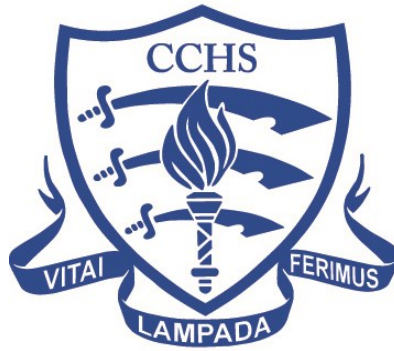


Chelmsford County High School for Girls



e-Safety and Data Security Policy

Guidance for ICT Acceptable Use

Approved by the Governing Body: 16 Jun 2021

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Introduction

ICT in the 21st Century is an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, schools need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

Information and Communications Technology covers a wide range of resources including; web-based and mobile learning. It is also important to recognise the constant and fast paced evolution of ICT within our society as a whole. Currently the internet technologies children and young people are using both inside and outside of the classroom include:

- Websites
- Learning Platforms and Virtual Learning Environments
- E-mail and Instant Messaging
- Chat Rooms and Social Networking
- Blogs and Wikis
- Podcasting
- Video Broadcasting
- Music Downloading
- Gaming
- Mobile/ Smart phones with text, video and/ or web functionality
- Other mobile devices with web functionality

Whilst exciting and beneficial both in and out of the context of education, much ICT, particularly web-based resources, are not consistently policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these Internet technologies.

At Chelmsford County High School we understand the responsibility to educate our students on eSafety issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Schools hold personal data on learners, staff and other people to help them conduct their day-to-day activities. Some of this information is sensitive and could be used by another person or criminal organisation to cause harm or distress to an individual. The loss of sensitive information can result in media coverage, and potentially damage the reputation of the school. This can make it more difficult for your school to use technology to benefit learners.

Everybody in the school has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties and even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise them.

Both this Policy and the Acceptable Use Agreement (for all staff, governors, visitors and students) are inclusive of both fixed and mobile internet; technologies provided by the school (such as PCs, laptops, personal digital assistants (PDAs), tablets, webcams, whiteboards, voting systems, digital video equipment, etc); and technologies owned by students and staff, but brought onto school premises (such as laptops, mobile phones, camera phones, PDAs and portable media players, etc).

Monitoring

Authorised ICT staff may inspect any ICT equipment owned or leased by the School at any time without prior notice. If you are in doubt as to whether the individual requesting such access is authorised to do so, please ask for their identification badge and contact their department. Any ICT authorised staff member will be happy to comply with this request.

ICT authorised staff may monitor, intercept, access, inspect, record and disclose telephone calls, e-mails, instant messaging, internet/intranet use and any other electronic communications (data, voice or image) involving its employees or contractors, without consent, to the extent permitted by law. This may be to confirm or obtain School business related information; to confirm or investigate compliance with School policies, standards and procedures; to ensure the effective operation of School ICT; for quality control or training purposes; to comply with a Subject Access Request under the Data Protection Act 2018, or to prevent or detect crime.

ICT authorised staff may, without prior notice, access the e-mail or voice-mail account where applicable, of someone who is absent in order to deal with any business-related issues retained on that account.

All monitoring, surveillance or investigative activities are conducted by ICT authorised staff and comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and the Lawful Business Practice Regulations 2000.

Please note that personal communications using School ICT may be unavoidably included in any business communications that are monitored, intercepted and/or recorded.

Breaches

A breach or suspected breach of policy by a School employee, contractor or student may result in the temporary or permanent withdrawal of School ICT hardware, software or services from the offending individual.

Any policy breach is grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with the School Disciplinary Procedure.

Policy breaches may also lead to criminal or civil proceedings.

Incident Reporting

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the School's Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO): Business Manager or eSafety Co-ordinator: Assistant Headteacher-Pastoral. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access Secure ID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to your SIRO.

Incidents relating to data security should be reported through the GDPR toolkit available on the staff intranet, or through notification to the Business Manager.

See flowcharts on page 22 for dealing with both illegal and non-illegal incidents.

Acceptable Use - Agreement / eSafety Rules

- I will only use ICT systems in school, including the internet, e-mail, digital video, mobile technologies, etc. for school purposes.
- I will not download or install software on school technologies.
- I will only log on to the School network/ Learning Platform with my own user name and password.
- I will follow the School's ICT security system and not reveal my passwords to anyone and change them regularly.
- I will only use my School e-mail address for school-related matters.
- I will make sure that all ICT communications with students, teachers or others is responsible and sensible.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using the Internet. This includes resources I access and the language I use.
- I will not deliberately browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If I accidentally come across any such material I will report it immediately to my teacher or other responsible adult.
- I will not give out any personal information such as name, phone number or address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher.
- Images of students and/ or staff will only be taken, stored and used for school purposes in line with school policy.
- I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not cause my school, the staff, students or others distress or bring into disrepute.
- I will respect the privacy and ownership of others' work on-line at all times.
- I will not attempt to bypass the internet filtering system.
- I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available to my teachers.
- I understand that these rules are designed to keep me safe and that if they are not followed, school sanctions will be applied and my parent/ carer may be contacted.

On CCHS headed paper

Dear Parent/ Carer

ICT including the internet, VLE, e-mail and mobile technologies have become an important part of learning in our school. We expect all students to be safe and responsible when using any ICT. It is essential that students are aware of eSafety and know how to stay safe when using any ICT.

Students are expected to read and discuss this agreement with their parent or carer and then to sign and follow the terms of the agreement. Any concerns or explanation can be discussed with their Tutor, Year Leader or the Assistant Headteacher – Pastoral.

Please return the bottom section of this form to school for filing.

This Acceptable Use Agreement is a summary of our eSafety Policy which is available in full on our website.

----- ✕ -----

Student and Parent/ Carer Agreement

We have discussed this document and(student name) agrees to follow the eSafety rules and to support the safe and responsible use of ICT at Chelmsford County High School. My daughter understands that these rules are designed to keep her safe and that if they are not followed, School sanctions will be applied and that I may be contacted.

Parent/ Carer Signature

Student Signature.....

Form Date

Acceptable Use Agreement: Staff, Governors and Visitors

Staff, Governor and Visitor

Acceptable Use Agreement / Code of Conduct

ICT (including data) and the related technologies such as e-mail, the internet and mobile devices are an expected part of our daily working life in school. This policy is designed to ensure that all staff are aware of their professional responsibilities when using any form of ICT. All staff are expected to sign this policy and adhere at all times to its contents. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with the Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral eSafety coordinator or the Business Manager Senior Information Risk Owner.

- I will only use the school's email / Internet / Intranet / VLE and any related technologies for professional purposes or for uses deemed 'reasonable' by the Head or Governing Body.
 - I will comply with the ICT system security and not disclose any passwords provided to me by the school or other related authorities
 - I will ensure that all electronic communications with students and staff are compatible with my professional role.
 - I will not give out my own personal details, such as mobile phone number, personal e-mail address and social networking identities to students.
 - I will only use the approved, secure e-mail system(s) for any school business.
 - I will ensure that personal data (such as data held on MIS software) is kept secure and is used appropriately, whether in school, taken off the school premises or accessed remotely. Personal data can only be taken out of school or accessed remotely when authorised by the Head or Governing Body. I will not install any hardware or software without the permission of the Network manager
 - I will not browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory.
 - Images of students and/ or staff will only be taken, stored and used for professional purposes in line with school policy and with written consent of the parent, carer or staff member. Images will not be distributed outside the School network without the permission of the parent/ carer, member of staff or Headteacher.
 - I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available, on request at the Headteacher's instigation to my Line Manager or Headteacher.
 - I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights.
 - I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not bring my professional role into disrepute.
 - I will support and promote the school's e-Safety and Data Security policies and help students to be safe and responsible in their use of ICT and related technologies.
 - I understand this forms part of the terms and conditions set out in my contract of employment
- This Acceptable Use Agreement is a summary of our eSafety Policy which is available in full on the School website.

