



# IT Security and Acceptable Use Policy

South Normanton Nursery School

Version 7

Adopted at the meeting of the Full Governing Body on **8<sup>th</sup> July, 2025**

Minute Number **93/25**

Chair of Governors

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	<p>Where it states governors, this has been updated to state "Governors/Trustees [school to delete as appropriate]". Amended where it states 'police' to state 'law enforcement agencies e.g. police'</p> <p>Updated the words 'must' and 'should' to '<b>will</b>' where necessary throughout.</p> <p>Update to 6.5 Email Security- added paragraph re phishing emails.</p> <p>Update to 1. Introduction- added 'and cyber security'.</p> <p>Updated legislation under 3. IT Acceptable Use Standards</p> <p>Updated legislation under 16. Disposal of Computing Resources</p> <p>Updated some wording within sections: 9.2. filtering and 10. Monitoring.</p> <p>Removed use of 'second person' – "you", replace by 'third person'– "staff" and "users" throughout.</p> <p>Update added to 11. Passwords- regarding not reusing passwords on the same system or across multiple systems.</p> <p>School amendments highlighted in blue. <b><i>Amendments to the school contextualisation from the last version of the policy are shown in bold, italic font.</i></b></p>
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This document will be reviewed annually and sooner when significant changes are made to the law.

Guidance from the Department for Education about school policies can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-policies-for-schools-and-academy-trusts/statutory-policies-for-schools-and-academy-trusts>

This document is to be used in conjunction with the DCC Acceptable Use of IT Advice and Guidance document.

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## 1. Introduction

- The **school's** IT (Information Technology) infrastructure and digital resources are essential to the effective delivery of education and other activities, but they also present risks to data protection, online safety and safeguarding **and cyber security**. We are committed to using IT facilities in a way that meets legal requirements and upholds confidentiality and peoples' privacy rights.
- This policy supports business continuity, data protection and cyber security, and explains how we use technology in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018), the Departments for Educational Digital and Technology standards in schools and colleges and other relevant legislation.
- This policy **will** be read in conjunction with the **school** HR advice and guidance. **This policy does not stand alone, it is essential to follow the requirements set out in the Derbyshire LA Acceptable Use of IT Advice and Guidance, which provides more details as well as guidance to Governing Boards.]**

This policy has been the subject of formal negotiation and consultation between Derbyshire County Council and the recognised Trade Unions and Professional Associations. Agreement and adoption were only reached by Schools Joint consultative Committee where it is used in conjunction with the DCC LA Acceptable Use of IT Advice and Guidance.

## 2. Scope and Responsibilities

This policy applies to:

- The use of **school** -provided (or provided for the **school** use) IT hardware, software, devices, digital content, networks and communications.
- Non- **school** owned devices which are used for accessing **school** Internet or information systems or used in a way which impacts on the **school** or **school** community.
- All those who access **school** systems including pupils, staff, visitors, **Governors**. These are all referred to as "Users" throughout this policy.

All Users are responsible for reading, understanding and complying with this procedure if they have access to IT. Whilst this policy applies to all Users, the **school** understands that pupils will need additional support to understand how to use IT systems safely and securely.

## 3. IT Acceptable Use Standards

All Users **will**:

1. Protect **school** IT resources by careful and considerate use of equipment and networks, reporting faults and minimising the risk of introducing computer viruses or similar to the system.
2. Protect individuals from harmful or inappropriate material accessible via the Internet or electronic media.
3. **Only use Artificial Intelligence applications in line with the school Artificial Intelligence Policy, Guidance Document and the Privacy Notices.**
4. Protect the confidentiality of individuals and of **school** matters and safeguard Users by complying with relevant legislation, including:

- Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation
- Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations
- Copyright, Designs and Patent Act 1988
- Computer Misuse Act 1990
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (encompassing the “Prevent Duty”)
- The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000
- [The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013](#), the Environmental Protection Act 1990, [The Environment Act 2021](#), [The Waste Management \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2006](#).
- The Department for Education [Digital and Technology Standards for Schools and Colleges](#)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education [2024](#) (KCSiE)

Users **will** understand and adhere to their signed Acceptable Use Agreement.

## 4. Roles and Responsibilities

Everyone who works for **South Normanton Nursery School** has a responsibility to ensure that data is collected, accessed, stored and handled appropriately and lawfully. Every user **will** ensure that they adhere to this policy in order to meet the legal obligations of the **school** and their individual obligations.

