Simul autem et crescere luceat
Together we grow and shine

Fountain Head House School
ICT and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Review due	June 2025
Last review	June 2023
Reviewed by	Thereza de Lucca Headteacher
Approved by	Julie Smith Chair of the Board

Introduction and aims

Information and communications technology (ICT) is an integral part of the way our school works, and is a critical resource for pupils, staff (including the senior leadership team), governors, volunteers and visitors.

However, the ICT resources and facilities our school uses could also pose risks to data protection, online safety and safeguarding.

This policy aims to:

- Set guidelines and rules on the use of school ICT resources for staff, pupils, parents/carers, volunteers, contractors and governors
- Establish clear expectations for the way all members of the school community engage with each other online
- Support the school's policies on data protection, online safety and safeguarding
- Prevent disruption that could occur to the school through the misuse, or attempted misuse, of ICT systems
- Support the school in teaching pupils safe and effective internet and ICT use

This policy covers all users of our school's ICT facilities, including governors, staff, pupils, volunteers, contractors and visitors.

Breaches of this policy may be dealt with under our Staff Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy and Procedures.

Relevant legislation and guidance

This policy refers to, and complies with, the following legislation and guidance:

- Data Protection Act 2018
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) – the EU GDPR was incorporated into UK legislation, with some amendments, by The Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020
- Computer Misuse Act 1990
- Human Rights Act 1998
- The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000
- Education Act 2011
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022
- Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022
- National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC): Cyber Security for Schools
- Education and Training (Welfare of Children) Act 2021
- UKCIS guidance on sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people
- Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges

Definitions

- **ICT facilities:** all facilities, systems and services including, but not limited to, network infrastructure, desktop computers, laptops, tablets, phones, music players or hardware, software, websites, web applications or services, and any device system or service that may become available in the future which is provided as part of the school's ICT service
- **Users:** anyone authorised by the school to use the school's ICT facilities, including governors, staff, pupils, volunteers, contractors and visitors
- **Personal use:** any use or activity not directly related to the users' employment, study or purpose agreed by an authorised user
- **Authorised personnel:** employees authorised by the school to perform systems administration and/or monitoring of the ICT facilities
- **Materials:** files and data created using the school's ICT facilities including but not limited to documents, photos, audio, video, printed output, web pages, social networking sites and blogs

See Appendix 1 for a glossary of cyber security terminology.

Unacceptable use

The following is considered unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities. Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary or behaviour proceedings.

Unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities includes:

- Using the school's ICT facilities to breach intellectual property rights or copyright
- Using the school's ICT facilities to bully or harass someone else, or to promote unlawful discrimination
- Breaching the school's policies or procedures
- Any illegal conduct, or statements which are deemed to be advocating illegal activity
- Online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams
- Accessing, creating, storing, linking to or sending material that is pornographic, offensive, obscene or otherwise inappropriate or harmful
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos and/or livestreams
- Activity which defames or disparages the school, or risks bringing the school into disrepute
- Sharing confidential information about the school, its pupils, or other members of the school community
- Connecting any device to the school's ICT network without approval from authorised personnel
- Setting up any software, applications or web services on the school's network without approval by authorised personnel, or creating or using any programme, tool or item of software designed to interfere with the functioning of the school's ICT facilities, accounts or data
- Gaining, or attempting to gain, access to restricted areas of the network, or to any password-protected information, without approval from authorised personnel
- Allowing, encouraging or enabling others to gain (or attempt to gain) unauthorised access to the school's ICT facilities
- Causing intentional damage to the school's ICT facilities
- Removing, deleting or disposing of the school's ICT equipment, systems, programmes or information without permission from authorised personnel

- Causing a data breach by accessing, modifying, or sharing data (including personal data) to which a user is not permitted by authorised personnel to have access, or without authorisation
- Using inappropriate or offensive language
- Promoting a private business, unless that business is directly related to the school
- Using websites or mechanisms to bypass the school's filtering or monitoring mechanisms
- Engaging in content or conduct that is radicalised, extremist, racist, antisemitic or discriminatory in any other way
- Though this might be unlikely or rare, using Artificial Intelligence tools and generative chatbots (such as ChatGPT and Google Bard):
    - During assessments, including internal and external assessments, and coursework
    - To write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text or imagery is presented as their own work

This is not an exhaustive list. The school reserves the right to amend this list at any time. The Headteacher or any other relevant member of the Senior Leadership Team will use their professional judgement to determine whether any act or behaviour not on the list above is considered unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities.

