

# Laleham Gap School – Online Safety (e-Safety) Policy

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**Kent County Council**  
**Education Learning and Skills Directorate**



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# Laleham Gap School – Online Safety (e-Safety) Policy

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## 1. Security Protective Marking

Not Protective Marked

## 2. Introduction

### 2.1 CREATING AN ONLINE SAFETY ETHOS

#### AIMS AND POLICY

Laleham Gap School believes that online safety (e-Safety) is an essential element of safeguarding children and adults in the digital world, when using technology such as computers, mobile phones or games consoles.

Laleham Gap School identifies that the internet and information communication technologies are an important part of everyday life so children must be supported to be able to learn how to develop strategies to manage and respond to risk so they can be empowered to build resilience online.

Laleham Gap School has a duty to provide the school community with quality Internet access to raise education standards, promote pupil achievement, support professional work of staff and enhance the schools management functions. Laleham Gap School also identifies that with this there is a clear duty to ensure that children are protected from potential harm online.

The purpose of Laleham Gap School online safety policy is to:

- Clearly identify the key principles expected of all members of the community with regards to the safe and responsible use technology to ensure that Laleham Gap School is a safe and secure environment.
- Safeguard and protect all members of Laleham Gap School community online.
- Raise awareness with all members of Laleham Gap School community regarding the potential risks as well as benefits of technology.
- To enable all staff to work safely and responsibly, to role model positive behaviour online and be aware of the need to manage their own standards and practice when using technology.
- Identify clear procedures to use when responding to online safety concerns that are known by all members of the community.

This policy applies to all staff including the governing body, teachers, support staff, external contractors, visitors, volunteers and other individuals who work for or provide services on behalf of the school (collectively referred to as 'staff' in this policy) as well as children and parents/carers.

This policy applies to all access to the internet and use of information communication devices including personal devices or where children, staff or other individuals have been provided with school issued devices for use off-site, such as a work laptop or mobile phone.

This policy must be read in conjunction with other relevant school policies including (but not limited to) safeguarding and child protection, anti-bullying, behaviour, data security, image use, Acceptable Use Policies, confidentiality, screening, searching and confiscation and relevant curriculum policies including computing, Personal Social Health and Education (PSHE), Citizenship and Sex and Relationships education (SRE).

## **2.2 WRITING AND REVIEWING THE ONLINE SAFETY POLICY**

Laleham Gap School online safety policy has been written by the school, involving staff, pupils and parents/carers, building on the KCC online safety policy template with specialist advice and input as required.

The policy has been approved and agreed by the Leadership Team and the Chair of Governors and will be fully ratified at the next full governing body. The schools online safety (e-Safety) Policy and its implementation will be reviewed at least annually or sooner if required.

The School Online safety (e-Safety) Coordinator is the Lead DSL.

## **3. Key Responsibilities**

### **3.1 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF LALEHAM GAP SCHOOL**

- Developing, owning and promoting the online safety vision and culture to all stakeholders in line with national and local best practice recommendations with appropriate support and consultation throughout the school community.
- Auditing and evaluating current online safety practice to identify strengths and areas for improvement.
- Supporting the online safety (e-Safety) lead in the development of an online safety culture within the setting.
- Ensuring there are appropriate and up-to-date policies and procedures regarding online safety.
- To ensure that suitable, age-appropriate and relevant filtering is in place to protect children from inappropriate content (including extremist material) to meet the needs of the school community and ensuring that the filtering and school network system is actively monitored.
- Ensuring all members of staff receive regular, up-to-date and appropriate training regarding online safety roles and responsibilities and provide guidance regarding safe appropriate communications.
- Ensuring that online safety is embedded within a progressive whole school curriculum which enables all pupils to develop an age-appropriate understanding of online safety and the associated risks and safe behaviours.
- Making appropriate resources available to support the development of an online safety culture.
- Taking responsibility for online safety incidents and liaising with external agencies as appropriate.
- Receiving and regularly reviewing online safety incident logs and using them to inform and shape future practice.
- Ensuring there are robust reporting channels for the school/setting community to access regarding online safety concerns, including internal, local and national support.
- Ensure that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken regarding the safe use of technology, including ensuring the safe and responsible use of devices.