The school’s Board of **Governors**, whilst ultimately responsible for ensuring the **school** meets its legal obligations, is assisted directly by the senior leadership team.

Breaches of this policy **will** be reported to **the Headteacher** in the first instance. **If a staff member accidentally breaches this policy they will contact their line manager immediately, or in their absence, a more senior manager will address the situation.**

## 5. Principles of Use

For the purpose of this policy, the use of the internet will include associated internet-enabled technologies such as, cloud based systems (such as **MS 365**, MIS, Safeguarding, Remote learning platforms), emails, video calls, video messaging, instant messaging, webinar applications or conferencing applications.

- Internet and email use is integral to the effective delivery of services provided by the **school**. Nothing in this policy should be read as restricting the proper use of email, Internet or associated technologies for **school** purposes.
- Limited personal use of the **school** Internet is permitted subject to these principles and guidance notes.
- Personal use of the Internet is only permitted in user’s own time (e.g. before or after work and during lunchtime) and limited to browser-based activities.
  - Any personal use **will** not, in any way, distract staff from the effective performance of their duties. Improper or inappropriate personal use of the **school** email, Internet and associated systems may result in disciplinary action.
- Users are not allowed use of the **school’s** email system for personal communication.

- The **school** reserves the right to maintain and review usage logs of the **school** IT services including the internet and associated internet-enabled technologies including emails, video calls, video messaging, instant messaging, webinar applications or conferencing applications and email use. Auditing and monitoring of the use of **school** IT services may form part of disciplinary procedures.
- The **school** has in place a process to block categories of internet sites and individual sites if it is deemed appropriate. Users **will** not attempt to bypass security measures or processes.
- Any personal information sent via email, the Internet and associated internet-enabled services is covered by Data Protection legislation. All staff are required to handle personal information in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR.
- Emails, including conversations recorded using facilities such as video calls, instant messaging or conferencing applications, are covered by the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act and may be disclosed as part of an FOI request for information, or as part of any legal proceedings. Staff will always exercise the same caution on email content, video calls, instant messaging or conferencing applications as in more formal correspondence.
- Whilst **school** security provides additional protection and real-time scanning, our security measures cannot guarantee that external communications do not contain malicious content or links. All staff with access to the IT network **will** take basic cyber security training annually in line with DfE Cyber Security Standards.
- Consent from all parties **will** be obtained before recording conversations when using facilities such as video calls, instant messaging or conferencing applications.
- The **school** reserves the right to withdraw Internet access or email use or any access to the **school** computer or communications network, if the User is found to be in breach of this policy.
- Desktop and document sharing capabilities via facilities such as video calls or conferencing applications, **will** only be used with colleagues of the **school** for collaboration purposes.

## 6. Email

### 6.1 Personal Use

Personal use of **school** email is not permitted. However, communication with a Trade Union is not considered personal use.

It is inappropriate to use **school** email addresses for personal use as it may give the impression that any business is on behalf of the **school**.

If a genuine emergency arises users **will** inform their line manager at the earliest opportunity that they have responded to the email and managers will make a note of it. Users **will** inform the sender that personal use of the **school** email system is not permitted and provide an alternative email address or an alternate method of communication.

### 6.2 Email Usage

Users are not permitted to send and receive **school** related information from personal email accounts. Users **will** only use **school** provided email systems. However, staff are permitted to forward emails to their Trade Union representative via their personal email account, for the purposes of seeking advice.

If Users receive an email that is inappropriate or abusive, they **will** report it to their line manager immediately, who will take the appropriate action. If the sender is known to the user, they **will** inform the sender to cease sending the material.

Users **will** not use anonymous mailing services to conceal their identity or falsify (spoof) emails to make them appear as if they have been sent from someone else.

All employees are required to maintain the good reputation of the **school** when using Internet and email. Users **will** not use the email system in any way that is unprofessional inappropriate or harmful.

Use of email and the Internet which brings the **school** into disrepute may result in disciplinary action.

### 6.3 Email Disclaimer

A disclaimer is automatically attached to all emails sent from the **school** system informing the recipient that the email is intended solely for them, is confidential, may be legally privileged and may contain personal views that are not those of the **school**.

### 6.4 Access to email

When an employee is absent, the employee's line manager can authorise access to a **school** email account to obtain messages that are work-related. The manager will inform the employee of this access on the employee's return.

