

We are an ambitious and inclusive Trust of schools
strengthening communities through excellent education.



Computer/Mobile Device Use and Online Policy - Students

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1.0 Policy Statement

- 1.1 We are an ambitious and inclusive Trust of schools strengthening communities through excellent education.

2.0 Scope and purpose

- 2.1 The IT infrastructure is owned by the Trust and is made available to students to further their education and to staff to enhance their professional activities including teaching, research, administration and management. This policy has been drawn up to protect all parties – the students, the staff and the school and the Trust.
- 2.2 There will be school specific procedures which state whether personal mobile devices can be used within the school setting.
- 2.3 Students are responsible for using the school IT systems in accordance with this policy and the Student Acceptable Use Agreement which is an appendix to this policy (secondary age students only).
- 2.4 Parents / Carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the internet and mobile devices in an appropriate way. The school will therefore take every opportunity to help parents understand these issues through parents' evenings, newsletters, letters, website and information about e-safety campaigns and literature. Parents and carers will be responsible for endorsing the Student Acceptable Use Agreement, which is an appendix to this policy (Secondary age students only).
- 2.5 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 empowers Headteachers to such extent as is reasonable to regulate the behaviour of students when they are off the school site and empowers members of staff to impose disciplinary penalties for inappropriate behaviour.
- 2.6 The school will deal with such incidents within this policy and the behaviour management policy and will inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate e-safety behaviour. We do not have the resources to investigate all out of school incidents that take place on social media sites and recommend that students and parents/carers contact the social media site/the police in cases of inappropriate use/harassment etc. We also encourage the use of reporting via the CEOP reporting website <https://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/> and <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>

3.0 Definition

For the purpose of this document:

- The Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust is referred to as **the Ted Wragg Trust or TWT** or **the Trust**
- Designated Safeguarding Lead is referred to as **DSL**

4.0 Legal Framework

This Policy will be published on the Ted Wragg Trust website and will be included in the Trust's Policy Monitoring Schedule.

5.0 E-Safety and Internet Use

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school. The use of these exciting and innovative tools in school and at home has been shown to raise educational standards and promote student achievement. Many children have unlimited and

unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phone networks (i.e. 3G, 4G and 5G). The use of these new technologies can put young people at risk within and outside the school. Some of the dangers they may face are listed below:

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate images such as pornography or other content
- Unauthorised access to, loss or sharing of personal information
- The risk of being subject to grooming by those with whom they make contact on the internet
- Sexual harassment
- The sharing or distribution of personal images without an individual's consent or knowledge (often via large chat groups)
- Inappropriate communication or contact with others, including strangers
- Cyber-bullying
- Misuse of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to create harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content
- Access to unsuitable video or internet games
- An inability to evaluate the quality, accuracy and relevance of information on the internet
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement
- Illegal downloading of music or video files
- The potential for excessive use which may impact on the social and emotional development and learning of the young person.
- As with all other risks, it is impossible to eliminate these risks completely. It is therefore essential, through good educational provision, to build students' resilience to the risks to which they may be exposed so that they have the confidence and skills to face and deal with these risks.

6.0 The School's Designated Safeguarding Lead

6.1 The DSL is trained in e-safety issues and is aware of the potential for serious Child Protection issues to arise from:

- sharing of personal data;
- access to illegal / inappropriate materials;
- inappropriate on-line contact with adults / strangers;
- potential or actual incidents of grooming;
- cyber-bullying.

6.2 The DSL has responsibility to ensure that staff:

- have an up to date awareness of e-safety matters and of the current school e-safety policy and practices;
- have read, understood and signed the school guidance for 'Safer-working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People';
- report any suspected misuse or problem for investigation and action;
- digital communications with students should be on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems;
- students understand and follow the School Computer/Mobile Device & Online Safety Policy;
- monitor ICT activity in lessons, extra-curricular and extended school activities;

- are aware of e-safety issues related to the use of mobile technology devices and that they monitor their use and implement current school policies with regard to these devices and,
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned students should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/cyber-security-standards-for-schools-and-colleges>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges>

7.0 The Trust IT team

The Trust IT Team will ensure:

- that the school's ICT infrastructure is secure and is not open to misuse or malicious attack;
- that users may only access the school's networks through a properly enforced password protection policy, in which passwords are regularly changed;
- that the use of the network is regularly monitored in order that any misuse can be reported to the designated safeguarding lead for investigation and action where necessary;
- that monitoring software systems are implemented and updated;

8.0 School staff

School staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- they have an up to date awareness of e-safety matters and of the current school e-safety policy and practices;
- they have read, understood and signed the school guidance for 'Safer-working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People';
- they have read and understood the TWT AI guidance document;
- they report any suspected misuse or problem to the designated safeguarding lead for investigation and action;
- digital communications with students are on a professional level and only carried out using official school systems;
- students understand and follow this policy;
- they monitor ICT activity in lessons, extra-curricular and extended school activities;
- they are aware of e-safety issues related to the use of mobile technology devices and that they monitor their use and implement current school policies with regard to these devices;
- in lessons where internet use is pre-planned students should be guided to sites checked as suitable for their use and that processes are in place for dealing with any unsuitable material that is found in internet searches.