- To work with and support technical staff in monitoring the safety and security of schools systems and networks.
- To ensure a member of the Governing Body is identified with a lead responsibility for supporting online safety.

### **3.2 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD**

- Acting as a named point of contact on all online safety issues and liaising with other members of staff and agencies as appropriate.
- Keeping up-to-date with current research, legislation and trends.
- Coordinating participation in local and national events to promote positive online behaviour, e.g. Safer Internet Day.
- Ensuring that online safety is promoted to parents and carers and the wider community through a variety of channels and approaches.
- Work with the school lead for data protection and data security to ensure that practice is in line with legislation.
- Monitor the school/settings online safety incidents to identify gaps/trends and update the education response to reflect need and to report to the school management team, Governing Body and other agencies as appropriate.
- Liaising with the local authority and other local and national bodies as appropriate.
- Reviewing and updating online safety policies, Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and other procedures on a regular basis (at least annually) with stakeholder input.
- Ensuring that online safety is integrated with other appropriate school policies and procedures.

### **3.3 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAFF**

- Contributing to the development of online safety policies.
- Reading the school Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and adhering to them.
- Taking responsibility for the security of school/setting systems and data.
- Having an awareness of online safety issues, and how they relate to the children in their care.
- Modelling good practice in using new and emerging technologies and demonstrating an emphasis on positive learning opportunities rather than focusing on negatives.
- Embedding online safety education in curriculum delivery wherever possible.
- Identifying individuals of concern, and taking appropriate action by working with the designated safeguarding lead.
- Knowing when and how to escalate online safety issues, internally and externally.
- Being able to signpost to appropriate support available for online safety issues, internally and externally.
- Maintaining a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both on and off site.
- Taking personal responsibility for professional development in this area.

### **3.4 ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR STAFF MANAGING THE TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENT**

- Providing a safe and secure technical infrastructure which support safe online practices while ensuring that learning opportunities are still maximised.
- Taking responsibility for the implementation of safe security of systems and data in partnership with the leadership and management team.

- To ensure that suitable access controls and encryption is implemented to protect personal and sensitive information held on school-owned devices.
- Ensuring that the schools filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis and that responsibility for its implementation is shared with the online safety lead and DSL.
- Ensuring that the use of the setting's network is regularly monitored in order that any deliberate or accidental misuse can be reported to the online safety lead and DSL.
- Report any breaches or concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and leadership team and together ensure that they are recorded on the e Safety Incident Log, and appropriate action is taken as advised.
- Developing an understanding of the relevant legislation as it relates to the security and safety of the technical infrastructure.
- Report any breaches and liaising with the local authority (or other local or national bodies) as appropriate on technical infrastructure issues.
- Providing technical support and perspective to the online safety lead and leadership team, especially in the development and implementation of appropriate online safety policies and procedures.
- Ensuring that the school's ICT infrastructure/system is secure and not open to misuse or malicious attack.
- Ensuring that appropriate anti-virus software and system updates are installed and maintained on all setting machines and portable devices.
- Ensure that appropriately strong passwords are applied and enforced for all but the youngest users.

### **3.5 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

- Contributing to the development of online safety policies.
- Reading the school/setting Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs) and adhering to them.
- Respecting the feelings and rights of others both on and offline.
- Seeking help from a trusted adult if things go wrong, and supporting others that may be experiencing online safety issues.

At a level that is appropriate to their individual age, ability and vulnerabilities:

- Taking responsibility for keeping themselves and others safe online.
- Taking responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.
- Assessing the personal risks of using any particular technology, and behaving safely and responsibly to limit those risks.