Exceptions from unacceptable use

Where the use of school ICT facilities (on the school premises and/or remotely) is required for a purpose that would otherwise be considered an unacceptable use, exemptions to the policy may be granted at the headteacher's discretion.

For example, discretion might be applied where pupils might request to use Artificial Intelligence tools and generative chatbots:

- ○ As a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas
- ○ When specifically studying and discussing AI in schoolwork, for example in IT lessons or art homework about AI-generated images. All AI-generated content must be properly attributed

Consequences

Pupils and staff who engage in any of the unacceptable activity listed above may face disciplinary action in line with the school's policies on Behaviour and Code of Conduct.

Staff (including governors, volunteers, and contractors)

Access to school ICT facilities and materials

The school's Business Manager manages access to the school's ICT facilities and materials for school staff. That includes, but is not limited to:

- Computers, tablets, mobile phones and other devices
- Access permissions for certain programmes or files

Staff will be provided with unique login/account information and passwords that they must use when accessing the school's ICT facilities.

Staff who have access to files that they are not authorised to view or edit, or who need their access permissions updated or changed, should contact the school's Business Manager who will liaise with the IT service provider for the school (ICT4).

Use of phones and email

The school provides each member of staff with an email address.

This email account should be used for work purposes only. Staff should enable multi-factor authentication on their email account.

All work-related business should be conducted using the email address the school has provided.

Staff must not share their personal email addresses with parents/carers and pupils, and must not send any work-related materials using their personal email account.

Staff must take care with the content of all email messages, as incorrect or improper statements can give rise to claims for discrimination, harassment, defamation, breach of confidentiality or breach of contract.

Email messages are required to be disclosed in legal proceedings or in response to requests from individuals under the Data Protection Act 2018 in the same way as paper documents. Deletion from a user's inbox does not mean that an email cannot be recovered for the purposes of disclosure. All email messages should be treated as potentially retrievable.

Staff must take extra care when sending sensitive or confidential information by email. Any attachments containing sensitive or confidential information should be encrypted so that the information is only accessible by the intended recipient.

If staff receive an email in error, the sender should be informed and the email deleted. If the email contains sensitive or confidential information, the user must not make use of that information or disclose that information.

If staff send an email in error that contains the personal information of another person, they must inform the School Business Manager immediately and follow our data breach procedure.

Staff must not give their personal phone number(s) to parents/carers or pupils. Staff must use phones provided by the school to conduct all work-related business.

School phones must not be used for personal matters.

Staff who are provided with mobile phones as equipment for their role must abide by the same rules for ICT acceptable use.

The school does not as a matter of course record phone call. Where a member of staff might find important to record a phone conversation, they must request permission from the Headteacher in advance. If permission is granted, the staff must at the beginning of the phone conversation inform the person their intention to record the call and obtain consent from all parties involved.

Approval for requests to record a phone conversation, might be granted for example when:

- Discussing a complaint raised by a parent / carer or member of the public
- Calling parents / carers to discuss behaviours and /or consequences
- Taking advice from relevant professionals regarding safeguarding or other aspects

Personal use

Staff are permitted to occasionally use school ICT facilities for personal use, subject to certain conditions set out below. This permission must not be overused or abused. The Headteacher or any other relevant member of the Senior Leadership Team may withdraw or restrict this permission at any time and at their discretion.

Personal use is permitted provided that such use:

- Does not take place during the times when the staff are working with the pupils or with pupils present
- Does not constitute 'unacceptable use', as stated in this policy
- Does not interfere with their jobs, or prevent other staff or pupils from using the facilities for work or educational purposes

Staff may not use the school's ICT facilities to store personal, non-work-related information or materials (such as music, videos or photos).

Staff should be aware that use of the school's ICT facilities for personal use may put personal communications within the scope of the school's ICT monitoring activities. Where breaches of this policy are found, disciplinary action may be taken.