The content of all emails may be viewed by the **school** in certain circumstances; for example, in connection with disciplinary investigations or audit reviews.

### 6.5 Email Security

Users will be vigilant of phishing emails or other scams when using the **school** email system by being mindful of cyber security considerations, particularly when opening and responding to emails. Annual cyber security training will inform of the latest trends in email security. Users will follow the schools/trust reporting procedures should they receive a suspect email.

Emails containing sensitive personal data, or otherwise sensitive information, **will** be sent securely. Any personal data sent externally by email **will** be sent with encryption enabled or via a password protected file with the password sent via alternative means e.g. telephone.

All senders **will** ensure the appropriate secure email method is chosen according to the circumstances of the destination of the email.

Senders of any controlled/restricted email **will** be extremely vigilant about verifying the recipient's email address to ensure sensitive data is not sent to the wrong individual/s, leading to a data breach.

Personal data sent to the incorrect recipient **will** be reported in line with **school** Data Breach Procedure.

When emailing multiple recipients, the 'TO' box **will** be addressed to an address within the organisation (e.g. [info@school.sch.uk](mailto:info@school.sch.uk)) and the BCC option (blind copy) chosen to add multiple email addresses so addresses are not disclosed.

## 6.6 Email Retention

Emails will automatically be deleted **after 3 – 6 months**. Any emails which need to be kept beyond this period **will** be saved to appropriate file storage. For further information, please refer to the **school's** retention schedule.

All electronic communications, whilst they are held by the **school**, are potentially disclosable under data protection legislation and anything within an email could be released in response to a Subject Access Request.

## 6.7 Out of Office

Email accounts **will** return an Out of Office message during school holidays. This will indicate whether or not emails will be monitored and when the **school's** reopens. Similarly, during periods of extended staff absence an Out of Office message **will** refer senders to an alternative or general **school's** email address.

## 7. Instant Messaging (IM) including Microsoft Teams

Instant Messaging is a form of real time communication between two or more people based on typed text. The text is conveyed via devices connected over the Internet or an internal network/intranet. Messages are retained in conversation history in the email folder list or are saved as emails in the inbox if the recipient does not respond immediately. Users will only use **school** provided internet messaging (IM) services. IM will not be used as a substitute for email. IM will be used only for questions or announcements that are short and need to be communicated immediately.

Private use of instant messaging for any purpose is not permitted.

More information on the use of other social media can be found in the **school's** Social Media Policy.

## 8. Recording calls / meetings / online lessons / staff training

Recording calls, meetings, online lessons, etc will generate personal data including pupil images, names, contributions, and contact details and will be protected, processed and retained in the same way as all personal data, in line with the **school's** Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notices and in accordance with our other policies including Off Site Working and Bring Your Own Device policies, as well as our Retention Schedule. The **school's** recognises that recording staff whilst at work may be considered to be privacy intrusive and therefore careful safeguards will be put in place should recording be deemed necessary. In particular, the **school will** ensure that the Data Protection principles as set out in the Data Protection Policy ("Our DP rules") are adhered to.

**Only authorised (see our AI policy) tools and software will be used for these purposes.**

We will never record calls, meetings, online lessons or staff training in a covert manner.

Recordings in these circumstances will be carried out in line with our HR policies and procedures

### 8.1 Recording telephone calls

We **do not** record incoming and outgoing telephone calls.

### 8.2 Recording meetings

We may record meetings. The purpose of this is to ensure minutes and notes taken are an accurate record. Attendees will be informed if the meeting is to be recorded. Recordings will be securely destroyed as soon as the minutes have been approved. Recordings will be available to attendees until minutes are approved and the recording destroyed.

### 8.3 Recording online lessons

We **do not deliver online** lessons.

### 8.4 Recording staff training

We may record staff training. The purpose of this is to ensure the training is available to staff who were unable to attend live. Attendees will be informed if the training is to be recorded. Protocols regarding cameras, chats and contacts will be outlined at the start of each session. Additional information about our lawful basis, processors, use and retention period can be found in our Privacy Notices and Retention Schedule.

## 9. Internet Use

### 9.1 Personal Use

Personal use of the internet is only permitted in staff's own time (e.g. before or after work and during lunchtime) and limited to browser-based activities.

Staff will not use the **school's** internet or email systems for trading or personal business purposes.

Staff are advised not to conduct online payments. This is due to the information being stored locally on the computer, which potentially could be compromised, putting the user at financial risk. If the Internet is used to buy goods or services, the **school** will not accept liability for default of payment or for security of any personal information provided. Goods must not be delivered to a **school** address.