### **3.6 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS AND CARERS**

- Reading the school/setting Acceptable Use Policies, encouraging their children to adhere to them, and adhering to them themselves where appropriate.
- Discussing online safety issues with their children, supporting the school in their online safety approaches, and reinforcing appropriate safe online behaviours at home.
- Role modelling safe and appropriate uses of new and emerging technology.
- Identifying changes in behaviour that could indicate that their child is at risk of harm online.
- Seeking help and support from the school, or other appropriate agencies, if they or their child encounters online problems or concerns.
- Using school systems, such as learning platforms, and other network resources, safely and appropriately.

- Taking responsibility for their own awareness and learning in relation to the opportunities and risks posed by new and emerging technologies.

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## **4. Online Communication and Safer Use of Technology**

### **4.1 MANAGING THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

- The school will ensure that information posted on the school website meets the requirements as identified by the Department for Education.
- The contact details on the website will be the school address, email and telephone number. Staff or pupils' personal information will not be published.
- The school website will comply with the school's guidelines for publications including respect for intellectual property rights, privacy policies and copyright.
- Email addresses will be published carefully online, to avoid being harvested for spam (e.g. by replacing '@' with 'AT'.)
- Pupils work will only be published with their permission or that of their parents/carers.
- The administrator account for the school website will be safeguarded with an appropriately strong password.
- The school will post information about safeguarding, including online safety on the school website.

### **4.2 PUBLISHING IMAGES AND VIDEOS ONLINE**

The school will ensure that all images are used in accordance with the school image use policy.

In line with the school's Image Policy, written permission from parents or carers will always be obtained before images/videos of pupils are electronically published.

### **4.3 MANAGING EMAIL**

- Pupils may only use school/setting provided email accounts for educational purposes.
- All members of staff are provided with a specific school/setting email address to use for any official communication.
- The use of personal email addresses by staff for any official school/setting business is not permitted.
- The forwarding of any chain messages/emails etc. is not permitted. Spam or junk mail will be blocked and reported to the email provider.
- Any electronic communication which contains any content which could be subject to data protection legislation must only be sent using secure and encrypted methods.
- Members of the school community must immediately tell a designated member of staff if they receive offensive communication and this should be recorded in the school online safety incident log.
- Sensitive or personal information will only be shared via email in accordance with data protection legislation.
- Whole -class or group email addresses may be used for communication outside of the school (in early years, infant and primary schools).
- Access in school to external personal email accounts may be blocked.
- Email sent to external organisations should be written carefully and authorised before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper would be.
- School email addresses and other official contact details will not be used for setting up personal social media accounts.

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#### **4.4 APPROPRIATE AND SAFE CLASSROOM USE OF THE INTERNET AND ASSOCIATED DEVICES**

- The school's internet access will be designed to enhance and extend education.
- Access levels to the internet will be reviewed to reflect the curriculum requirements and the age and ability of pupils.
- Pupils will use age and ability appropriate tools to search the Internet for content
- Internet use is a key feature of educational access and all children will receive age and ability appropriate education to support and enable them to develop strategies to respond to concerns as part of an embedded whole school curriculum.
- The school will ensure that the use of Internet-derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law and acknowledge the source of information.
- All members of staff are aware that they cannot rely on filtering alone to safeguard children and supervision, classroom management and education about safe and responsible use is essential.

#### **Supervision of pupils will be appropriate to their age and ability.**

- At Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils' access to the Internet will be by adult demonstration with occasional directly supervised access to specific and approved online materials which supports the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- At Key Stage 2 pupils will be supervised. Pupils will use age-appropriate search engines and online tools and online activities will be teacher-directed where necessary. Children will be directed to online material and resources which support the learning outcomes planned for the pupils' age and ability.
- Secondary, sixth form and college pupils will be appropriately supervised when using technology, according to their ability and understanding.
- In residential provisions the school will balance children's ability to take part in age appropriate peer activities online with the need for the school to detect abuse, bullying or unsafe practice by children in accordance with the national minimum standards (NMS).
- All school owned devices will be used in accordance with the school Acceptable Use Policy and with appropriate safety and security measure in place. Securus for Windows computers. Our mobile device management software installs apps as requested by teaching staff.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
- The school will use age appropriate search tools as decided by the school following an informed risk assessment to identify which tool best suits the needs of our community.
- Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- The evaluation of online materials is a part of teaching and learning in every subject and will be viewed as a whole-school/setting requirement across the curriculum.