Staff are also permitted to use their personal devices (such as mobile phones or tablets) in line with the school's Mobile Phone and Personal Device Usage Policy.

Staff should be aware that personal use of ICT (even when not using school ICT facilities) can impact on their employment by, for instance, putting personal details in the public domain, where pupils and parents/carers could see them.

Staff should take care to follow the school's guidelines on use of social media (see Appendix 5) and use of email as stated in this policy to protect themselves online and avoid compromising their professional integrity.

Personal social media accounts

Members of staff should make sure their use of social media, either for work or personal purposes, is appropriate at all times.

The school has guidelines for staff on appropriate security settings for Facebook accounts (see Appendix 5).

Remote access

We allow staff to access the school's ICT facilities and materials remotely

Staff accessing the school's ICT facilities and materials remotely must abide by the same rules as those accessing the facilities and materials on site. Staff must be particularly vigilant if they use the school's ICT facilities outside the school and take such precautions as the Headteacher may require against importing viruses or compromising system security.

Our ICT facilities contain information which is confidential and/or subject to data protection legislation. Such information must be treated with extreme care and in accordance with our data protection policy.

School social media accounts

The school has an official Facebook and Twitter accounts managed by the Media and Marketing staff in liaison with the Headteacher. Staff members who have not been authorised to manage, or post to, the account, must not access, or attempt to access, the account.

The school has guidelines for what may and must not be posted on its social media accounts. Those who are authorised to manage, or post to, the account must make sure they abide by these guidelines at all times.

Monitoring and filtering of the school network and use of ICT facilities

To safeguard and promote the welfare of children and provide them with a safe environment to learn, the school reserves the right to filter and monitor the use of its ICT facilities and network. This includes, but is not limited to, the filtering and monitoring of:

- Internet sites visited
- Bandwidth usage
- Email accounts
- Telephone calls
- User activity/access logs
- Any other electronic communications

Only authorised ICT personnel may filter, inspect, monitor, intercept, assess, record and disclose the above, to the extent permitted by law.

The effectiveness of any filtering and monitoring will be regularly reviewed.

Where appropriate, authorised personnel may raise concerns about monitored activity with the school's designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and ICT manager, as appropriate.

The school monitors ICT use in order to:

- Obtain information related to school business
- Investigate compliance with school policies, procedures and standards
- Ensure effective school and ICT operation
- Conduct training or quality control exercises
- Prevent or detect crime
- Comply with a subject access request, Freedom of Information Act request, or any other legal obligation

Pupils

Access to ICT facilities

Computer and ICT equipment in the school are available to pupils only under the supervision of staff.

Search and deletion

Under the Education Act 2011, the Headteacher, and any member of staff authorised to do so by the Headteacher, can search pupils and confiscate their mobile phones, computers or other devices that the authorised staff member has reasonable grounds for suspecting:

- Poses a risk to staff or pupils, **and/or**
- Is identified in the school rules as a banned item for which a search can be carried out, **and/or**
- Is evidence in relation to an offence

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Pornography
- Abusive messages, images or videos
- Indecent images of children
- Evidence of suspected criminal behaviour (such as threats of violence or assault)

Before a search, if the authorised staff member is satisfied that they have reasonable grounds for suspecting any of the above, they will also:

- Make an assessment of how urgent the search is, and consider the risk to other pupils and staff. If the search is not urgent, they will seek advice from the Headteacher or any other relevant member of the Senior Leadership Team
- Explain to the pupil why they are being searched, and how and where the search will happen, and give them the opportunity to ask questions about it
- Seek the pupil's co-operation an if the pupil refuses to co-operate follow the school's Behaviour Policy

The authorised staff member should:

- Inform the DSL (or DDSL) of any searching incidents where they had reasonable grounds to suspect a pupil was in possession of a banned item.
- Involve the DSL (or DDSL) without delay if they believe that a search has revealed a safeguarding risk

Authorised staff members may examine, and in exceptional circumstances erase, any data or files on a device that they have confiscated where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

When deciding whether there is a 'good reason' to examine data or files on a device, the staff member should only do so if they reasonably suspect that the data has, or could be used to:

- Cause harm, **and/or**
- Undermine the safe environment of the school or disrupt teaching, **and/or**
- Commit an offence

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the Headteacher, the DSL or any member of the Safeguarding Team to decide on a suitable response. If there are images, data or files on the device that staff reasonably suspect are likely to put a person at risk, they will first consider the appropriate safeguarding response.