All Internet browsing sessions **will** be terminated as soon as they are concluded.

### 9.2 Filtering Content

Many Internet sites that contain unacceptable content are blocked automatically by the **school's** filtering and monitoring systems. However, it is not possible to block all "unacceptable" sites electronically in all circumstances.

Attempting to bypass or disabling filtering, proxy or security settings is strictly forbidden.

Where it is necessary to change the filtering and monitoring settings, the business reasons for the action will be documented as per the DfE Filtering and Monitoring standards, KCSiE para **140-142**. In line with these, approval from the DSL/Headteacher **will** be sought and where temporary changes are made these **will** be managed and closed back down as soon as possible.

Filtering requirements form part of KCSiE, the Prevent Duty, as enacted in the [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#). The DfE have released Filtering and Monitoring standards for schools and colleges to follow.

### 9.3 Downloading Material

Users **will** not download-video, music files, games, software files and other computer programs. These types of files consume large quantities of storage space on the system (and can slow it down considerably) and may violate copyright laws.

Streaming media, such as radio or TV programmes, for non-work related purposes is not permitted.

### 9.4 Accidental Access to Inappropriate Material

You may receive an email or mistakenly visit an Internet site that contains unacceptable material. If this occurs, you **will** inform **the Headteacher** immediately.

The manager will ask for details of the incident including how the event occurred. This information may be required later for management and audit purposes.

### 9.5 Copyright

Most sites contain a copyright notice detailing how material may be used.

If there is any doubt about downloading and using material for official purposes, seek legal advice to ensure compliance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

Cutting and pasting material from one source to another may be in violation of copyright laws. All sources used for research purposes should be referenced appropriately and credited.

### 9.6 Unacceptable Use

Staff **will** not deliberately view, copy, create, download, save, print or distribute any material that:

- is sexually explicit or obscene
- is racist, sexist, homophobic, harassing or in any other way discriminatory or offensive
- contains material the possession of which would constitute a criminal offence
- promotes any form of criminal activity
- contains unwelcome propositions
- involves gambling, multi-player games or soliciting for personal gain or profit
- contains images, cartoons or jokes that may cause offence
- appears to be a chain letter
- brings the **school** into disrepute or exposes it to legal action

This list is not exhaustive and the **school** may define other areas of unacceptable use.

Unacceptable use may be reported to **Law enforcement agencies e.g. police** if likely to constitute a breach of the Computer Misuse Act 1990.

### 9.7 Social Media

Staff who use social media as part of their job must adhere to the School policy. Employees must be aware that they are representing the School, and use the same safeguards as they would with any other form of communication about the organisation in the public domain.

South Normanton Nursery School official social media channels are:

- <https://en-gb.facebook.com/South-Normanton-Nursery-School-495066510637415/>

The official use of social media sites only takes place with clear educational or community engagement objectives, with specific intended outcomes.

The official use of social media as a communication tool has been formally risk assessed and approved by the Headteacher. Only the Headteacher, Teacher and SBM have access to account information and login details for our social media channels, to post on these sites.

Staff use setting provided email addresses to register for and manage any official social media channels.

Official social media use will be conducted in line with existing policies, including: anti-bullying, data protection, confidentiality, social media and child protection.

All communication on official social media platforms will be clear, transparent and open to scrutiny.

Parents and carers will be informed of any official social media use with learners; written parental consent will be obtained, as required. Consent is given via Microsoft forms and consent can be withdrawn at any time.

We will ensure that any official social media use does not exclude other methods of communication, so as to reach any members of the community who are unable or unwilling to utilise social media.

Consideration will be given to the universality of any form of communication utilised.

### 9.8 Use of Tapestry/Learning Journals

At South Normanton Nursery School, we use an online system called Tapestry (*changing to Learning Journals, Sept 2025*) to record and store observations and assessments relating to each child. This is a safe and secure system and one that enables parents and carers to access their child's learning journey at any time. They can share it with their child, family and friends at home and also post any comments and photographs of their own, helping to create a fully holistic view of the child and strengthen the parent partnership.

All staff are fully trained in the use of Tapestry and understand how it fits into the teaching and learning at SNNS. **Staff will be trained in the use of Learning Journeys.**

#### *Safety*

As part of our commitment to safeguarding our children, all learning journeys are password protected so that parents and carers can only access the account of their child. Other than family, only the nursery staff (teachers and EYEs) and the School Business Manager have access to the journal.