## **5. Social Media Policy**

### **5.1 GENERAL SOCIAL MEDIA USE**

- Expectations regarding safe and responsible use of social media will apply to all members of Laleham Gap School community and exist in order to safeguard both the school and the wider community, on and offline. Examples of social media may include blogs, wikis, social

networking, forums, bulletin boards, multiplayer online gaming, apps, video/photo sharing sites, chatrooms, instant messenger and many others.

All members of Laleham Gap School community are advised not to publish specific and detailed private thoughts, concerns, pictures or messages on any social media services, especially content that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory to others. The school will control pupils and staff access to social media and social networking sites whilst on site and using school provided devices and systems.

- The use of social networking applications during school hours for personal use is not permitted,
- Any concerns regarding the online conduct of any member of Laleham Gap School community on social media sites should be reported to the school leadership team and will be managed in accordance with existing school policies such as anti-bullying, allegations against staff, behaviour and safeguarding/child protection.
- Any breaches of school policy may result in criminal, disciplinary or civil action being taken and this will depend upon the age of those involved and the circumstances of the wrong committed. Action taken will be in accordance with the relevant school policies, such as antibullying, allegations against staff, behaviour and safeguarding/child protection.

## **5.2 STAFF PERSONAL USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Personal use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites will be discussed with all members of staff as part of staff induction and will be revisited and communicated via regular staff training opportunities.
- All members of staff are advised not to communicate with or add as 'friends' any current or past pupils or current or past pupils' family members via any personal social media sites, applications or profiles. Any pre-existing relationships or exceptions that may compromise this will be discussed with line manager/member of Leadership Team/Headteacher.
- All communication between staff and members of the school community on school business will take place via official approved communication channels. Staff must not use personal accounts or information to make contact with pupils or parents, nor should any contact be accepted, except in circumstance whereby prior approval has been given by the Head teacher.
- All members of staff are strongly advised to safeguard themselves and their privacy when using social media sites. This will include being aware of location sharing services, setting the privacy levels of their personal sites as strictly as they can, opting out of public listings on social networking sites, logging out of accounts after use and keeping passwords safe and confidential.
- Members of staff will notify the DSL immediately if they consider that any content shared or posted via any information and communications technology, including emails or social networking sites conflicts with their role in the school/setting.
- Member of staff will ensure that they do not represent their personal views as that of the school on social media.

## **5.3 PUPILS' USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Safe and responsible use of social media sites will be outlined for pupils and their parents as part of the school Acceptable Use Policy.
- Pupils will be advised to consider the risks of sharing personal details of any kind on social media sites which may identify them and / or their location. Examples would include real/full name, address, mobile or landline phone numbers, school attended, Instant messenger

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contact details, email addresses, full names of friends/family, specific interests and clubs etc.

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Pupils will be advised not to meet any online friends without a parent/carer or other responsible adult's permission and only when they can be present.

- Pupils will be advised on appropriate security on social media sites and will be encouraged to use safe and passwords, deny access to unknown individuals and be supported in learning how to block and report unwanted communications.
- Pupils will be encouraged to approve and invite known friends only on social networking sites and to deny access to others by making profiles private/protected.
- Any concerns regarding pupils' use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites, both at home and at school, will be dealt with in accordance with existing school policies including anti-bullying and behaviour. Concerns will be raised with their parents/carers, particularly when concerning any underage use of social media sites.

