

Acceptable Use Policy Parent

We ask all children, young people and adults involved in the life of St Werburgh's to sign an Acceptable Use* Policy (AUP), which is a document that outlines how we expect them to behave when they are online, and/or using school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices, cloud platforms and social media (both when on school site and outside of school). Your child has also signed an AUP which is in their home school diary.

Why do we need an AUP?

These rules have been written to help keep everyone safe and happy when they are online or using technology. Sometimes things go wrong and people can get upset, but these rules should help us avoid it when possible, and be fair to everybody.

School systems and users are protected and monitored by security and filtering services to provide safe access to digital technologies. This means anything on a school device or using school networks/platforms/internet may be viewed by one of the staff members who are here to keep your children safe.

We tell your children that they should not behave any differently when they are out of school or using their own device or home network. What we tell pupils about behaviour and respect applies to all members of the school community:

“Treat yourself and others with respect at all times; treat people in the same way when you are online or on a device as you would face to face.”

Where can I find out more?

St Werburgh's full Online Safety Policy can be accessed via our website. If you have any questions about this AUP or our approach to online safety, please speak to Mrs Richards.

What am I agreeing to?

1. I understand that St Werburgh's uses technology as part of the daily life of the school when it is appropriate to support teaching & learning and the smooth running of the school, and to help prepare the children and young people in our care for their future lives.
2. I understand that the school takes every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials, including behaviour policies and agreements, physical and technical monitoring, education and support and web filtering. However, the school cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the internet and mobile technologies, which can sometimes be upsetting. If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address) and content must be reported to the ICT Technician or Co-ordinator immediately who will, in turn, record the address and report on to the headteacher and internet provider.
3. I understand that internet and device use in school, and use of school-owned devices, networks and cloud platforms out of school may be subject to filtering and monitoring. These should be used in the same manner as when in school.
4. I will promote positive online safety and model safe, responsible and positive behaviours in my own use of technology, including on social media: not sharing other's images or details without permission and refraining from posting negative, threatening or violent comments about others, including the school staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, pupils or other parents/carers.

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5. The impact of social media use is often felt strongly in schools, which is why we expect certain behaviours from pupils when using social media. I will support the school and will not encourage my child to join any platform where they are below the minimum age.
6. I will follow the school's safeguarding policy, which outlines when I can capture and/or share images/videos. I will not share images of other people's children on social media and understand that there may be cultural or legal reasons why this would be inappropriate or even dangerous. The school sometimes uses images/video of my child for internal purposes such as recording attainment, but it will only do so publicly if I have given my consent.
7. I understand that for my child to grow up safe online, s/he will need positive input from school and home, so I will talk to my child about online safety. Understanding human behaviour is more helpful than knowing how a particular app, site or game works.
8. I understand that whilst home networks are much less secure than school ones, I can apply child safety settings to my home internet. Internet Matters provides guides to help parents do this easily for all the main internet service providers in the UK.
9. I understand that it can be hard to stop using technology sometimes, and I will talk about this to my children.
10. I understand and support the commitments made by my child in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which s/he has signed, and I understand that s/he will be subject to sanctions if s/he does not follow these rules.
11. I can find out more about online safety at St Werburgh's by reading the full Online Safety Policy on their website and can talk to Learning Mentor if I have any concerns about my child/ren's use of technology, or about that of others in the community, or if I have questions about online safety or technology use in school.

I/we have read, understood and agreed to this policy:

Signature/s: _____

Name/s of parent / guardian: _____

Parent / guardian of: _____

Date: _____

Please return to school ASAP so that your child can start to explore the digital world with us.

*St Werburgh's full Online Safety Policy can be accessed via our website along with other relevant policies.
You can find support and online safety resources for parents on the SWGfL website.*