User Signature

I agree to follow this code of conduct and to support the safe and secure use of ICT throughout the school

Signature Date

Full Name (Printed)

Job Title

Computer Viruses

- All files downloaded from the Internet, received via e-mail or on removable media must be checked for any viruses using school provided anti-virus software before using them.
- Never interfere with any anti-virus software installed on school ICT equipment that you use.
- If your machine is not routinely connected to the school network, you must make provision for regular virus updates through your IT team,
- If you suspect there may be a virus on any school ICT equipment, stop using the equipment and contact your ICT support provider immediately. The ICT support provider will advise you what actions to take and be responsible for advising others that need to know,

Data Security

The accessing and appropriate use of school data is something that the school takes very seriously.

The school follows Department for Education guidelines

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/studentsupport/pastoralcare/b00198456/principles-of-e-safety> and the Local Authority guidance documents listed below

The safe use of new technologies - Ofsted

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/safe-use-of-new-technologies>

Teachers and Governors Guidance

http://esi.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/si/esi/content/binaries/documents/Service_Areas/HR/Workload_Agreement/Guidance_Docs/dfes-InformationManagementSkillsforSuccess.pdf

Internet filtering for Essex Schools

<http://secure.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/si/esi/dis/content/index.jsp?sectionOid=895&channelOid=24818&guideOid=79839&guideContentOid=79867>

e-Safety Audit Tool - Information for Governors, Management and Teachers

http://www.nen.gov.uk/hot_topic

Security

- The School gives relevant staff access to its Management Information System, with a unique ID and password.
- It is the responsibility of everyone to keep passwords secure.
- Staff are aware of their responsibility when accessing school data.
- Staff have been issued with the Policy for ICT Acceptable Use.
- Leadership have identified Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) and Asset Information Owner(s) (AIO) as the Business Manager and the Network Manager respectively.
- Use of removable media is only possible with exceptional approval that can be requested via the Network Manager.
- Staff keep all school related data secure. This includes all personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data.
- Staff should avoid leaving any portable or mobile ICT equipment or removable storage media in unattended vehicles. Where this is not possible, keep it locked out of sight.
- Staff should always carry portable and mobile ICT equipment or removable media as hand luggage, and keep it under your control at all times.

- It is the responsibility of individual staff to ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents faxed, copied, scanned or printed.

Anyone expecting a confidential/sensitive fax, should have warned the sender to notify before it is sent using the Safe Haven Fax procedure below:

Safe Haven Fax procedures

When sending personally identifiable information:

- ensure the recipient knows the fax is being sent.
- ensure the fax will be collected at the other end.
- send the front sheet through first.
- check that it has been received by the correct recipient.
- add the rest of the document to the fax.
- press the redial button.
- don't walk away while transmitting.
- wait for the original to process and remove it from the fax machine.
- wait for confirmation of successful transmission.
- confirm whether it is appropriate to fax to another colleague if they are not there to receive it.
- use only the minimum information and anonymise where possible.

Impact Levels and Protective Marking

- Appropriate labelling of data should help schools secure data and so reduce the risk of security incidents.
- Apply labelling in accordance with guidance from your Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO).
- Most learner or staff personal data will be classed as Protect, although some data e.g. Child Protection data, should be classed as Restricted.
- Protect/Restrict and caveat classifications that schools may use are;
 - PROTECT – PERSONAL e.g. personal information about an individual
 - PROTECT – APPOINTMENTS e.g. to be used for information about visits from the Queen or government ministers
 - PROTECT – LOCSEN e.g. for local sensitive information
 - PROTECT – STAFF e.g. Organisational staff only
 - RESTRICTED e.g. sensitive personal information about an individual
- Applying too high a protective marking can inhibit access, lead to unnecessary and expensive protective controls, and impair the efficiency of an organisation's business.
- The protective mark should be in bold capital letters within the header and footer of each page of a document.
- Applying too low a protective marking may lead to damaging consequences and compromise of the asset.
- The sensitivity of an asset may change over time and it may be necessary to reclassify assets. If a document is being de-classified or the marking changed, the

file should also be changed to reflect the highest marking within its contents. Reviews are continuing to look at the practical issues involved in applying protective markings to electronic and paper records and government representatives are working with suppliers to find ways of automatically marking reports and printouts.

Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO)

The SIRO is a senior member of staff who is familiar with information risks and the school's response. Typically, the SIRO should be a member of the senior leadership team and have the following responsibilities:

- they own the information risk policy and risk assessment
- they appoint the Information Asset Owner(s) (IAOs)
- they act as an advocate for information risk management

The Office of Public Sector Information has produced [Managing Information Risk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/publications/information-risk.pdf), [\[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/publications/information-risk.pdf\]](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/publications/information-risk.pdf) to support SIROs in their role.

The SIRO at CCHS is the Business Manager

Information Asset Owner (IAO)

Any information that is sensitive needs to be protected. This will include the personal data of learners and staff; such as assessment records, medical information and special educational needs data. Schools should identify an Information Asset Owner. For example, the school's Management Information System (MIS) should be identified as an asset and should have an Information Asset Owner. In this example the MIS Administrator or Manager could be the IAO.

The role of an IAO is to understand:

- what information is held, and for what purposes
- what information needs to be protected (e.g. any data that can be linked to an individual, student or staff etc including UPN, teacher DCSF number etc)
- how information will be amended or added to over time
- who has access to the data and why
- how information is retained and disposed off

As a result, the IAO is able to manage and address risks to the information and make sure that information handling complies with legal requirements. In a Secondary School, there may be several IAOs, whose roles may currently be those of e-safety coordinator, ICT manager or Management Information Systems administrator or manager.

Although these roles have been explicitly identified, the handling of secured data is everyone's responsibility – whether they are an employee, consultant, software provider or

managed service provider. Failing to apply appropriate controls to secure data could amount to gross misconduct or even legal action. The IAO is the Network Manager.

Disposal of Redundant ICT Equipment Policy

- All redundant ICT equipment will be disposed off through an authorised agency only. This should include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data.
- All redundant ICT equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media over written multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed. Or if the storage media has failed it will be physically destroyed. We will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen.
- Disposal of any ICT equipment will conform to:

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32084.aspx>

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi_20063289_en.pdf

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi_20073454_en.pdf?lang=e

Data Protection Act 2018

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/>

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si1989/uksi_19890635_en_1.htm

- The school will maintain a comprehensive inventory of all its ICT equipment including a record of disposal.
- The school's disposal record will include:
 - Date item disposed of
 - Authorisation for disposal, including:
 - verification of software licensing
 - any personal data likely to be held on the storage media? *
 - How it was disposed of e.g. waste, gift, sale
 - Name of person & / or organisation who received the disposed item

* if personal data is likely to be held the storage media will be over written multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed.

