

Pupils Computing Acceptable Use Policy

Introduction

At Fullwood Primary School, we believe that technology plays a vital role in enhancing teaching and learning experiences for our pupils. To ensure the safe and responsible use of technology, we have developed this comprehensive Pupils Computing Acceptable Use Policy. This policy outlines the expectations, responsibilities, and guidelines for all pupils when using our school's computing resources.

Policy Statement

Fullwood Primary School is committed to providing a safe and secure computing environment for all pupils. By using technology and digital resources responsibly, pupils can develop essential digital literacy skills and become responsible digital citizens. This policy aims to establish guidelines for appropriate and respectful use of computing resources within and beyond the school premises.

Expectations for Pupils

1. Pupils are expected to use computing resources for educational purposes only, under the guidance and supervision of a teacher or a responsible adult.
2. Pupils should respect and protect the privacy and safety of themselves and others while using computing resources.
3. Pupils must use appropriate language and show respect for others in all digital communications, including email, chats, and discussion forums.
4. Pupils should not attempt to access or share inappropriate or illegal content, including but not limited to explicit material, discriminatory content, and copyrighted materials without proper authorisation.
5. Pupils should use technology resources responsibly and report any misuse or suspicious activities to a teacher or a responsible adult.
6. Pupils are responsible for taking care of school-owned devices and resources and must report any damage or malfunction to a teacher or a responsible adult immediately.

Online Safety Guidelines

1. Pupils must not share personal information, including full names, addresses, phone numbers, or any other identifying information, while using computing resources.
2. Pupils should report any bullying, cyberbullying, or any other inappropriate behavior online to a teacher or a responsible adult.
3. Pupils should only use approved online platforms and applications for educational purposes, following the guidance provided by their teachers.
4. Pupils must not download or install any software or applications on school-owned devices without proper authorization from a teacher or a responsible adult.
5. Pupils should be mindful of their digital footprint and understand the potential long-term consequences of their online behavior.

Internet and Network Usage

1. Pupils should use the internet and network resources responsibly and in accordance with the school's policies.
2. Pupils must not bypass or attempt to bypass any network filters or security measures in place.
3. Pupils should acknowledge and respect the intellectual property rights of others when using online resources, and should always give credit when using or referencing someone else's work.
4. Pupils must not engage in any form of hacking, unauthorized access, or disruption of the school's network or systems.
5. Pupils must not intentionally introduce any viruses, malware, or other malicious software into the school's network or systems.

Consequences of Non-compliance

Failure to comply with this Pupils Computing Acceptable Use Policy may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to verbal warnings, temporary loss of computing privileges, parental involvement, or in severe cases, exclusion from using school computing resources. The disciplinary measures will be determined based on the seriousness and frequency of the offense.

Inspectorate Expectations

The relevant inspectorate in England, Ofsted, expects schools to have a robust and comprehensive computing policy that ensures the safe and responsible use of technology by pupils. The policy should include clear expectations for pupils, guidelines for online safety, and procedures for dealing with non-compliance.

Additionally, Ofsted's most recent framework emphasises the need for schools to promote digital literacy skills among pupils while ensuring their safety and well-being online. The framework evaluates the effectiveness of schools' strategies to educate pupils about online safety, including provision, behavior, safety policies, and staff training.

This Pupils Computing Acceptable Use Policy aligns with Ofsted's expectations and provides a framework for addressing the inspectorate's requirements in terms of promoting safe and responsible technology use within our school.

Reviewed By Kenneth Luequee (Computing Leader) September 2023