

Background

We ask everyone involved in the life of Ridgeway Primary School to read and adhere to an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), which outlines how we expect them to behave when they are online, and/or using school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices, cloud platforms and social media (both when on school site and outside of school).

This AUP is reviewed annually, and staff, governors and volunteers are asked to agree to adhere to it when starting at the school and whenever changes are made (at least annually). All staff (including support staff), governors and volunteers have particular legal / professional obligations and it is imperative that all parties understand that online safety is part of safeguarding as well as part of the curriculum, and it is everybody's responsibility to uphold the school's approaches, strategy and policy as detailed in the full [Online Safety Policy](#).

If you have any questions about this AUP or our approach to online safety, it is your responsibility to ask for advice by speaking to a member of the Headship Team.

What am I agreeing to?

1. (This point for staff and governors):

I have read and understood Ridgeway Primary School's full [Online Safety policy](#) and agree to uphold the spirit and letter of the approaches outlined there, both for my behaviour as an adult and enforcing the rules for children. I will report any breaches or suspicions (by adults or children) in line with the policy without delay as outlined in the Online Safety Policy.

1. I understand online safety is a core part of safeguarding and part of everyone's job. It is my duty to support a whole-school safeguarding approach and to learn more each year about best-practice in this area. I have noted the section in our online safety policy which describes trends over the past year at a national level and in this school.
2. I will report any behaviour which I believe may be inappropriate or concerning in any way to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (if by a child) or Co-Headteacher (if by an adult) and make them aware of new trends and patterns that I might identify.
3. I will follow the guidance in the Safeguarding and Online Safety policies for reporting incidents (including for handling incidents and concerns about a child in general, sharing nudes and semi-nudes, upskirting, bullying, sexual violence and harassment, misuse of technology and social media)
4. I understand the principle of 'safeguarding as a jigsaw' where my concern or professional curiosity might complete the picture; online-safety issues (particularly relating to bullying and sexual harassment and violence) are most likely to be overheard in the playground, corridors, toilets and other communal areas outside the classroom. understand the sections on.
5. I will take a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of child-on-child abuse (not dismissing it as banter), including bullying and sexual violence & harassment – know that 'it could happen here'!
6. I will have my mobile phone out of sight and on silent when children are in school. Under no circumstances will I use it (or other capture device) in the presence of children or to take photographs or audio/visual recordings of the school, its site, staff or pupils/students. If required (e.g. to take photos of equipment or buildings), I will have the prior permission of the Headship Team (this may be delegated to other staff) and it will be done in the presence of a member staff. The same principles apply for wearable technology. Smart glasses should not be worn in school. Please speak to a member of the Headship Team if this presents any issue.
7. I will be mindful of using appropriate language and terminology around children when addressing concerns, including avoiding victim-blaming language

9. I will identify opportunities to thread online safety through all school activities as part of a whole school approach in line with the RSHE curriculum, both outside the classroom and within the curriculum, supporting curriculum/stage/subject leads, and making the most of unexpected learning opportunities as they arise (which have a unique value for children).
10. When overseeing the use of technology in school or for homework or remote teaching, I will encourage and talk about appropriate behaviour and how to get help and consider potential risks and the age-appropriateness of websites (find out what appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place and how they keep children safe).
11. I will check with a member of the Headship Team or the Network Manager/IT Technician if I want to use any new platform or app that has not already been approved by the school, to ensure this is quality assured. This includes any generative AI apps.
12. I will follow best-practice pedagogy for online-safety education, avoiding scaring and other unhelpful prevention methods.
13. I will prepare and check all online sources and classroom resources before using for accuracy and appropriateness. I will flag any concerns about overblocking to the Network Manager/IT Technician.
14. I will carefully supervise and guide children when engaged in learning activities involving online technology, supporting them with search skills, critical thinking, age-appropriate materials and signposting, and legal issues such as copyright and data protection.
15. I will physically monitor pupils using online devices during class learning time, including those children using devices in corridors, to ensure appropriate and safe use.
16. During any periods of remote learning, I will not behave any differently towards students compared to when I am in school and will follow the same safeguarding principles as outlined in the main child protection and safeguarding policy when it comes to behaviour, ways to contact and the relevant systems and behaviours.
17. I understand that school systems and users are protected by security, monitoring and filtering services, and that my use of school devices, systems and logins on my own devices and at home (regardless of time, location or connection), including encrypted content, can be monitored/captured/viewed by the relevant authorised staff members.
18. I know the filtering and monitoring systems used within school and the types of content blocked and am aware of the increased focus on these areas in KCSIE 2023, now led by the DSL. If I discover children may be bypassing blocks or accessing inappropriate material, I will report this to a DSL (if it poses an immediate safeguarding risk), or to the IT Technician for other cyber security concerns. Equally, if I feel that we are overblocking, I shall notify the IT Technician to inform regular checks and annual review of these systems.
19. I understand that I am a role model and will promote positive online safety and model safe, responsible and positive behaviours in my own use of technology both in and outside school, including on social media, e.g. by not sharing other's images or details without permission and refraining from posting negative, threatening or violent comments about others, regardless of whether they are members of the school community or not.
20. I will not contact or attempt to contact any child or to access their contact details (including their usernames/handles on different platforms) in any way other than school-approved and school-monitored ways, which are detailed in the school's Online Safety Policy. I will report any breach of this by others or attempts by children to do the same to the Co-Headteacher.
21. Details on social media behaviour, the general capture of digital images/video and on my use of personal devices is stated in the full Online Safety policy. If I am ever not sure, I will ask first.
22. I will not use any new technology or download any apps without agreement from a member of the Headship Team.
23. I will not use a mobile hotspot to provide internet to any device I use in school.

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for **STAFF, GOVERNORS, VOLUNTEERS**

24. I agree to adhere to all provisions of the school's Cybersecurity and Data Protection Policies at all times, whether or not I am on site or using a school device, platform or network.
25. I will never use school devices and networks/internet/platforms/other technologies to access material that is illegal or in any way inappropriate for an education setting. I will not attempt to bypass security or monitoring and will look after devices loaned to me.
26. I will not support or promote extremist organisations, messages or individuals, nor give them a voice or opportunity to visit the school. I will not browse, download or send material that is considered offensive or of an extremist nature. I understand that any breach of this AUP and/or of the school's full Online Safety Policy may lead to appropriate staff disciplinary action or termination of my relationship with the school and where appropriate, referral to the relevant authorities.
27. I will only use AI platforms that have been authorised for use and I will ensure that any use of these platforms is transparent, responsible, appropriate, legal, ethical and in line with the expectations in the school's Online Safety Policy. I will ensure that I abide by all data protection legislation in relation to using these platforms.
28. I understand and support the commitments made by children, parents and fellow staff, governors and volunteers in their [Acceptable Use Policies](#) and will report any infringements in line with school procedures.
29. I understand that breach of this AUP and/or of the school's full Online Safety Policy here may lead to appropriate staff disciplinary action or termination of my relationship with the school and where appropriate, referral to the relevant authorities.

Agreement:

As members of our school community, all staff, governors and volunteers are expected to follow and adhere to all school policies, including this AUP, at all times.

Staff: On your first time logging into the school system, following the introduction of this updated AUP, you will need to click to confirm you agree to follow the expected behaviours. Failure to comply with this agreement could lead to disciplinary action.

Volunteers: When you sign in on entry to the school, using the electronic Inventory system, you will be expected to confirm that you will adhere to this AUP.

Governors: You will be emailed this AUP at the start of your term of governance (and whenever it is updated, at least annually) and expected to adhere to the expected behaviours.