When deciding if there is a good reason to erase data or files from a device, staff members will consider if the material may constitute evidence relating to a suspected offence. In these instances, they will not delete the material, and the device will be handed to the police as soon as reasonably practicable. If the material is not suspected to be evidence in relation to an offence, staff members may delete it if:

- They reasonably suspect that its continued existence is likely to cause harm to any person, **and/or**
- The pupil and/or the parent refuses to delete the material themselves
- If a staff member **suspects** a device **may** contain an indecent image of a child (also known as a nude or semi-nude image), they will:
- **Not** view the image
- **Not** copy, print, share, store or save the image
- Confiscate the device and report the incident to the DSL (or deputy) immediately, who will decide what to do next. The DSL will make the decision in line with the DfE's latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation and the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) guidance on sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with:

- The DfE's latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation
- UKCIS guidance on sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people
- The school's Behaviour policy
- Any complaints about searching for, or deleting, inappropriate images or files on pupils' devices will be dealt with through the school's Complaints Policy and Procedures.

Unacceptable use of ICT and the internet outside of school

The school will sanction pupils, in line with the school's Behaviour Policy if a pupil engages in any of the following **at any time** (even if they are not on school premises):

- Using ICT or the internet to breach intellectual property rights or copyright
- Using ICT or the internet to bully or harass someone else, or to promote unlawful discrimination
- Breaching the school's policies or procedures
- Any illegal conduct, or making statements which are deemed to be advocating illegal activity
- Accessing, creating, storing, linking to or sending material that is pornographic, offensive, obscene or otherwise inappropriate
- Consensual or non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos and/or livestreams (also known as sexting or youth produced sexual imagery)
- Activity which defames or disparages the school, or risks bringing the school into disrepute
- Sharing confidential information about the school, other pupils, or other members of the school community
- Gaining or attempting to gain access to restricted areas of the network, or to any password-protected information, without approval from authorised personnel
- Allowing, encouraging, or enabling others to gain (or attempt to gain) unauthorised access to the school's ICT facilities
- Causing intentional damage to the school's ICT facilities or materials
- Causing a data breach by accessing, modifying, or sharing data (including personal data) to which a user and/or those they share it with are not supposed to have access, or without authorisation
- Using inappropriate or offensive language

Parents and carers

Access to ICT facilities and materials

Parents / carers do not have access to the school's ICT facilities as a matter of course.

However, parents / carers working for, or with, the school in an official capacity may be granted an appropriate level of access, or be permitted to use the school's facilities at the headteacher's discretion.

Where parents/carers are granted access in this way, they must abide by this policy as it applies to staff.

Communicating with or about the school online

We believe it is important to model for pupils, and help them learn, how to communicate respectfully with, and about, others online.

Parents / carers play a vital role in helping model this behaviour for their children, especially when communicating with the school through our website and social media channels.

We ask parents / carers to follow the guidance on Appendix 4.

Data security

The school is responsible for making sure it has the appropriate level of security protection and procedures in place to safeguard its systems, staff and learners. It therefore takes steps to protect the security of its computing resources, data and user accounts. The effectiveness of these procedures is reviewed periodically to keep up with evolving cyber crime technologies.

Staff, pupils, parents / carers and others who use the school's ICT facilities should use safe computing practices at all times. We aim to meet the cyber security standards recommended by the Department for Education's guidance on digital and technology standards in schools and colleges, including the use of:

- Firewalls
- Security features
- User authentication and multi-factor authentication
- Anti-malware software

Passwords

All users of the school's ICT facilities should set strong passwords for their accounts and keep these passwords secure.

Users are responsible for the security of their passwords and accounts, and for setting permissions for accounts and files they control.

Members of staff or pupils who disclose account or password information may face disciplinary action. Parents, visitors or volunteers who disclose account or password information may have their access rights revoked.

Software updates, firewalls and anti-virus software

All of the school's ICT devices that support software updates, security updates and anti-virus products will have these installed, and be configured to perform such updates regularly or automatically.