- Any redundant ICT equipment being considered for sale / gift will have been subject to a recent electrical safety check and hold a valid PAT certificate.

Further information available at:

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations

Environment Agency web site

Introduction

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32084.aspx>

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi_20063289_en.pdf

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi_20073454_en.pdf?lang=e

Information Commissioner Website

<http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

Data Protection Act – data protection guide

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/>

e-Mail

Please also see the E-mail protocol February 2014. The use of e-mail within most schools is an essential means of communication for both staff and students. In the context of school, e-mail should not be considered private. Educationally, e-mail can offer significant benefits including; direct written contact between schools on different projects, be they staff based or student based, within school or international. We recognise that students need to understand how to style an e-mail in relation to their age and good network etiquette; 'netiquette'.

Managing e-Mail

- The school gives all staff their own e-mail account to use for all school business as a work-based tool. This is to minimise the risk of receiving unsolicited or malicious e-mails and avoids the risk of personal profile information being revealed.
- It is the responsibility of each account holder to keep the password secure. For the safety and security of users and recipients, all mail is filtered and logged; if necessary e-mail histories can be traced. The school email account should be the account that is used for all school business.
- Under no circumstances should staff contact students, parents or conduct any school business using personal e-mail addresses.
- All e-mails should be written and checked carefully before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper.
- E-mails created or received as part of your School job will be subject to disclosure in response to a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You must therefore actively manage your e-mail account as follows:
 - Delete all e-mails of short-term value
 - Organise e-mail into folders and carry out frequent house-keeping on all folders and archives
- All student e-mail users are expected to adhere to the generally accepted rules of netiquette particularly in relation to the use of appropriate language and not revealing any personal details about themselves or others in e-mail communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission, virus checking attachments.
- Students must immediately tell a teacher/ trusted adult if they receive an offensive e-mail.
- Staff must inform (the eSafety co-ordinator/ line manager) if they receive an offensive e-mail.
- Students are introduced to e-mail as part of the ICT Scheme of Work.
- However you access your school e-mail (whether directly, through webmail when away from the office or on non-school hardware) all the school e-mail policies apply,

Sending e-Mails

- Use your own school e-mail account so that you are clearly identified as the originator of a message.
- Keep the number and relevance of e-mail recipients, particularly those being copied, to the minimum necessary and appropriate.
- Do not send or forward attachments unnecessarily. Whenever possible, send the location path to the shared drive rather than sending attachments.
- An outgoing e-mail greater than ten megabytes (including any attachments) is likely to be stopped automatically. This size limit also applies to incoming e-mail.
- School e-mail is not to be used for personal advertising.

Receiving e-Mails

- Check your e-mail regularly.
- Never open attachments from an untrusted source; Consult your network manager first.
- Do not use the e-mail systems to store attachments. Detach and save business related work to the appropriate shared drive/folder.
- The automatic forwarding and deletion of e-mails is not allowed.

e-mailing Personal, Sensitive, Confidential or Classified Information

- Assess whether the information can be transmitted by other secure means before using e-mail. E-mailing confidential data is not recommended and should be avoided wherever possible.
- Where your conclusion is that e-mail must be used to transmit such data:
 - Obtain express consent from your manager to provide the information by e-mail
 - Exercise caution when sending the e-mail and always follow these checks before releasing the e-mail:
 - Verify the details, including accurate e-mail address, of any intended recipient of the information
 - Verify (by phoning) the details of a requestor before responding to e-mail requests for information
 - Do not copy or forward the e-mail to any more recipients than is absolutely necessary
 - Do not send the information to any body/person whose details you have been unable to separately verify (usually by phone)
 - Request confirmation of safe receipt.

Students with Additional Needs

The school endeavours to create a consistent message with parents for all students and this in turn should aid establishment and future development of the schools' eSafety rules.

However, staff are aware that some students may require additional teaching including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their existing knowledge and understanding of eSafety issues.

Where a student has poor social understanding, careful consideration is given to group interactions when raising awareness of eSafety. Internet activities are planned and well managed for these children and young people.

eSafety - Roles and Responsibilities

As eSafety is an important aspect of strategic leadership within the school, the Head and governors have ultimate responsibility to ensure that the policy and practices are embedded and monitored. The named eSafety co-ordinator in this school is the Assistant Headteacher- Pastoral who has been designated this role as a member of the senior leadership team. All members of the school community have been made aware of who holds this post. It is the role of the eSafety co-ordinator to keep abreast of current issues and guidance through organisations such as ECC, Becta, CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) and Childnet.

Senior Management and Governors are updated by the Head/ eSafety co-ordinator and all governors have an understanding of the issues and strategies at our school in relation to local and national guidelines and advice.

This policy, supported by the school's acceptable use agreements for staff, governors, visitors and students, is to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It is linked to the following mandatory school policies: child protection, health and safety, home-school agreements, and behaviour/student discipline (including the anti-bullying) policy and PSHE

eSafety in the Curriculum

ICT and online resources are increasingly used across the curriculum. We believe it is essential for eSafety guidance to be given to the students on a regular and meaningful basis. eSafety is embedded within our curriculum and we continually look for new opportunities to promote eSafety.

- The school has a framework for teaching internet skills in ICT and PSHE lessons.
- The school provides opportunities within a range of curriculum areas to teach about eSafety.
- Educating students on the dangers of technologies that maybe encountered outside school is done informally when opportunities arise and as part of the eSafety curriculum.
- Students are aware of the relevant legislation when using the internet such as data protection and intellectual property which may limit what they want to do but also serves to protect them.
- Students are taught about copyright and respecting other people's information, images, etc through discussion, modeling and activities.
- Students are aware of the impact of Cyberbullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying. Students are also aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies; i.e. parent/ carer, teacher/ trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Childline or CEOP report abuse button. All students are aware of their digital footprint and reminded weekly via the daily notices of the support email: studentsupport@ccchs.essex.sch.uk.

- Students are taught to critically evaluate materials and learn good searching skills through cross curricular teacher models, discussions and via the ICT curriculum.
-

eSafety Skills Development for Staff

- Our staff receive regular information and training on eSafety issues from the Assistant Head (Pastoral) and as part of the new staff induction programme.
 - New staff receive information on the School's Acceptable Use Policy as part of their induction.
 - All staff have been made aware of individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of eSafety and know what to do in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community (see enclosed flowchart).
 - All staff are encouraged to incorporate eSafety activities and awareness within their curriculum areas.
-

Managing the School eSafety Messages

- We endeavour to embed eSafety messages across the curriculum whenever the internet and/or related technologies are used.
- The eSafety Policy will be introduced to the students at the start of each school year.
- eSafety posters will be prominently displayed.

Incident Reporting, eSafety Incident Log & Infringements

Incident Reporting

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the school's SIRO or eSafety Co-ordinator. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access SecureID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to your Senior Information Risk Owner.

Incidents relating to data security should be reported through the GDPR toolkit available on the staff intranet, or through notification to the Business Manager

eSafety Incident Log

Some incidents may need to be recorded in other places, such as MyConcern, if they relate to a bullying or racist incident.

Chelmsford County High School for Girls e-Safety Incident Log

Details of ALL e-Safety incidents to be recorded by the e-Safety Coordinator. This incident log will be monitored termly by the Headteacher, Member of SLT or Chair of Governors.

