Whinmoor St Paul's C of E Primary School
Internet Usage Policy

Every Child is a Unique Child of God

At Whinmoor St. Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, everything we do is underpinned at all times by the Christian ethos of valuing the individual. We believe that every child is respected as a unique child of God, the future adults in society. We believe children are gifts from God and we are privileged to work with their families and carers, to enable them to live life to the full.

Agreed Date: October 2025

Review Date: October 2026

Signed Chair of Governors: Ruth Davies

Date: 16th October 2025

Our Vision

To promote the development of secure, happy, well-adjusted individuals who are equipped for lifelong learning. At Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School we believe that every child is a unique child of God and lives in a world that God has made.

Our Aims are to…

- Provide a safe, happy and nurturing environment where every child can achieve their full potential
- Provide a curriculum which is knowledge-rich, wide, progressive, purposeful & connects to our community & the world we live in
- Enable each child, through fostering high expectations, to grow and develop intellectually, physically, spiritually, and morally in order to enable him/her to achieve their potential
- Develop attitudes which will be positively helpful to the individual child, the whole school and to society in general, valuing all faiths and cultures
- To build strong relationships with the local community, our city and the wider world

And to do all this as a caring community based on strong Christian values.

The Governing Body and staff of Whinmoor St Paul's Primary School take as our first priority the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our pupils, to minimise risk and to work together with other agencies to ensure rigourous arrangements are in place within our school to identify, assess, and support those children who are suffering harm and to keep them safe and secure whilst in our care.

Why is Internet use important?

The purpose of Internet use in school is to raise educational standards, to promote pupil achievement, to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school's management information and business administration systems. The Internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide students with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience. Usage of the internet will monitored and safeguards will be put in place so that children do not access unsuitable material.

How will safety be assessed?

In common with other media such as magazines, books and video, some material available via the Internet is unsuitable for pupils. The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a school computer.

What filtering is in place?

The school network has security in place that blocks sites unsuitable for school children. Children logging on can access less of the internet than an adult in school can logging on with their password. Please inform the ICT coordinator if you find an issue with the filtering of sites so they can be blocked or unblocked as necessary

If for some reason these blocks don't work or the filters let information through:

- *If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address) and content must be reported to the ICT co-ordinator.*
- *Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.*

How will e-mail be managed?

Children and staff will only use the school email addresses provided for school purposes and use of other personal email addresses should be limited to personal use.

Children and staff will adhere to the **"Rules for using ICT"** document

How should Web site content be managed?

- *The point of contact on the Web site should be the school address, school e-mail and telephone number. Staff or pupils' information will not be published.*
- *Web site photographs that include pupils will be selected carefully and parental permission granted via the photography consent forms.*
- *Images of pupils will never have names connected to them. When names are used in association with work, full names will never be used.*
- *The headteacher and ICT coordinator will take overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.*

How will Internet access be managed?

Children and staff will adhere to the "Rules for using ICT" document

Ensuring Equal Access.

Where possible physical resources or their usage should be adapted to meet the needs of users. Although there is increasing home access to the internet some pupils do not have this. Allowances should be made for these pupils when setting internet homework tasks which may involve using school resources outside lesson times.

How will the staff & children be made aware of this policy?

Children will cover modules of internet use/safety as part of the PSHE and Computing Curriculum.

As part of their induction all staff will have access to a copy of this policy and all related documents. Anyone who doesn't understand all or part of what is written, should speak to the ICT coordinator.

How will complaints regarding Internet use be handled?

- *Responsibility for handling incidents will be delegated to a senior member of staff or the ICT coordinator.*
- *Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the headteacher.*

Other Policies and Guidance which should be read in conjunction with this policy include:

- LCC guidance for Staff working in Educational Settings on the Use of Digital Technologies and Social Media
- On line Safety Guidance for schools
- Online Safety briefing sheet WSP
- Acceptable usage policy
- Photograph permission forms
- Rules for using ICT staff/pupils
- Social Media Policy
- Data Protection Policy

'We have a clear duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that our teaching is accessible to all pupils. Inclusive PSHE will foster good relations between pupils, tackle all types of prejudice, promote understanding and respect, enabling us to meet the requirements, and live the intended spirit, of the Equality Act 2010.'