Users must not circumvent or make any attempt to circumvent the administrative, physical and technical safeguards we implement and maintain to protect personal data and the school's ICT facilities.

Any personal devices using the school's network must all be configured in this way.

Data protection

All personal data must be processed and stored in line with data protection regulations and the school's Data Protection Policy.

Access to facilities and materials

All users of the school's ICT facilities will have clearly defined access rights to school systems, files and devices.

These access rights are managed by the Headteacher.

Users should not access, or attempt to access, systems, files or devices to which they have not been granted access. If access is provided in error, or if something a user should not have access to is shared with them, they should alert the Headteacher and, if the Headteacher is not available, the Business Manager immediately.

Users should always log out of systems and lock their equipment when they are not in use to avoid any unauthorised access. Equipment and systems should always be logged out of and shut down completely at the end of each working day.

Encryption

The school makes sure that its devices and systems have an appropriate level of encryption.

School staff may only use personal devices (including computers and USB drives) to access school data, work remotely, or take personal data (such as pupil information) out of school if they have been specifically authorised to do so by the headteacher.

Use of such personal devices will only be authorised if the devices have appropriate levels of security and encryption, as defined by the Headteacher.

Protection from cyber attacks

Please see the glossary (Appendix 1) to help you understand cyber security terminology.

The school will:

- Work with governors and the IT department to make sure cyber security is given the time and resources it needs to make the school secure
- Provide annual training for staff (and include this training in any induction for new starters, if they join outside of the school's annual training window) on the basics of cyber security, including how to:
    - Check the sender address in an email
    - Respond to a request for bank details, personal information or login details
    - Verify requests for payments or changes to information
- Make sure staff are aware of its procedures for reporting and responding to cyber security incidents
- Investigate whether our IT software needs updating or replacing to be more secure
- Not engage in ransom requests from ransomware attacks, as this would not guarantee recovery of data
- Put controls in place that are:
    - **Proportionate**: the school will verify this using a third-party audit (such as 360 degree safe), to objectively test that what it has in place is effective
    - **Multi-layered**: everyone will be clear on what to look out for to keep our systems safe
    - **Up to date:** with a system in place to monitor when the school needs to update its software
    - **Regularly reviewed and tested**: to make sure the systems are as effective and secure as they can be
- Back up critical data regularly and automatically and store these backups on cloud-based backup systems
- Delegate specific responsibility for maintaining the security of our management information systems used by the school to cloud-based providers, such as BSquared for the assessment software and Eduspot for safeguarding data, behaviour data, pupil information data, staff information data, etc.
- Delegate specific responsibility for maintaining overall security of the school's IT systems to the IT service provider (ICT4)

- Make sure staff:
  - Dial into our network using a virtual private network (VPN) when working from home
  - Enable multi-factor authentication where they can, on things like school email accounts
  - Store passwords securely using a password manager
- Make sure that there is clarity about each user right level of permissions and admin rights across the school
- Have a firewall in place that is switched on
- Check that its supply chain is secure, for example by asking suppliers about how secure their business practices are and checking if they have the Cyber Essentials certification
- Develop, review and test an incident response plan with the IT department including, for example, how the school will communicate with everyone if communications go down, who will be contacted and when, and who will notify Action Fraud of the incident. This plan will be reviewed and tested regularly and after a significant event has occurred, using the NCSC's 'Exercise in a Box'

Internet access

The school's wireless internet connection is secure.

- Filtering is in use

Pupils

- WIFI is available in school to pupils
- Filtering systems are in use

Parents/carers and visitors

Parents / carers and visitors to the school will not be permitted to use the school's WiFi unless specific authorisation is granted by the Headteacher.

The Headteacher will only grant authorisation if:

- Parents / carers are working with the school in an official capacity
- Visitors need to access the school's WiFi in order to fulfil the purpose of their visit. For instance, to access materials stored on personal devices as part of a presentation.

Staff must not give the WiFi password to anyone who is not authorised to have it. Doing so could result in disciplinary action.