Date & Time	Name of student or staff member	Male or Female	Room and computer/device number	Details of incident (including evidence)	Actions and reasons

Misuse and Infringements

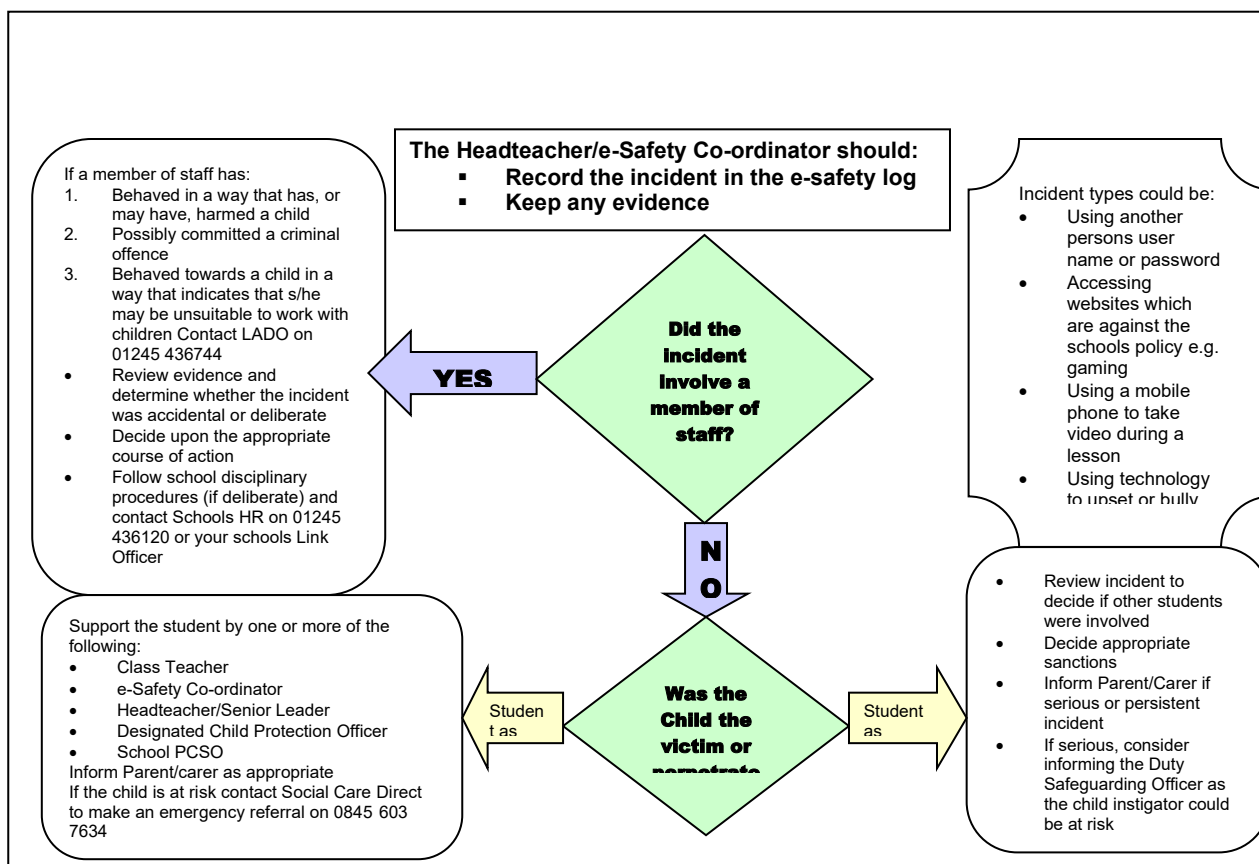
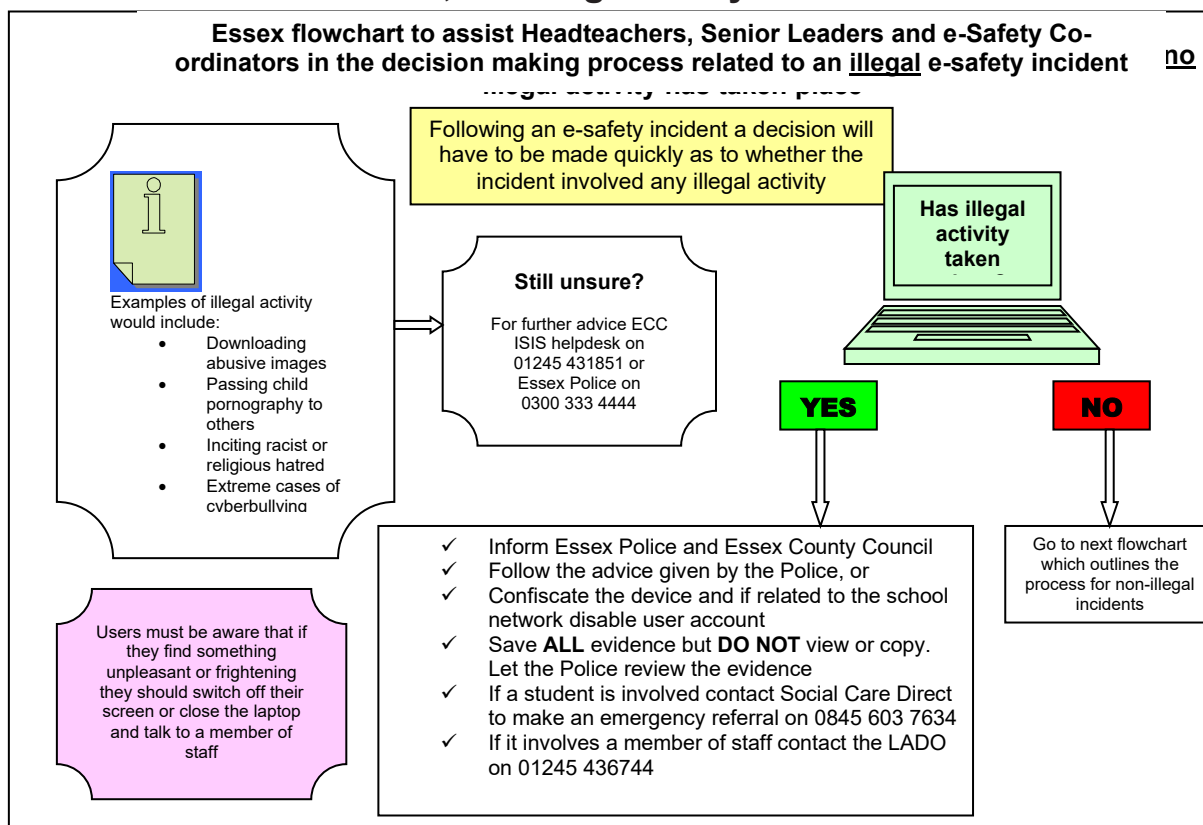
Complaints

Complaints and/ or issues relating to eSafety should be made to the eSafety co-ordinator or Headteacher. All incidents should be logged.

Inappropriate Material

- All users are aware of the procedures for reporting accidental access to inappropriate materials. The breach must be immediately reported to the eSafety co-ordinator.

Deliberate access to inappropriate materials by any user will lead to the incident being logged by the eSafety co-ordinator, depending on the seriousness of the offence; investigation by the Headteacher.