Staff use mobile devices to take the photographs for observations that will be uploaded to the journal. Staff are only permitted to take the tablets/i-Pods home when permission is granted by the Headteacher, and signed out in the staff signing in/out folder. For security and for the purposes of safeguarding, photos must be stored on the app itself before it leaves the premises, rather than on the 'camera roll'. Otherwise, mobile devices will remain on the premises at all times and are to be stored in the locked building at the end of each day and in a separate locked cupboard over the holidays as a security measure. They are all security marked and password protected on the device itself and the app is also password protected.

Staff wishing to update journals at home are able to access the Tapestry site using their own device. When doing this the same security measures apply as the app can only be opened on a computer, tablet, iPod, iPad or phone, using a password, unique thumb print or facial recognition.

#### *Sharing with children*

Staff can share the photos they take with the children as/after they are taken and can record any comments made by the child on the Tapestry/*Learning Journals* site either under the photo or in with the observation. We will also encourage parents and carers to share the learning journeys at home with their child.

Children viewing their learning journey at school enables them to develop their sense of belonging and share experiences with their peers. When sharing photos to a group at nursery, children will be asked to verbally give their permission to share their photos/ for others to view it. This is for the purposes of our E-Safety curriculum, to reinforce that the photo 'belongs to them' and they have a right to choose if others see it. This is linked to their right to privacy, RRS Article 16 and our nursery charter.

### Parents without Internet

For parents without access to the Internet, we will offer support setting up email addresses and also offer access to their child's learning journey from a supervised computer in school. When the children leave the setting permanently, we send parents details of how to download their child's Learning Journey so they have a lasting record of their child's time at SNNS. For those that don't have internet access, we can also print all the information from Tapestry and put it into a scrap book if a request is made to do so.

### Transition

**Tapestry** - when moving into Reception or to another setting, a copy of each learning journey will be emailed to the appropriate school/setting.

**Learning Journals** - when moving into Reception or to another setting, learning journeys will **NOT be shared with the next appropriate school/setting**.

As data controller, we the Tapestry/**Learning Journal** account holder, **have** overall responsibility for complying with the Data Protection Agency requirements, agree to the terms and conditions as attached which set out our responsibilities and theirs.

We consider the importance of the following at SNNS:

- training staff in the use of Tapestry/**Learning Journals**, explaining sensible precautions such as keeping all access details confidential, and not permitting any material to be used without written permission from the parents/carers.
- the need to delete/inactivate staff from the Tapestry/**Learning Journal** account once they have left our employment.
- prevent access to Tapestry/**Learning Journals** for staff who are involved in disciplinary procedures.
- prevent access to Tapestry/**Learning Journals** for parents whose children have been made inactive or have been deleted, unless they have other children at your setting.
- giving parents instructions for keeping **their** data protected, e.g. by insisting no photos are uploaded to social media sites without permission of the parents whose children are depicted in photos, videos or text. Using the content of their learning journey sensitively and with respect.

We also use **Learning Journals** to track the progress of our children. This is a safe and secure online system which allows staff to record and analyse children's assessment data. Relevant staff are fully trained in **its use** and understand how to use it effectively for the purposes of tracking progress and attainment. Only key staff have access to the **progress and attainment section of the software**. These are the Headteacher, Teacher, SBM and HLTA. These staff members have their own personal log on and relevant access to the system as designated by the Headteacher allowing them to update data for the children. To ensure the protection of children's information, **Learning Journals** is also password protected.

Staff only use nursery laptops to access **Learning Journals**. The Headteacher, Lead Teacher and HLTA may also access **Learning Journals** off site on nursery laptops. All data is saved and stored online. No data **is** stored locally on laptops or desktop computers.

## 10. Monitoring

The **school** is able to produce monitoring information, which may include email usage statistics, frequent email contacts, file sizes and may lead to making further enquiries.

The **school** is also able to record the details of all Internet traffic to protect the **school** and its employees from security breaches and including hacking, and to ensure that "unacceptable" sites are not being visited in line with the KCSIE and DfE Filtering and Monitoring standards.

Any potential infringement will be referred to Senior Leaders as part of routine reviews.

The **school** may read and inspect individual emails and attachments for specific business purposes or during disciplinary investigations including:

- Establishing the content of transactions,
- Ensuring employees are complying both with the law and with the **school** email policy, and
- Checking emails when employees are on leave, absent or for other supervisory purposes.