9.0 Education

9.1 Whilst regulation and technical solutions are very important, their use must be balanced by educating students to take a responsible approach. The education of students in e-safety is therefore an essential part of the school's e-safety provision. Children and young people need the help and support of the school to recognise and avoid e-safety risks and build their resilience.

9.2 E-Safety education will be provided in the following ways:

- a planned e-safety programme will be provided as part of the Computing and PSHE curriculum - this will cover both the use of ICT and new technologies in school and outside school;
- key e-safety messages in assemblies and tutorial activities;
- students will be taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the content they access on-line and will be guided to validate the accuracy of information.

10.0 Curriculum

10.0 E-safety is a focus in all areas of the curriculum and staff reinforce e-safety messages in the use of ICT across the curriculum;

10.1 Where students are allowed to freely search the internet, staff are vigilant in monitoring the content of websites visited;

10.2 It is accepted that from time to time, for good educational reasons, students may need to research topics (eg racism, drugs, discrimination) that normally result in internet searches being blocked. In such a situation, staff can request that the IT team can temporarily remove those sites from the filtered list for the period of study. Any request to do so is audited with clear reasons for the need analysed and documented;

10.3 Students are taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the content they access on-line and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.

11.0 Technical – infrastructure / equipment, filtering and monitoring

The school's IT systems are managed in ways that ensure that the school meets the e-safety technical requirements. There are regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of the school's IT system servers, wireless systems and cabling to ensure they are securely located and physical access is restricted.

- all users have clearly defined access rights to school ICT systems
- all users are provided with a username and password
- software, system and online platform accounts that are provided by the School remain the property of the School and are subject to the same conditions including filtering and monitoring provisions
- the "master / administrator" passwords for the school IT system, used by the IT Management team, are available to the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and Deputy CEO, Head teacher and kept in a secure place
- users will be made responsible for the security of their username and password. They must not allow other users to access the systems using their log on details and must immediately report any suspicion or evidence that there has been a breach of security
- the Trust maintains and supports the managed filtering service
- Trust IT technical staff regularly monitor and record the activity of users on the school IT systems
- The school infrastructure and individual workstations are protected by up to date virus software
- personal data cannot be sent over the internet or taken off the school site unless safely encrypted or otherwise secured. Staff who need to do this in their particular role have should use an encrypted school device.

12.0 Unsuitable/Inappropriate Activities

12.1 Students shall not visit internet sites, post, download, upload, communicate or pass on, material and comments that contain or relate to:

- offensive materials: child sexual abuse images, promotion or conduct of illegal acts, e.g. under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation, adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK, racist material, pornography, promotion of any kind of discrimination, promotion of religious hatred, threatening behaviour;

- use of systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed;
- the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to create harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content
- uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions
- revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (e.g. financial/personal information, databases, computer/network access codes and passwords);
- creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files;
- carrying out sustained or instantaneous high-volume network traffic; (downloading/uploading files) that causes network congestion and hinders others in their use of the internet.

12.0 This also applies to students' use of personal mobile technology devices to and from school and whilst on school premises.

13.0 Responding to Incidents of Misuse

13.1 Any apparent or actual misuse which appears to involve illegal activity, will be reported initially to the Designated Safeguarding Lead i.e.

- child sexual abuse images
- adult material which potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act
- criminally racist material
- other criminal conduct, activity or materials

13.2 Actions will be followed in line with the school procedures, including reporting the incident to the police and the preservation of such evidence. It is more likely that the school will need to deal with incidents that involve inappropriate rather than illegal misuse. Such incidents of misuse will be dealt with through the normal behaviour management policy.

14.0 Protocol for Use of School Mobile Technology Devices.

14.1 Users of Trust mobile technology devices are responsible for the following:

- Returning the mobile device to the school when it is no longer required;
- Only using official stores for installing mobile apps e.g. Microsoft store, Apple store, Google Play;
- Not changing security settings or amending configuration files. This includes disabling passwords, pin codes and any installed security programs (e.g. Anti-Virus applications);
- Notifying the school in the event that the mobile device is lost or stolen.