## **6. Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones**

### **6.1 RATIONALE REGARDING PERSONAL DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES**

- The widespread ownership of mobile phones and a range of other personal devices among children, young people and adults will require all members of Laleham Gap School community to take steps to ensure that mobile phones and personal devices are used responsibly.
- Laleham Gap School recognises that personal communication through mobile technologies is an accepted part of everyday life for pupils, staff and parents/carers but requires that such technologies need to be used safely and appropriately within school.

### **6.2 EXPECTATIONS FOR SAFE USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES**

- Electronic devices of all kinds that are brought in to school are the responsibility of the user at all times. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items. Nor will the school accept responsibility for any adverse health effects caused by any such devices either potential or actual.
- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages or content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the school community and any breaches will be dealt with as part of the school discipline/behaviour policy.
- All members of Laleham Gap School community will be advised to ensure that their mobile phones and personal devices do not contain any content which may be considered to be offensive, derogatory or would otherwise contravene the school/settings policies.
- School/setting mobile phones and devices must always be used in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy
- School/setting mobile phones and devices used for communication with parents and pupils must be suitably protected via a passcode/password/pin and must only be accessed and used by members of staff.

### **6.3 PUPILS' USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES**

- Pupils will be educated regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal devices and mobile phones.

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- All use of mobile phones and personal devices by children will take place in accordance with the acceptable use policy.
- Mobile phones and personal devices will be switched off and kept out of sight during classroom lessons and while moving between lessons.  
If members of staff have an educational reason to allow children to use their mobile phones or personal devices as part of an educational activity then it will only take place when approved by the Leadership Team.  
If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school phone. Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office. Exceptions may be permitted in exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis and as approved by the Head teacher.
- Phones and devices must not be taken into examinations. Pupils found in possession of a mobile phone or personal device during an exam will be reported to the appropriate examining body. This may result in the pupil's withdrawal from either that examination or all examinations.

#### **6.4 STAFF USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES**

- Members of staff are not permitted to use their own personal phones or devices for contacting children, young people and their families within or outside of the setting in a professional capacity. Any pre-existing relationships which could compromise this must be discussed with leaders/managers.
- Staff will not use personal devices such as mobile phones, tablets or cameras to take photos or videos of children and will only use work-provided equipment for this purpose.
- Bluetooth or other forms of communication should be "hidden" or switched off during lesson times.
- Personal mobile phones or devices will not be used during teaching periods unless permission has been given by a member of the Leadership Team in emergency circumstances.
- If a member of staff breaches the school/setting policy then disciplinary action will be taken.

#### **6.5 VISITORS' USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES**

- Parents/carers and visitors must use mobile phones and personal devices in accordance with the school's policy.
- Use of mobile phones or personal devices by visitors and parents/carers to take photos or videos must take place in accordance with the school Image Use Policy.
- The school will ensure appropriate signage and information is displayed and provided to inform visitors of expectations of use.
- Staff will be expected to challenge concerns when safe and appropriate and will always inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any breaches of use by visitors.

## **7. Policy Decisions**

### **7.1. REDUCING ONLINE RISKS**

- Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the school leadership team will ensure that appropriate risk assessments are carried out before use in school is allowed.
- The school will ensure that appropriate filtering systems are in place to prevent staff and pupils from accessing unsuitable or illegal content. Schools should include appropriate details about the systems in place.
- The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the global and connected nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that access to unsuitable material will never occur via a school computer or device.
- The school will audit technology use to establish if the online safety (e–Safety) policy is adequate and that the implementation of the policy is appropriate.

### **7.2. INTERNET USE THROUGHOUT THE WIDER SCHOOL/SETTING COMMUNITY**

- The school will liaise with local organisations to establish a common approach to online safety (e–Safety).
- The school will provide an Acceptable Use Policy for any guest/visitor who needs to access the school computer system or internet on site

### **7.3 AUTHORISING INTERNET ACCESS**

- The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to the school's electronic communications.
- All staff, pupils and visitors will read and sign the School Acceptable Use Policy before using any school ICT resources.
- Parents will be asked to read the School Acceptable Use Policy for pupil access and discuss it with their child, where appropriate.