Links to other policies

This policy should be read alongside the school's policies on:

- FHHS – Online Safety Policy
- FHHS – Mobile Phone and Personal Device Usage Policy
- FHHS – Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- FHHS – Behaviour Policy
- FHHS – Staff Code of Conduct
- FHHS – Data protection Protection Policy

Appendix 1 – Glossary of cyber security terminology

Term	Definition
Antivirus	Software designed to detect, stop and remove malicious software and viruses.
Breach	When your data, systems or networks are accessed or changed in a non-authorised way.
Cloud	Where you can store and access your resources (including data and software) via the internet, instead of locally on physical devices.
Cyber attack	An attempt to access, damage or disrupt your computer systems, networks or devices maliciously.
Cyber incident	Where the security of your system or service has been breached.
Cyber security	The protection of your devices, services and networks (and the information they contain) from theft or damage.
Download attack	Where malicious software or a virus is downloaded unintentionally onto a device without the user's knowledge or consent.
Firewall	Hardware or software that uses a defined rule set to constrain network traffic – this is to prevent unauthorised access to or from a network.
Hacker	Someone with some computer skills who uses them to break into computers, systems and networks.
Malware	Malicious software. This includes viruses, trojans or any code or content that can adversely impact individuals or organisations.
Patching	Updating firmware or software to improve security and/or enhance functionality.
Pentest	Short for penetration test. This is an authorised test of a computer network or system to look for security weaknesses.
Pharming	An attack on your computer network that means users are redirected to a wrong or illegitimate website even if they type in the right website address.
Phishing	Untargeted, mass emails sent to many people asking for sensitive information (such as bank details) or encouraging them to visit a fake website.
Ransomware	Malicious software that stops you from using your data or systems until you make a payment.
Social engineering	Manipulating people into giving information or carrying out specific actions that an attacker can use.
Spear-phishing	A more targeted form of phishing where an email is designed to look like it's from a person the recipient knows and/or trusts.
Trojan	A type of malware/virus designed to look like legitimate software that can be used to hack a victim's computer.
Two-factor/multi-factor authentication	Using 2 or more different components to verify a user's identity.
Virus	Programmes designed to self-replicate and infect legitimate software programs or systems.
Virtual private network (VPN)	An encrypted network which allows remote users to connect securely.
Whaling	Highly- targeted phishing attacks (where emails are made to look legitimate) aimed at senior people in an organisation.

Appendix 2 – ICT and mobile phone acceptable use – guidance for pupils

ICT and mobile phone acceptable use – guidance for pupils

All pupils must use school ICT systems in a safe and responsible way

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To keep myself safe, I will

- Hand my mobile phone in at the start of the day
- Speak to an adult about anything that worries me online or does not feel right
- Be kind towards others online
- Treat others online in the same way that I would like to be treated online
- Treat equipment carefully and in the same way that I would treat my own equipment at home. I will report any damages
- Keep my email password to myself

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To keep myself safe, I will not

- Speak to strangers online
- Arrange to meet people in person that I have met online
- Use the internet or social media to be unkind to or about others
- Use aggressive or inappropriate language when communicating online
- Be unkind about other pupils' work online
- Use social media to pretend to be someone else
- Upload or download any inappropriate material
- Open email attachments from people that I do not know
- Log on any other person internet email account

Appendix 3 – ICT Acceptable use – guidance for staff, governors, volunteers and visitors

ICT Acceptable use – guidance for staff, governors, volunteers and visitors

When using the school's ICT facilities and accessing the internet in school, or outside school on a work device

I must

- Follow the FHHS – ICT and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

I must not

- Access, or attempt to access inappropriate material, including but not limited to material of a violent, criminal or pornographic nature (or create, share, link to or send such material)
- Use them in any way which could harm the school's reputation
- Access social networking sites or chat rooms
- Use any improper language when communicating online, including in emails or other messaging services
- Install any unauthorised software, or connect unauthorised hardware or devices to the school's network
- Share my password with others or log in to the school's network using someone else's details
- Share confidential information about the school, its pupils or staff, or other members of the community
- Access, modify or share data I'm not authorised to access, modify or share
- Promote private businesses, unless that business is directly related to the school

Appendix 4 – ICT Acceptable use – guidance for parents and carers

ICT Acceptable use – guidance for parents and carers

Online channels are an important way for parents / carers to communicate with, or about, our school.

