, every teacher is aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.*

Parental Involvement

We believe that it is essential for parents/carers to be fully involved with promoting Online Safety both in and outside of school and to be aware of their responsibilities. We regularly consult and discuss Online Safety with parents/ carers and seek to promote a wide understanding of the benefits of new technologies, together with the associated risks.

Parents/carers are asked to read through and sign acceptable use agreements on behalf of their child on admission to the school.

Parents/carers are required to make a decision as to whether they consent to images of their child being taken and used in the public domain (e.g. on the school website).

Protecting Personal, Sensitive, Confidential and Classified Information

Ensure that any school information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure.

Ensure you lock your screen before moving away from your computer during your normal working day to prevent unauthorised access. This can be done easily by pressing the Windows key and the L key on the keyboard simultaneously.

Ensure the accuracy of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information you disclose or share with others.

Ensure that personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is not disclosed to any unauthorised person.

Ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents you fax, copy, scan or print. This is particularly important when shared copiers (multi-function print, fax, scan and copiers) are used and when access is from a non-school environment.

Only download personal data from systems if expressly authorised to do so by your line manager.

Keep your screen display out of direct view of any third parties when you are accessing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information.

Ensure hard copies of data are securely stored and disposed of after use in accordance with the document labelling.

Safe Use of Images and Work - Taking of Images and Film

Digital images are easy to capture, reproduce and publish and, therefore, misuse.

We must remember that it is not always appropriate to take or store images of any member of the school community or public, without first seeking consent and considering the appropriateness.

This consent form is considered valid for the entire period that the child attends this school unless there is a change in the child's circumstances where consent could be an issue, e.g. divorce of parents, custody issues, etc. However, our parents are asked to give their consent at the start of each new academic year.

Parents or carers may withdraw permission, in writing, at any time. *From September 2017 onwards, consent will have to be given by both parents (where both parents have parental responsibility) in order for it to be deemed valid.*

Pupils' names will not be published alongside their image and vice versa. E-mail and postal addresses of pupils will not be published. Pupils' full names will not be published.

With the written consent of parents (on behalf of pupils) and staff, the school permits the appropriate taking of images and use of pupil's work, by staff and pupils with school equipment.

Staff are not permitted to use personal digital equipment, such as mobile phones and cameras, to record images of pupils, this includes when on school trips and visits.

School ICT Equipment including Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment & Removable Media

As a user of the school ICT equipment, you are responsible for your activity.

It is recommended that schools log ICT equipment issued to staff and record serial numbers as part of the school's inventory.

Ensure that all ICT equipment that you use is kept physically secure.

Do not attempt unauthorised access or make unauthorised modifications to computer equipment, programs, files or data. This is an offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990.

It is imperative that you save your data on a frequent basis to the school's share drive. You are responsible for the backup and restoration of any of your data that is not held on the school's network.

It is your responsibility to ensure that any information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure, and that no personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is disclosed to any unauthorised person.

Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment

All activities carried out on school systems and hardware will be monitored in accordance with the general policy

Equipment must be kept physically secure in accordance with this policy to be covered for insurance purposes. When travelling by car, best practice is to place the laptop and any other ICT equipment in the boot of your car before starting your journey

The installation of any applications or software packages must be authorised by the Headteacher, fully licensed and

only carried out by 24/7 Technology.

Mobile Technologies

Many emerging technologies offer new opportunities for teaching and learning including a move towards personalised learning and 1:1 device ownership for children and young people.

Mobile technologies (such as Smartphones, Blackberries, iPads and games players) are generally very familiar to children outside of school. They often provide a collaborative, well-known device with possible internet access and thus open up risk and misuse associated with communication and internet use.

Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the risk assessed before use in school is allowed. Our school chooses to manage the use of these devices in the following ways so that users exploit them appropriately.

Personal Mobile Devices (including phones)

The school allows staff to bring in personal mobile phones and devices for their own use. However, these should be turned off and must not be visible or used during times when children are present. See *Staff Behaviour and Code Of Conduct Policy*.

Pupils in Year 6 are allowed to bring personal mobile devices/phones to school, if agreed with the Headteacher. This is at their own risk; and the devices must be switched off and stored in the main school office during the school day.

The school is not responsible for the loss, damage or theft of any personal mobile device.

Any questions about any aspect of this policy should be directed to the Headteacher or Senior Designated Person.