## **8. Engagement Approaches**

### **8.1 ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

- Education about safe and responsible use will precede internet access.
- Pupils will be supported in reading and understanding the school Acceptable Use Policy in a way which suits their age and ability.
- All users will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored.
- Online safety (e–Safety) will be included in the PSHE, SRE, Citizenship and Computing programmes of study covering both safe school and home use.
- External support will be used to complement and support the schools internal online safety (e–Safety) education approaches.

### **8.2 ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CONSIDERED TO BE VULNERABLE**

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- Laleham Gap School is aware that some children may be considered to be more vulnerable online due to a range of factors and will ensure that differentiated and ability appropriate online safety (e-Safety) education is given, with input from specialist staff as appropriate (e.g. SENCO).

### **8.3 ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION OF STAFF**

- The online safety (e-Safety) policy will be formally provided to and discussed with all members of staff as part of induction and will be reinforced and highlighted as part of school safeguarding practice.
- To protect all staff and pupils, the school will implement Acceptable Use Policies which highlights appropriate online conduct and communication.
- Up-to-date and appropriate staff training in safe and responsible Internet use, both professionally and personally, will be provided for all members of staff on a regular basis. Members of staff with a responsibility for managing filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by the Leadership Team and will have clear procedures for reporting issues or concerns.

All members of staff will be made aware that their online conduct out of school could have an impact on their role and reputation within school. Civil, legal or disciplinary action could be taken if they are found to bring the profession or institution into disrepute, or if something is felt to have undermined confidence in their professional abilities.

### **8.4 ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION OF PARENTS AND CARERS**

- Laleham Gap School recognise that parents/carers have an essential role to play in enabling children to become safe and responsible users of the internet and digital technology.
- Parents' attention will be drawn to the school online safety (e-Safety) policy and expectations in newsletters, letters and on the school website.
- Parents will be encouraged to read the school Acceptable Use Policy for pupils and discuss its implications with their children.

## **9. Managing Information Systems**

### **9.1 MANAGING PERSONAL DATA ONLINE**

- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998.

### **9.2 SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

The security of the school information systems and users will be reviewed regularly.

- Virus protection will be updated regularly.

- Personal data sent over the Internet or taken off site (such as via portable media storage) will be encrypted or accessed via appropriate secure remote access systems.
- Files held on the school's network will be regularly checked.
- The computing co-ordinator/network manager will review system capacity regularly.

## **PASSWORDS**

- All users will be informed not to share passwords or information with others and not to login as another user at any time.
- Staff and pupils must always keep their password private and must not share it with others or leave it where others can find it.
- We require staff and pupils to change their passwords regularly.

### **9.3 FILTERING DECISIONS**

- The school's internet access strategy will be dependent on the need and requirements of our community and will therefore be designed to suit the age and curriculum requirements of our pupils, with advice from technical, educational and safeguarding staff.
- The school uses educational filtered secure broadband connectivity through the KPSN which is appropriate to the age and requirement of our pupils.
- The school uses Light Speed filtering system which blocks sites that fall into categories such as pornography, racial hatred, extremism, gaming, sites of an illegal nature, etc.
- The school will ensure that age and ability appropriate filtering is in place whilst using school devices and systems to try and prevent staff and pupils from being accidentally or deliberately exposed to unsuitable content.
- The school will work with KCC and the Schools Broadband team or broadband/filtering provider to ensure that filtering policy is continually reviewed.
- The school will have a clear procedure for reporting breaches of filtering which all members of the school community (all staff and all pupils) will be made aware of.
- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL will be reported to the Network Manager and/or School Designated Safeguarding Lead and will then be recorded and escalated as appropriate.
- The School filtering system will block all sites on the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) list.
- The Leadership Team will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are effective and appropriate.
- Any material that the school believes is illegal will be reported to appropriate agencies such as IWF, Kent Police or CEOP immediately.

