



THE
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SHEFFIELD
ACADEMIES
TRUST

Staff Acceptable Use Policy Agreement 2024 - 25

As a professional organisation with responsibility for children's safeguarding it is important that all staff take all possible and necessary measures to protect data and information systems from infection, unauthorised access, damage, loss, abuse and theft. All members of staff have a responsibility to use the school's computer system in a professional, lawful, and ethical manner. To ensure that members of staff are fully aware of their professional responsibilities when using Information Communication Technology and the school systems, they are asked to read and sign this Acceptable Use Policy. This is not an exhaustive list and all members of staff are reminded that ICT use should be consistent with the school ethos, other appropriate policies and the Law.

- I understand that Information Systems and ICT include networks, data and data storage, filtering, online and offline communication technologies and access devices. Examples include mobile phones, PDAs, digital cameras, email and social media sites.
- School owned information systems must be used appropriately. I understand that the Computer Misuse Act 1990 makes the following criminal offences: to gain unauthorised access to computer material; to gain unauthorised access to computer material with intent to commit or facilitate commission of further offences or to modify computer material without authorisation.
- I understand that any hardware and software provided by my workplace for staff use can only be used by members of staff and only for educational use. To prevent unauthorised access to systems or personal data, I will not leave any information system unattended without first logging out or locking my login as appropriate.
- I will respect system security and I will not disclose any password or security information. I will use a 'strong' password (A strong password has numbers, letters and symbols, with 8 or more characters, does not contain a dictionary word and is only used on one system).
- I will not attempt to install any purchased or downloaded software, including browser toolbars, or hardware without permission from the system manager.
- I will ensure that use of AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Microsoft CoPilot and Google Gemini) is effective, safe and appropriate in accordance with both the DSAT 'Safe Use of AI Policy' and the DSAT 'AI Policy in the Classroom'.

- I will ensure that any personal data of pupils, staff or parents/carers is kept in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1988, 2018 and 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. This means that all personal data will be obtained and processed fairly and lawfully, only kept for specific purposes, held no longer than necessary and will be kept private and secure with appropriate security measures in place, whether used in the workplace, hosted online (only within countries or sites with suitable data protection controls) or accessed remotely. Any data which is being removed from the school site (such as via email) will be encrypted by a method approved by the school.
- I will not keep professional documents which contain school-related sensitive or personal information (including images, files, videos etc.) on any personal devices (such as laptops, digital cameras, mobile phones), unless they are secured and encrypted. I will protect the devices in my care from unapproved access or theft.
- I will not store any personal information on the school computer system that is unrelated to school activities, such as personal photographs, files or financial information.
- I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights.
- I have read and understood the E Safety policy which covers the requirements for safe ICT use, including using appropriate devices, safe use of social media websites and the supervision of pupils within the classroom and other working spaces. This also includes completing regular Cyber Security training inline with the RPA (Risk Pooling Arrangement) requirements.
- I will report all incidents of concern regarding children's online safety to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Online Safety Lead and/or Designated Safeguarding Deputies as soon as possible. I will report any accidental access, receipt of inappropriate materials, filtering breaches or unsuitable websites to the Online Safety Coordinator or the designated lead for filtering as soon as possible.
- I will not attempt to bypass any filtering and/or security systems put in place by the school. If I suspect a computer or system has been damaged or affected by a virus or other malware or if I have lost any school related documents or files, then I will report this to the ICT Support Team as soon as possible.
- My electronic communications with pupils, parents/carers and other professionals will only take place via work approved communication channels e.g. via a school provided email address or telephone number. Any pre-existing relationships which may compromise this will be discussed with the Senior Leadership team.
- My use of ICT and information systems will always be compatible with my professional role, whether using school or personal systems. This includes the use of email, text, social media, social networking, gaming, web publications and any other devices or websites. My use of ICT will not interfere with my work duties and will be in accordance with school policy and the Law.

- I will not create, transmit, display, publish or forward any material that is likely to harass, cause offence, inconvenience or needless anxiety to any other person, or anything which could bring my professional role, the school, or The Diocese of Sheffield Academies Trust, into disrepute.
- I will promote Online Safety with the pupils in my care and will help them to develop a responsible attitude to safety online, system use and to the content they access or create.
- If I have any queries or questions regarding safe and professional practise online either in school or off site, then I will raise them with the Online Safety Coordinator or the Head Teacher.
- I understand that my use of the information systems, Internet and email may be monitored and recorded to ensure policy compliance.

The School may exercise its right to monitor the use of information systems, including Internet access and the interception of e-mails in order to monitor compliance with this Acceptable Use Policy and the School's Data Security Policy. Where it believes unauthorised and/or inappropriate use of the service's information system or unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour may be taking place, the School will invoke its disciplinary procedure. If the School suspects that the system may be being used for criminal purposes or for storing unlawful text, imagery or sound, the matter will be brought to the attention of the relevant law enforcement organisation.

I have read and understood the Staff ICT Acceptable Use Policy Agreement

Signed _____

Print Name _____

Date _____

Accepted By _____

Print Name _____