The **school** email system records details of all emails sent and received. The system filters the use of certain prohibited words and may limit file sizes.

Monitoring logs may include:

- The network identifier (username) of the user
- The address of the Internet site being accessed
- Where access was attempted and blocked by the system
- The web page visited and its content
- The name of any file accessed and/or downloaded
- The identity of the computer on the network and the date and time

Any excessive or inappropriate use may result in disciplinary action being taken.

Interception of communications **will** be carried out in compliance with the [Investigatory Powers Act 2016](#).

## 11. Passwords

Access to applications and information is controlled to protect Users and the **school**.

Passwords **will** be strong and safe enough to keep data secure. In line with the DfE Digital Standards.

Our **school** have enforced password security at system level where it allows, Users will follow the latest advice for setting passwords, which forms part of their annual Cyber Security Training. Users can also use the advice on choosing a strong password available from the [NCSC](#).

Passwords will not be written down or shared. Staff will not allow other users to use their passwords or user accounts. Passwords will be difficult for others to guess and not contain personal data such as name, age, or address. **Passwords must also NOT be auto saved on ANY device.**

The **school** recommends the use of a [Password Manager](#) to aid Users in keeping track of passwords.

Users will change their password immediate if they suspect or know that it has been compromised.

Users should not reuse passwords, on the same system or across multiple systems.

Multi-factor authentication **will** be enabled when working with high-risk data or administrative accounts in line with the DFE Digital and Technology Standards for Schools and Colleges.

## 12. Loaned IT Equipment

Devices issued to staff remain the property of the **school** and is provided to Users on a loaned basis. The device **will** not be used by anyone other than the authorised user to whom it has been allocated.

Any device property identification **will** not be altered or removed for any reason.

Users who borrow equipment from the **school will** sign for it and bear the responsibility for its care.

All reasonable care **will** be taken to prevent loss, damage, theft or unauthorised use of IT equipment. Devices **will** never be left in a vehicle or other unsecured, vulnerable situation. See the Offsite Working Procedure for more guidance.

Any loss or damage to equipment on loan **will** be immediately reported to the **Headteacher** in the first instance and any theft or criminal damage **will** be reported to **Law enforcement agencies e.g. police**.

Where there is evidence that the equipment has not been used in accordance with policy, a charge may be made for the replacement or repair of any **school** equipment whilst on loan.

### 12.1 Use of I-Pods and i-Pads

Development of modern technology means that iPods and other mobile devices can now be used to effectively record and track children's learning. This policy sets out how staff will use these devices whilst keeping children safe. We will ensure;

Only school iPods and iPads (devices) will be used to take photographs, audio recordings or video of children by EYEs. All of these devices will be set up securely by administrators and password protected and checked termly. Staff are not permitted to use the devices for any other purpose. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for full details of iPod/ iPad security setup.

Administrators have the use of 2 additional cameras and additional applications to take photographs for the purposes of advertising and the nursery website. These are subject to separate safeguarding procedures. See **Appendix 2**.

All parents will be asked to give parental consent to using photos in this way.

Personal mobiles, cameras or video recorders cannot be used to record classroom activities. ONLY school property can be used for this. ***The School Business Manager may use her personal mobile phone to take staff photos for the noticeboard – these photos will be emailed to her school email account and deleted off the phone immediately after use.***

When in use in the day, the staff will ensure that the mobile devices are kept safe on the staff member's person and used for recording evidence of learning only.

We have four iPads for use with the children and all staff are familiar with how to lock down the I-pad to one application only using the guided access function in the accessibility part of settings. Different features can be accessed once guided access is switched on and protected with a passcode setting.

Practitioners only will charge the iPads. Children will be reminded of their safety and length of use when playing on the iPads and our iPad rules must always be followed to stay safe and respect our property. (refer to Appendix 3 for rules)

Overnight the devices will be in the staff room. Although staff can access more than one device, the secure storage of the device is the responsibility of the member of staff to which the device has been assigned.

The learning journey app (Tapestry/**Learning Journals**) allows parents/carers to view observations and photos of children's work (learning journey) from their own device or computer via email. Parents will be invited through an email process to confirm their registration with Tapestry/**Learning Journals** in order to view their child's learning journey.

Early Years Educators and key workers will record photos and observations, and teaching staff will be responsible for training and supporting them in the use of the programs and devices.