## **10. Responding to Online Incidents and Concerns**

- All members of the school/setting community will be informed about the procedure for reporting online safety (e-Safety) concerns (such as breaches of filtering, cyberbullying, illegal content etc.).
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will ensure that online safety concerns are escalated and reported to relevant agencies in line with the Kent Safeguarding Children Board thresholds and procedures.
- Complaints about Internet misuse will be dealt with under the School's complaints procedure.
- Complaints about online bullying will be dealt with under the School's anti-bullying policy and procedure
- Any complaint about staff misuse will be referred to the head teacher

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- Any allegations against a member of staff's online conduct will be discussed with the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer).
- The school will inform parents/carers of any incidents of concerns as and when required.
- Where there is cause for concern or fear that illegal activity has taken place or is taking place then the school will contact the Education Safeguards Team or Kent Police via 999 if there is immediate danger or risk of harm.
- The use of computer systems without permission or for inappropriate purposes could constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 and breaches will be reported to Kent Police.

## **Appendix A Procedures for Responding to Specific Online Incidents or Concerns**

### **1. Responding to concerns regarding Self-Generated Indecent Images of Children (SGIIOC or “Sexting”)**

- Laleham Gap School ensures that all members of the community are made aware of the social, psychological and criminal consequences of sharing, possessing and creating incident images of children (known as “sexting”).
- Laleham Gap School views “sexting” as a safeguarding issue and all concerns will be reported to and dealt with by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If the school are made aware of incident involving indecent images of a child the school will:

- Act in accordance with the schools child protection and safeguarding policy and the relevant Kent Safeguarding Child Boards procedures.
- Immediately notify the designated safeguarding lead.
- Store the device securely.
- Carry out a risk assessment in relation to the children(s) involved.
- Consider the vulnerabilities of children(s) involved (including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies)
- Make a referral to children’s social care and/or the police (as needed/appropriate).
- Put the necessary safeguards in place for children e.g. offer counselling support and immediate protection and offer appropriate pastoral support for those involved.
- Inform parents/carers about the incident and how it is being managed.
- Implement appropriate sanctions in accordance with the schools behaviour policy but taking care not to further traumatise victims where possible.
- Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that the school is implementing best practice and the leadership team will review and update any management procedures where necessary.
- If an indecent image has been taken or shared on the school/settings network or devices then the school will take action to block access to all users and isolate the image.
- The school will need to involve or consult the police if images are considered to be illegal.
- The school will follow the guidance (including the decision making flow chart and risk assessment template) as set out in “‘Sexting’ in schools: advice and support around self generated images. What to do and how to handle it”.

### **2. Responding to concerns regarding Online Child Sexual Abuse**

- Laleham Gap School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of online child sexual abuse, including exploitation and grooming including the consequences, possible approaches which may be employed by offenders to target children and how to respond to concerns.
- The school will implement preventative approaches for online child sexual abuse via a range of age and ability appropriate educational approaches for pupils, staff and parents/carers.

- If the school is unclear if a criminal offence has been committed then the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through the Education Safeguarding Team and/or Kent Police.

If the school are made aware of incident involving online child sexual abuse of a child then the school will:

- Act in accordance with the schools child protection and safeguarding policy and the relevant Kent Safeguarding Child Boards procedures.
- Immediately notify the designated safeguarding lead.
- Store any devices involved securely.
- Immediately inform Kent police via 101 (using 999 if a child is at immediate risk) or alternatively to CEOP by using the Click CEOP report form:  
<http://www.ceop.police.uk/safetycentre/>
- Where appropriate the school will involve and empower children to report concerns regarding online child sexual abuse
- Carry out a risk assessment which considers any vulnerabilities of pupil(s) involved (including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies).
- Make a referral to children's social care (if needed/appropriate).
- Put the necessary safeguards in place for pupil(s) e.g. offer counselling support and immediate protection and offer appropriate pastoral support for those involved.
- Inform parents/carers about the incident and how it is being managed.
- Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that the school is implementing best practice and the school leadership team will review and update any management procedures where necessary.
- The school will take action regarding online child sexual abuse regardless of the use of school equipment or personal equipment, both on and off the school premises.
- The school will ensure that all members of the community are aware of sources of support regarding online child sexual abuse.
- If pupils at other schools are believed to have been targeted then the school will seek support from the Education Safeguarding Team to enable other schools to take appropriate action to safeguarding their community.
- The school will ensure that the Click CEOP report button is visible and available to pupils and other members of the school community, for example including the CEOP report button the school website homepage and on intranet systems.