Internet Access

The internet is an open communication medium, available to all, at all times. Anyone can view information, send messages, discuss ideas and publish material which makes it both an invaluable resource for education, business and social interaction, as well as a potential risk to young and vulnerable people. All use of the **Essex Grid for Learning** (EGfL) is logged and the logs are randomly but regularly monitored. Whenever any inappropriate use is detected it will be followed up.

Managing the Internet

- The school maintains students who will have supervised access to Internet resources (where reasonable) through the school's fixed and mobile internet technology.
- Staff will preview any recommended sites before use.
- Raw image searches are discouraged when working with students.
- If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research.
- All users must observe software copyright at all times. It is illegal to copy or distribute school software or illegal software from other sources.
- All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic resources.

Internet Use

- You must not post personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise its intended restricted audience.
- Don't reveal names of colleagues, customers or clients or any other confidential information acquired through your job on any social networking site or blog.
- On-line gambling or gaming is not allowed.

It is at the Headteacher's discretion on what internet activities are permissible for staff and students and how this is disseminated.

Infrastructure

- Our school also employs some additional web filtering which is the responsibility of the Network Manager.
- CCHS is aware of its responsibility when monitoring staff communication under current legislation and takes into account; Data Protection Act 2018, The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, Human Rights Act 1998.

- Staff and students are aware that school-based email and internet activity can be monitored and explored further if required.
- The school uses management control tools for controlling and monitoring workstations.
- If staff or students discover an unsuitable site, the screen must be switched off/ closed and the incident reported immediately to the e-safety coordinator or teacher as appropriate.
- It is the responsibility of the school, by delegation to the network manager, to ensure that Anti-virus protection is installed and kept up-to-date on all school machines.
- Removable media is not permitted for use, except by exceptional approval. Students and Staff using personal removable media are responsible for measures to protect against viruses, for example making sure that additional systems used have up-to-date virus protection software. It is not the School's responsibility nor the network manager's to install or maintain virus protection on personal systems. If students or staff wish to bring in work on removable media it must be given to the IT Department for a safety check first and exceptional access given by the IT Department where there is a valid need to remove the block on usage.
- Students and staff are not permitted to download programs or files on school-based technologies without seeking prior permission from the IT Department.
- If there are any issues related to viruses or anti-virus software, the network manager should be informed using the IT helpdesk.

Managing Other Web 2 Technologies

Web 2, including social networking sites, if used responsibly both outside and within an educational context can provide easy to use, creative, collaborative and free facilities. However, it is important to recognise that there are issues regarding the appropriateness of some content, contact, culture and commercialism. To this end, we encourage our students to think carefully about the way that information can be added and removed by all users, including themselves, from these sites.

- All students are advised to be cautious about the information given by others on sites, for example users not being who they say they are.
- Students are taught to avoid placing images of themselves (or details within images that could give background details) on such sites and to consider the appropriateness of any images they post due to the difficulty of removing an image once online. Students are taught about the importance of their digital footprint.
- Students are always reminded to avoid giving out personal details on such sites which may identify them or where they are (full name, address, mobile/ home phone numbers, school details, IM/ email address, specific hobbies/ interests).
- Our students are advised to set and maintain profiles on such sites to maximum privacy and deny access to unknown individuals.
- Students are encouraged to be wary about publishing specific and detailed private thoughts online.
- Our students are asked to report any incidents of bullying to the School.
- Staff may only create blogs, twitter accounts or other web 2 spaces in order to communicate with students in accordance with School protocol as approved by the Headteacher.

Parental Involvement

We believe that it is essential for parents/ carers to be fully involved with promoting eSafety both in and outside of school and also to be aware of their responsibilities. We regularly consult and discuss eSafety with parents/ carers and seek to promote a wide understanding of the benefits related to ICT and associated risks.

- Parents/ carers and students are actively encouraged to contribute to adjustments or reviews of the school eSafety policy through Student Voice, Sixth Form Council and feedback at the Meet the Tutor Evenings.
- Parents/ carers are asked to read through and sign acceptable use agreements on behalf of their child on admission to school.
- Parents/ carers are required to make a decision as to whether they consent to images of their child being taken/ used in the public domain (e.g., on school website).
- The school disseminates information to parents relating to eSafety where appropriate in the form of;
 - Information and celebration evenings
 - Posters
 - Website/ Learning Platform postings
 - Newsletter items

Passwords and Password Security

Passwords

- Always use your own personal passwords to access computer-based services.
- Make sure you enter your personal passwords each time you logon. Do not include passwords in any automated logon procedures.
- Staff should change temporary passwords at first logon.
- Change passwords whenever there is any indication of possible system or password compromise.
- Only disclose your personal password to authorised ICT support staff when necessary, and never to anyone else. Ensure that all personal passwords that have been disclosed are changed once the requirement is finished.
- Passwords must contain a minimum of six characters and be difficult to guess.
- User ID and passwords for staff who have left the School are removed from the system within one month and for students within six months.

If you think your password may have been compromised or someone else has become aware of your password report this to your ICT support team

Password Security

Password security is essential for staff, particularly as they are able to access and use student data. Staff are expected to have secure passwords which are not shared with anyone. The students are expected to keep their passwords secret and not to share with others, particularly their friends. Staff and students are regularly reminded of the need for password security.

- All users read and sign an Acceptable Use Agreement to demonstrate that they have understood the school's e-safety Policy and Data Security.
- Users are provided with an individual network, email, Learning Platform and Management Information System (where appropriate) log-in username. users are also expected to use a personal password and keep it private
- Students are not allowed to deliberately access on-line materials or files on the school network belonging to teachers or other students.

Staff are aware of their individual responsibilities to protect the security and confidentiality of school networks, MIS systems and/or Learning Platform, including ensuring that passwords are not shared and are changed periodically. Individual staff users must also make sure that workstations are not left unattended and are locked. Zombie Accounts

Zombie accounts refers to accounts belonging to users who have left the school and therefore no longer have authorised access to the school's systems. Such Zombie

accounts when left active can cause a security threat by allowing unauthorised access.

- Ensure that all user accounts are disabled once the member of the school has left.
- Prompt action on disabling accounts will prevent unauthorized access.
- Regularly change generic passwords to avoid unauthorized access (Microsoft® advise every 42 days).

Further advice available <http://www.itgovernance.co.uk/>

Personal or Sensitive Information

Protecting Personal, Sensitive, Confidential and Classified Information

- Ensure that any School information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure.
- Ensure you lock your screen before moving away from your computer during your normal working day to prevent unauthorised access.
- Ensure the accuracy of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information you disclose or share with others.
- Ensure that personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is not disclosed to any unauthorised person.
- Ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents you fax, copy, scan or print. This is particularly important when shared mopiers (multi-function print, fax, scan and copiers) are used and when access is from a non-school environment.
- Only download personal data from systems if expressly authorised to do so by your manager.
- You must not post on the internet personal, sensitive, confidential, or classified information, or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise its intended restricted audience.
- Keep your screen display out of direct view of any third parties when you are accessing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information.
- Ensure hard copies of data are securely stored and disposed of after use in accordance with the document labeling.

Storing/Transferring Personal, Sensitive, Confidential or Classified Information Using Removable Media

- Store all removable media securely.
- Securely dispose of removable media that may hold personal data.
- Ensure hard drives from machines no longer in service are removed and stored securely or wiped clean.