The school uses the following channels:

- Our official Facebook page
- Emails for parents for school announcements and information

Parents / carers also set up independent channels to help them stay on top of what's happening in their child's school life. For example, a Facebook page.

When communicating with the school via official communication channels, or using private / independent channels to talk about the school

I must

- Be respectful towards members of staff, and the school, at all times
- Be respectful of other parents / carers and children
- Direct any complaints or concerns through the school's official channels, so they can be dealt with in line with the school's complaints procedure

I must not

- Use private groups, the school's Facebook page, or personal social media to complain about or criticise members of staff. This is not constructive and the school can't improve or address issues unless they are raised in an appropriate way
- Use private groups, the school's Facebook page, or personal social media to complain about, or try to resolve, a behaviour issue involving other pupils. I will contact the school and speak to the appropriate member of staff if I'm aware of a specific behaviour issue or incident
- Upload or share photos or videos on social media of any child other than my own, unless I have the permission of the other children's parents / carers

Appendix 5 – Facebook Concise Guidance for Staff

Do not accept friend requests from pupils on social media

Advice for school staff on Facebook

- Change your display name – use your first and middle name, use a maiden name, or put your surname backwards instead
- Change your profile picture to something unidentifiable, or if you don't, ensure that the image is professional
- Check your privacy settings regularly
- Be careful about tagging other staff members in images or posts
- Don't share anything publicly that you wouldn't be just as happy showing your pupils
- Don't use social media sites during school hours
- Don't make comments about your job, your colleagues, our school or your pupils online – once it's out there, it's out there
- Don't associate yourself with the school on your profile (e.g. by setting it as your workplace, or by 'checking in' at a school event)
- Don't link your work email address to your social media accounts. Anyone who has this address (or your personal email address/mobile number) is able to find you using this information
- Consider uninstalling the Facebook app from your phone. The app recognises WiFi connections and makes friend suggestions based on who else uses the same WiFi connection (such as parents or pupils)

Check your privacy settings

- Change the visibility of your posts and photos to **'Friends only'**, rather than 'Friends of friends'. Otherwise, pupils and their families may still be able to read your posts, see things you've shared and look at your pictures if they're friends with anybody on your contacts list
- Don't forget to check your **old posts and photos** – go to bit.ly/2MdQXMN to find out how to limit the visibility of previous posts
- The public may still be able to see posts you've **'liked'**, even if your profile settings are private, because this depends on the privacy settings of the original poster
- **Google your name** to see what information about you is visible to the public
- Prevent search engines from indexing your profile so that people can't **search for you by name** – go to bit.ly/2zMdVht to find out how to do this
- Remember that **some information is always public**: your display name, profile picture, cover photo, user ID (in the URL for your profile), country, age range and gender

What to do if …

A pupil adds you on social media

- In the first instance, ignore and delete the request. Block the pupil from viewing your profile
- Check your privacy settings again, and consider changing your display name or profile picture
- If the pupil asks you about the friend request in person, tell them that you're not allowed to accept friend requests from pupils and that if they persist, you'll have to notify senior leadership and/or their parents/carers. If the pupil persists, take a screenshot of their request and any accompanying messages
- Notify the senior leadership team or the headteacher about what's happening

A parent/carer adds you on social media

- It is at your discretion whether to respond. Bear in mind that:
  - Responding to 1 parent/carer's friend request or message might set an unwelcome precedent for both you and other teachers at the school
  - Pupils may then have indirect access through their parent/carer's account to anything you post, share, comment on or are tagged in
- If you wish to decline the offer or ignore the message, consider drafting a stock response to let the parent/carer know that you're doing so

You're being harassed on social media, or somebody is spreading something offensive about you

- **Do not** retaliate or respond in any way
- Save evidence of any abuse by taking screenshots and recording the time and date it occurred
- Report the material to Facebook or the relevant social network and ask them to remove it
- If the perpetrator is a current pupil or staff member, our mediation and disciplinary procedures are usually sufficient to deal with online incidents
- If the perpetrator is a parent/carer or other external adult, a senior member of staff should invite them to a meeting to address any reasonable concerns or complaints and/or request they remove the offending comments or material
- If the comments are racist, sexist, of a sexual nature or constitute a hate crime, you or a senior leader should consider contacting the police