### **3. Responding to concerns regarding Indecent Images of Children (IIOC)**

- Laleham Gap School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of the criminal nature of Indecent Images of Children (IIOC) including the possible consequences.
- The school will take action regarding of Indecent Images of Children (IIOC) regardless of the use of school/setting equipment or personal equipment, both on and off the premises.
- The school will take action to prevent access accidental access to of Indecent Images of Children (IIOC) for example using an internet Service provider (ISP) which subscribes to the Internet Watch Foundation block list, implementing appropriate web filtering, implementing firewalls and anti-spam software.
- If the school is unclear if a criminal offence has been committed then the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through the Education Safeguarding Team and/or Kent Police.

If the school/setting are made aware of Indecent Images of Children (IIOC) then the school will:

- Act in accordance with the schools child protection and safeguarding policy and the relevant Kent Safeguarding Child Boards procedures.
- Immediately notify the school Designated Safeguard Lead.
- Store any devices involved securely.
- Immediately inform appropriate organisations e.g. the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), Kent police via 101 (using 999 if a child is at immediate risk) and/or the LADO (if there is an allegation against a member of staff).

If the school are made aware that a member of staff or a pupil has been inadvertently exposed to indecent images of children whilst using the internet then the school will:

- Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
- Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk) .
- Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted

If the school are made aware that indecent images of children have been found on the schools electronic devices then the school will:

- Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
- Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk) .
- Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted.
- Inform the police via 101 (999 if there is an immediate risk of harm) and children's social services (as appropriate).
- Only store copies of images (securely, where no one else has access to them and delete all other copies) at the request of the police only.

If the school are made aware that a member of staff is found in possession of indecent images of children on their electronic device provided by the school, then the school will:

- Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed or another member of staff in accordance with the school whistleblowing procedure.
- Contact the police regarding the images and quarantine any devices involved until police advice has been sought.
- Inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and other relevant organisations in accordance with the schools managing allegations policy.
- Follow the appropriate school policies regarding conduct.

#### **4. Responding to concerns regarding radicalisation or extremism online**

- The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools and that suitable filtering is in place which takes into account the needs of pupils. Schools will need to highlight specifically how internet use will be monitored either here or within subsequent sections.

- When concerns are noted by staff that a child may be at risk of radicalisation online then the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be informed immediately and action will be taken in line with the school safeguarding policy.

## **5. Responding to concerns regarding cyberbullying**

- Cyberbullying, along with all other forms of bullying, of any member of Laleham Gap School community will not be tolerated. Full details are set out in the school policies regarding antibullying and behaviour.
- All incidents of online bullying reported will be recorded.
- If the school is unclear if a criminal offence has been committed then the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through the Education Safeguarding Team and/or Kent Police.
- The school will take steps to identify the bully where possible and appropriate. This may include examining school system logs, identifying and interviewing possible witnesses, and contacting the service provider and the police, if necessary.

Sanctions for those involved in online or cyberbullying may include:

- Those involved will be asked to remove any material deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.
- A service provider may be contacted to remove content if those involved refuse to or are unable to delete content.
- Internet access may be suspended at school for the user for a period of time. Other sanctions for pupils and staff may also be used in accordance to the schools anti-bullying, behaviour policy or Acceptable Use Policy.
- Parent/carers of pupils involved in online bullying will be informed.
- The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.