Remote Access

- You are responsible for all activity via your remote access facility.
- Only use equipment with an appropriate level of security for remote access.
- Select PINs to ensure that they are not easily guessed, e.g. do not use your house or telephone number or choose consecutive or repeated numbers.
- Avoid writing down or otherwise recording any network access information. Any such information that is written down must be kept in a secure place and disguised so that no other person will be able to identify what it is.
- Protect School information and data at all times, including any printed material produced while using the remote access facility. Take particular care when access is from a non-School environment.

Remote Learning

- Where teaching or learning is required to take part remotely, staff and students must conduct themselves in the same way as if they were on site in a classroom.
- Where possible, users should blur their background in order to maintain privacy.
- Where lessons are required to be recorded, permission should be sought of all users to ensure that they consent to being recorded.
- Where recordings are saved, it must be ensured that the recordings are saved in a secure area, and only seen by relevant staff/students. It must be ensured that their recordings are not shared outside the school network.

Safe Use of Images

Taking of Images and Film

Digital images are easy to capture, reproduce and publish and, therefore, misuse. We must remember that it is not always appropriate to take or store images of any member of the school community or public, without first seeking consent and considering the appropriateness.

Staff should be aware of the privacy notices that relate to usage of images and film, available on our website <http://www.cchs.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notices/>

- With the written consent of parents (on behalf of students) and staff, the school permits the appropriate taking of images by staff and students with school equipment.
- Staff are permitted in some circumstances as agreed by the Headteacher, to use personal digital equipment, such as mobile phones and cameras, to record images of students, this is particularly when accompanying students on trips and visits. When back in school they will be transferred onto the school system and deleted off the personal phone/camera. Students are permitted, under the guidance of their teacher, to use personal digital equipment, including mobile phones and cameras, to record images of the others, this includes when on field trips.

Publishing Student's Images and Work

On a child's entry to the school, all parents/carers will be asked to give permission to use their child's photos for CCHS publications, publicity and possible local and national media/press releases. Usage of these photos must be in accordance with the parental permission / denial and with our privacy notices.

Storage of Images

- Images/ films of children are stored on the school's network.
- Students and staff are not permitted to use personal portable media for storage of images (e.g., USB sticks) without the express permission of the Headteacher.
- Rights of access to this material are restricted to the teaching staff and students within the confines of the school network/ Learning Platform.
- **The Network Manager** has the responsibility of deleting the images when they are no longer required, or the student has left the school.

Webcams and CCTV

- The school uses CCTV for security and safety. Access to this is permitted only in accordance with our CCTV privacy notice <http://www.cchs.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notices/>
- We do not use publicly accessible webcams in school.

Webcams in school are only ever used for specific learning purposes.

School ICT Equipment including Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment & Removable Media

School ICT Equipment

- As a user of ICT, you are responsible for any activity undertaken on the school's ICT equipment provided to you.
- It is recommended that schools log ICT equipment issued to staff and record serial numbers as part of the school's inventory.
- Ensure that all ICT equipment that you use is kept physically secure.
- Do not attempt unauthorised access or make unauthorised modifications to computer equipment, programs, files or data. This is an offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- It is imperative that you save your data on a frequent basis to the school's network drive. You are responsible for the backup and restoration of any of your data that is not held on the school's network drive.
- Personal or sensitive data should not be stored on the local drives of desktop PCs.
- It is recommended that a time locking screensaver is applied to all machines. Any PCs etc accessing personal data must have a locking screensaver as must any user profiles.
- On termination of employment, resignation or transfer, return all ICT equipment to your Manager. You must also provide details of all your system logons so that they can be disabled.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that any information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure, and that no personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is disclosed to any unauthorised person.
- All ICT equipment allocated to staff must be authorised by the appropriate Line Manager. Authorising Managers are responsible for:
 - maintaining control of the allocation and transfer within their Unit
 - recovering and returning equipment when no longer needed
- All redundant ICT equipment is disposed of in accordance with Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive and Data Protection Act (DPA).

Portable & Mobile ICT Equipment

This section covers such items as laptops, PDAs and removable data storage devices. Please refer to the relevant sections of this document when considering storing or transferring personal or sensitive data.

- All activities carried out on School systems and hardware will be monitored in accordance with the general policy.
- Staff must ensure that all school data is stored on school's network, and not kept

solely on the laptop. Any equipment where personal data is likely to be stored must be encrypted.

- Equipment must be kept physically secure in accordance with this policy to be covered for insurance purposes. When travelling by car, best practice is to place the laptop in the boot of your car before starting your journey.
- Synchronise all locally stored data, including diary entries, with the central school network server on a frequent basis.
- Ensure portable and mobile ICT equipment is made available as necessary for anti-virus updates and software installations, patches or upgrades.
- The installation of any applications or software packages must be authorised by the ICT support team, fully licensed and only carried out by your ICT support.
- In areas where there are likely to be members of the general public, portable or mobile ICT equipment must not be left unattended and, wherever possible, must be kept out of sight.
- Portable equipment must be transported in its protective case if supplied.

Mobile Technologies

Many emerging technologies offer new opportunities for teaching and learning including a move towards personalised learning and 1:1 device ownership for children and young people. Many existing mobile technologies such as portable media players, PDAs, gaming devices, mobile and Smart phones are familiar to children outside of school too. They often provide a collaborative, well-known device with possible internet access and thus open up risk and misuse associated with communication and internet use. Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the risk assessed before use in school is allowed. Our school chooses to manage the use of these devices in the following ways so that users exploit them appropriately.

Personal Mobile Devices (including phones)

- The school allows staff to bring in personal mobile phones and devices for their own use. Under no circumstances does the school allow a member of staff to contact a student or parent/ carer using their personal device.
- Students are allowed to bring personal mobile devices/phones to school but must not use them for personal purposes within lesson time. At all times the device must be turned off. Students may access them if it is necessary during the lunchtime only and in their form room only. This technology may be used, however for educational purposes, as mutually agreed with the class teacher. The device user, in this instance, must always ask the prior permission of the bill payer.
- The school is not responsible for the loss, damage or theft of any personal mobile device.
- The sending of inappropriate text messages between any member of the school community is not allowed.

- Permission must be sought before any image or sound recordings are made on these devices of any member of the school community.
- Users bringing personal devices into school must ensure there is no inappropriate or illegal content on the device.

School Provided Mobile Devices (including phones)

- The sending of inappropriate text messages between any member of the school community is not allowed.
- Permission must be sought before any image or sound recordings are made on the devices of any member of the school community.

Removable Media

Removable Media is not permitted without exceptional approval for a valid purpose. Access to use removable media can only be granted by the ICT support team with SIRO approval. If storing/transferring personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information using Removable Media please refer to the section 'Storing/Transferring Personal, Sensitive, Confidential or Classified Information Using Removable Media' – Pages- 30 - 37

- Only use recommended removable media.
- Store all removable media securely.
- Removable media must be disposed of securely by your ICT support team.



Chelmsford County High School for Girls SCHOOL IT DEVICE LOAN AGREEMENT

We are loaning you this device for the benefit of your child in supporting and developing their education whilst they are unable to attend school due to self-isolation / remote schooling. Other individuals, including children, are not permitted to use the device.