14.2 When using your Trust mobile device:

- Turn it off and put it in an appropriate carrying case when travelling;
- Take care when connecting the network cable and seating the mobile device on a docking station as the connections can be easily damaged;
- Keep all drinks and any other liquids away from your device. Any spillage on the device can result in data loss and expensive repairs;
- Do not leave it in full view in any vehicle even for a short period of time. It must be locked in the boot, when the vehicle is left unattended and not left in the vehicle overnight, even in a locked boot;
- Never leave it unattended in public places even for a very short period of time;

15.0 Protocol for use of Personal Mobile Technology Devices

- 15.0 Should mobile technology devices be misused, there will be a negative impact on an individual's safety, dignity, privacy and right to confidentiality. Such concerns are not to be considered exclusive to children and young people, so the needs and vulnerabilities of all must be respected and protected.
- 15.1 The purpose of this protocol is to prevent unacceptable use of mobile phones and other handheld devices used by the school community, and thereby protect the trust's staff and students from undesirable materials, filming, intimidation or harassment.
- 15.2 It is to be recognised that it is the enhanced functions of many mobile technology devices that will give the most cause for concern; and which should be considered the most susceptible to potential misuse. Examples of misuse include the taking and distribution of indecent images, exploitation and bullying.
- 15.3 The school reserves the right to search the content of any mobile technology device on the school premises where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain undesirable material, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying.
- 15.4 Personal mobile technology devices brought into school are the responsibility of the device owner. The Trust accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of these devices.
- 15.5 Students can:
- have their personal mobile technology device confiscated if this or any other relevant school policy is not adhered to and will be held in a secure place in the school office. They will be released to parents or carers in accordance with the school policy;
 - not take personal mobile technology devices into examinations. Students found in possession of a personal mobile technology device during an exam will be reported to the appropriate examining body. This may result in the student's withdrawal from either that examination or all examinations.
 - contact their parents or carers, using a school phone, if the need arises. Parents are advised not to contact their child via their mobile phone during the school day, but to contact the school office;
 - protect their phone numbers by only giving them to trusted friends and family members. Students will be instructed via curriculum time and via assemblies in safe and appropriate use of mobile technology devices and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.

16.0 Following Copyright Laws

- 16.0 The Copyright laws of the UK and other countries must not be infringed. Downloading material from the Internet carries the risk of infringing copyright. This applies to files, music, films, TV programmes, documents and software, which must be licensed. Material illegally copied in this country or elsewhere and then transmitted to another country via the Internet, will also infringe the copyright laws of the country receiving it.
- 16.1 Any uploading or downloading of information through on-line technologies which is not authorised by the copyright owner will be deemed to be an infringement of her/his rights.
- 16.2 students must not make, transmit or store an electronic copy of copyright material.

17.0 Adoption of the Policy

- 17.1 This Policy has been adopted by the Trustees of the Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust.

Appendix A - Student IT Acceptable Use Agreement

Users are responsible for their use of school computer systems. The current IT infrastructure, devices and accounts are owned by the school and is made available to students to further their education and to staff to enhance their professional activities including teaching, research, administration and management. This Policy has been drawn up to protect all parties – the students, the staff and the school.

The school reserves the right to examine or delete any files held on its computer systems and to monitor use of the Internet, e-mail and other online communications. Access should only be made via an authorised account and password, which should not be made available to any other person.

Violations of these rules will result in withdrawal of access to ICT resources and additional action may be taken in line with the existing school behaviour and sanctions policy.

SECTION A: General

Students making use of the computers must do so in a way that does not harass, harm, offend or insult others and:

- are expected to respect the work of all the people who use the computers;
- should not attempt to install or store software of any type on computers or intranet;
- must not use the computers for commercial purposes e.g. buying or selling goods;
- must only access the Internet for study purposes or for school authorised/ supervised activities;
- must only use mobile phones in specific learning activities under the supervision of a member of staff;
- must not take personal mobile technology devices into examinations;
- must not use the Internet to obtain, download, send, print, display or otherwise transmit or gain access to materials that are unlawful, obscene, or abusive;
- Must not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to create harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content;
- are expected to respect the work, ownership and rights of people outside the school as well as other users in school;

Students will be allocated a school e-mail address. They should only e-mail people they know or who the teacher has approved. They must not give personal information such as their address or telephone number to those who they contact via e-mail.

SECTION B -Users of Trust mobile technology devices

Students must:

- return the mobile device to the school when it is no longer required;
- only use official stores for installing mobile apps e.g. Microsoft store, Apple store, Google Play;
- not change security settings or amending configuration files. This includes disabling passwords, pin codes and any installed security programs (e.g. Anti-Virus applications);
- notify the school in the event that the mobile device is lost or stolen;
- turn mobile devices off and put it in an appropriate carrying case when travelling;
- take care when connecting the network cable and seating the mobile device on a docking station as the connections can be easily damaged;
- keep all drinks and any other liquids away from your device. Any spillage on the device can result in data loss and expensive repairs;
- not leave mobile devices in full view in any vehicle even for a short period of time. It must be locked in the boot, when the vehicle is left unattended and not left in the vehicle overnight, even in a locked boot;
- never leave mobile devices unattended in public places even for a very short period of time;