- The device is the property of Chelmsford County High School
- Parents / guardians are responsible for monitoring use of the device and any ensure that the student does not access inappropriate sites, including gaming, at any time.
- You must not decorate or change the external face of the equipment provided in any way, including affixing stickers.
- The school is not responsible for any costs resulting from the use of the computer and the connectivity equipment, including electricity, printer cartridges, paper or any cost occurring from an internet service not provided by the school.
- You must monitor the use of the device and ensure that access is only to educational platforms. Inappropriate use may result in the device loan being withdrawn.
- You must not install any new software, or download any content from the internet, without express permission from the IT team.
- You must not in anyway change the settings on firewalls or anti-virus software.
- You must insure that the Microsoft and antivirus updates are processed.
- Reasonable health and safety precautions should be taken when using a computer. The school is not responsible for any damage to person or property resulting from the device or equipment loaned.
- Keep food and drink away from the device. Do not expose the device to direct sunlight or extreme cold.
- You have a responsibility to take reasonable care to ensure the security of the computer and connectivity equipment. If the device is lost, damaged or stolen, this will not be covered by School's insurance and you will be required to provide a suitable replacement agreed with School.

Device type:	Serial number:
Loan from date:	Return date:
Student name:	Student form:

I have read and understand the above terms and conditions and understand that by breaching the conditions the loan of the device may be withdrawn by the school.

Signed (Parent/Guardian) _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

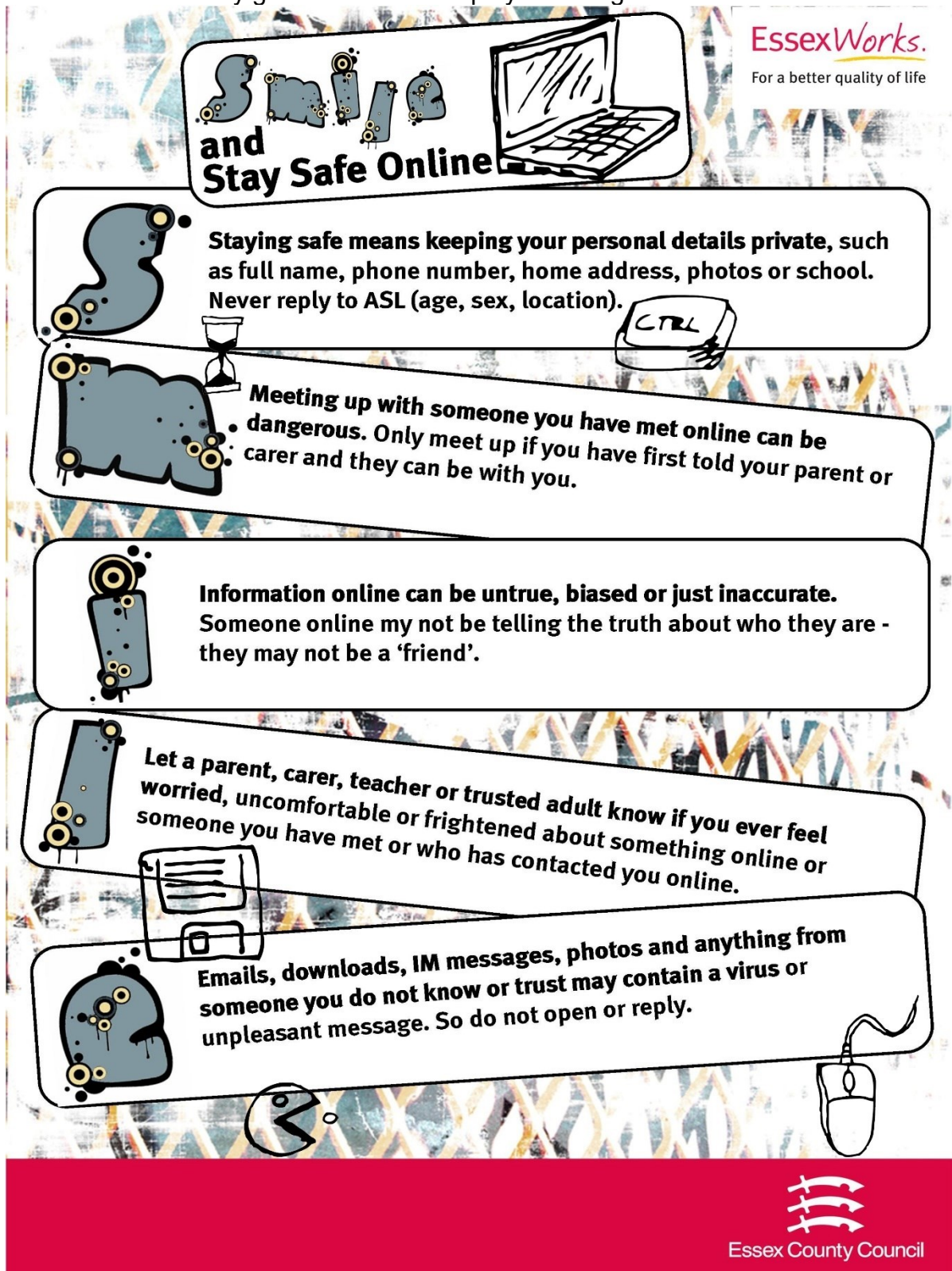
Signed (Student) _____ Date _____

Servers

- Newly installed servers holding personal data should be encrypted, therefore password protecting data. SIMs Database Servers installed by SITSS since April 2009 are supplied with encryption software.
- Always keep servers in a locked and secure environment.
- Limit access rights to ensure the integrity of the standard build.
- Always password protect and lock the server.
- Existing servers should have security software installed appropriate to the machine's specification.
- Back up tapes should be encrypted by appropriate software.
- Data must be backed up regularly.
- Back up tapes/discs must be securely stored in a fireproof container.
- Back up media stored off-site must be secure.
- Remote back ups should be automatically securely encrypted.
- Regular updates of anti-virus and anti-spyware should be applied.
- Records should be kept of when and which patches have been applied.
- Ensure that web browsers and other web-based applications are operated at a minimum of 128 BIT cipher strength.

Smile and Stay Safe Poster

eSafety guidelines to be displayed throughout the school



Smile and Stay Safe Online

EssexWorks.
For a better quality of life

S Staying safe means keeping your personal details private, such as full name, phone number, home address, photos or school. Never reply to ASL (age, sex, location).

M Meeting up with someone you have met online can be dangerous. Only meet up if you have first told your parent or carer and they can be with you.

I Information online can be untrue, biased or just inaccurate. Someone online may not be telling the truth about who they are - they may not be a 'friend'.

L Let a parent, carer, teacher or trusted adult know if you ever feel worried, uncomfortable or frightened about something online or someone you have met or who has contacted you online.

E Emails, downloads, IM messages, photos and anything from someone you do not know or trust may contain a virus or unpleasant message. So do not open or reply.

Essex County Council

Systems and Access

- You are responsible for all activity on school systems carried out under any access/account rights assigned to you, whether accessed via school ICT equipment or your own PC.
- Do not allow any unauthorised person to use school ICT facilities and services that have been provided to you.
- Use only your own personal logons, account IDs and passwords and do not allow them to be used by anyone else.
- Keep your screen display out of direct view of any third parties when you are accessing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information.
- Ensure you lock your screen before moving away from your computer during your normal working day to protect any personal, sensitive, confidential or otherwise classified data and to prevent unauthorised access.
- Ensure that you logoff from the PC completely when you are going to be away from the computer for a longer period of time.
- Do not introduce or propagate viruses.
- It is imperative that you do not access, load, store, post or send from school ICT any material that is, or may be considered to be, illegal, offensive, libelous, pornographic, obscene, defamatory, intimidating, misleading or disruptive to the school or may bring the school or ECC into disrepute. This includes, but is not limited to, jokes, chain letters, files, emails, clips or images that are not part of the school's business activities; sexual comments or images, nudity, racial slurs, gender specific comments, or anything that would offend someone on the basis of their age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin, or disability (in accordance with the Sex Discrimination Act, the Race Relations Act and the Disability Discrimination Act),
- Any information held on School systems, hardware or used in relation to School business may be subject to The Freedom of Information Act.

Telephone Services

- You may make or receive personal telephone calls provided:
 1. they are infrequent, kept as brief as possible and do not cause annoyance to others
 2. they are not for profit or to premium rate services
 3. they conform to this and other relevant ECC and School policies.
- School telephones are provided specifically for school business purposes and personal usage is a privilege that will be withdrawn if abused.
- Be aware that the laws of slander apply to telephone calls. Whilst a telephone call may seem to have a temporary and private existence it still qualifies as admissible evidence in slander law cases.

Mobile Phones

- You are responsible for the security of your school mobile phone. Always set the PIN code on your school mobile phone and do not leave it unattended and on display (especially in vehicles).
- Report the loss or theft of any school mobile phone equipment immediately.
- The school remains responsible for all call costs until the phone is reported lost or stolen.
- You must read and understand the user instructions and safety points relating to the use of your school mobile phone prior to using it.
- School SIM cards must only be used in school provided mobile phones.
- All school mobile phones are barred from calling premium rate numbers and any numbers outside of the UK as the default.
- You must not send text messages to premium rate services.
- In accordance with the Finance Policy on the private use of School provided mobiles, you must reimburse the School for the cost of any personal use of your school mobile phone. This includes call charges incurred for incoming calls whilst abroad. Never use a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving a vehicle. Only genuine 999 emergency calls may be made if it would be unsafe to stop before doing so.

Writing and Reviewing this Policy

Staff and Student Involvement in Policy Creation

Staff and students have been involved in making/ reviewing the Policy for ICT Acceptable Use through Student Voice, Sixth Form Council, Academic Board, Whole Staff Consultation and Staff and Student Matters Committee.

Review Procedure

There will be an on-going opportunity for staff and parents, through the Meet the Tutor evenings, to discuss with the eSafety coordinator any issue of eSafety that concerns them.

There will be an on-going opportunity for staff to discuss with the SIRO/AIO any issue of data security that concerns them.

This policy will be reviewed every 12 months and consideration given to the implications for future whole school development planning.

The policy will be amended if new technologies are adopted or Central Government change the orders or guidance in any way.

This policy has been read, amended and approved by Governors in July 2020.

Current Legislation

Acts Relating to Monitoring of Staff eMail

Data Protection Act 2018

The Act requires anyone who handles personal information to comply with important data protection principles when treating personal data relating to any living individual. The Act grants individuals rights of access to their personal data, compensation and prevention of processing.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>

The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice)

(Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000

<http://www.hms0.gov.uk/si/si2000/20002699.htm>

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

Regulating the interception of communications and making it an offence to intercept or monitor communications without the consent of the parties involved in the communication. The RIP was enacted to comply with the Human Rights Act 1998. The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, however, permit a degree of monitoring and record keeping, for example, to ensure communications are relevant to school activity or to investigate or detect unauthorised use of the network. Nevertheless, any monitoring is subject to informed consent, which means steps must have been taken to ensure that everyone who may use the system is informed that communications may be monitored. Covert monitoring without informing users that surveillance is taking place risks breaching data protection and privacy legislation.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/23/contents>

Human Rights Act 1998

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/contents>

Other Acts Relating to eSafety

Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006

It is a criminal offence to threaten people because of their faith; or to stir up religious hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Other laws already protect people from threats based on their race, nationality or ethnic background.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/1/contents>

Sexual Offences Act 2003

The new grooming offence is committed if you are over 18 and have communicated with a child under 16 at least twice (including by phone or using the Internet) it is an offence to meet them or travel to meet them anywhere in the world with the intention of committing a

sexual offence. Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act is illegal, including looking at images such as videos, photos or webcams, for your own gratification. It is also an offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in sexual activity with any person under 18, with whom they are in a position of trust. Schools should already have a copy of “*Children & Families: Safer from Sexual Crime*” document as part of their child protection packs.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/contents>

For more information www.teachernet.gov.uk

Communications Act 2003 (section 127)

Sending by means of the Internet a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or sending a false message by means of or persistently making use of the Internet for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety is guilty of an offence liable, on conviction, to imprisonment. This wording is important because an offence is complete as soon as the message has been sent: there is no need to prove any intent or purpose.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/21/contents>

The Computer Misuse Act 1990 (sections 1 – 3)

Regardless of an individual’s motivation, the Act makes it a criminal offence to gain:

- access to computer files or software without permission (for example using another person’s password to access files)
- unauthorised access, as above, in order to commit a further criminal act (such as fraud)
- impair the operation of a computer or program

UK citizens or residents may be extradited to another country if they are suspected of committing any of the above offences.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/18/contents>

Malicious Communications Act 1988 (section 1)

This legislation makes it a criminal offence to send an electronic message (e-mail) that conveys indecent, grossly offensive, threatening material or information that is false; or is of an indecent or grossly offensive nature if the purpose was to cause a recipient to suffer distress or anxiety.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/27/contents>

Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988

Copyright is the right to prevent others from copying or using work without permission. Works such as text, music, sound, film and programs all qualify for copyright protection. The author of the work is usually the copyright owner, but if it was created during the course of employment it belongs to the employer. Copyright infringement is to copy all or a substantial part of anyone’s work without obtaining the author’s permission. Usually a

licence associated with the work will allow a user to copy or use it for limited purposes. It is advisable always to read the terms of a licence before you copy or use someone else's material. It is also illegal to adapt or use software without a licence or in ways prohibited by the terms of the software licence.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/48/contents>

Public Order Act 1986 (sections 17 – 29)

This Act makes it a criminal offence to stir up racial hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Like the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 it also makes the possession of inflammatory material with a view of releasing it a criminal offence.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/64/contents>

Protection of Children Act 1978 (Section 1)

It is an offence to take, permit to be taken, make, possess, show, distribute or advertise indecent images of children in the United Kingdom. A child for these purposes is anyone under the age of 18. Viewing an indecent image of a child on your computer means that you have made a digital image. An image of a child also covers pseudo-photographs (digitally collated or otherwise). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1978/37/contents>

Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964

Publishing an “obscene” article is a criminal offence. Publishing includes electronic transmission.

1964 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1964/74/contents>

1959 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/7-8/66/contents>

Protection from Harassment Act 1997

A person must not pursue a course of conduct, which amounts to harassment of another, and which he knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other.

A person whose course of conduct causes another to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be used against him is guilty of an offence if he knows or ought to know that his course of conduct will cause the other so to fear on each of those occasions.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/40/contents>

Acts Relating to the Protection of Personal Data

Data Protection Act 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/data-protection>

The Freedom of Information Act 2000

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/what-is-the-foi-act/>