Photographs and recordings can only be transferred to and stored on the server to be printed. The Tapestry/**Learning Journal** app can be accessed remotely, but staff will only download data or photographs onto school computers. When iPods are taken off site, photographs will be downloaded to Tapestry/**Learning Journals** or to a secure computer prior to leaving the building. This is also the responsibility of the person to which the device has been assigned.

Data held in the Tapestry/**Learning Journals** system is secure and encrypted and backed up continuously as it is a cloud based system, throughout the day.

MyConcern (online Safeguarding reporting, recording system) – training has taken place relating to the use of iPod and iPad usage to record and report safeguarding incidents in a timely fashion. All staff understand the importance of being aware of logging out of the site even though it locks down after a short period of time and after safari is closed/home button is pressed.

Safeguarding is of the utmost importance and we ensure that all staff are aware of children with SEND, looked and looked after children and other school groups that may be more vulnerable.

#### **Data Protection**

The school has undertaken a review and audit of school GDPR information audit in line with the Data Protection Act 2018. Retention of records, information sharing and storage of data belonging to children, staff and visitors in relation to the use of mobile devices at school, follow processes and guidelines as set out in related law and guidance and Page 15 of 22 Copyright: Education Data Hub Released: April 2021 v3.0 school and county policies and procedures linked to GDPR and data protection and in collaboration with our Data Protection Officer (DPO).

### 13. Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

To prevent data loss and ensure consistent application of school policies, no personally owned equipment will be attached to the school's network without the permission of the Headteacher.

Please refer to the separate the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

### 14. Software, Updates and Patching

School devices have a predetermined list of software installed on the hard drive.

Users will use software in accordance with applicable licence agreements. It is a criminal offence to copy software or any supporting documentation protected by copyright.

The use, or possession of unlicensed copies or "pirated" versions of software is illegal and is expressly prohibited by the school.

No addition or deletion of any software or hardware (except peripherals) is permitted without the express permission of the **Headteacher**. This includes the setting up of web-based accounts.

Software and web-based accounts that use personal data may be subject to a Data Protection Impact Assessment and so **will** not be installed or set up until this has been carried out.

To ensure that security patches and virus definitions are up to date staff **will** connect devices to the **school** network on a regular basis. Updates must be allowed to run and **will** not be interrupted.

Staff **will** make careful, considerate use of the **school** IT resources, report faults and work in a way that minimises the risk of introducing computer viruses into the system.

## 15 Network Access and Data Security

### 15.1 Users' Authorisation

Those accessing information systems, data or services will be authorised to do so by an appropriate authority, usually their line manager.

Changes to access must be requested and authorised. Users who believe they have access to systems they no longer need, **will** report this to their line manager.

Users **will** only access information held on the **school** computer systems if authorised to do so and the information is needed to carry out their work.

Line managers will only request the minimum access required for the user to carry out their work.

A record of user access to systems will be maintained and periodically reviewed.

### 15.2 Starters, Movers and Leavers (Account Creation, Approval and Removal process)

Line managers **will** ensure that access to IT Systems is only available to employees during their period of employment and withdrawn as soon as employment is terminated.

The same principles apply to pupils joining and leaving the **school**. A new starter, mover and leaver process **will** be in place in **school** which may include external suppliers, a record of this **will** detail:

1. The names of the systems Users have been given access to
2. The date the access was enabled
3. The level of access (role)
4. The name of the authoriser

This process **will** also include changed access due to promotion, secondment, or demotion.

When a contract of employment at the **school** ends, the member of staff **will** return all equipment, including peripherals, to the **school** in full working condition.

It is the responsibility of the user to backup any data or documents they may require, prior to returning the device. Any data pertaining directly to the **school** or members of the **school** community **will** not be retained.

Retaining any personal data without the authorisation of the **school** is an offence under the Data Protection Act 2018.

The user account and all personal work stored on the laptop will be securely deleted upon return.

### 15.3 External Support Access

A guest network is available for visitors to use. Access to this network is authorised by the Headteacher, and once authorised, a password which lasts for one day, will be provided.

### 15.4 Confidentiality

Under no circumstances will personal or other confidential information held on the school network or IT equipment be disclosed to unauthorised persons. Any accidental access to information must be immediately reported to the Headteacher as a data breach.

Staff will ensure that confidential or sensitive data is not accessible to unauthorised persons by logging off or locking the computer when it is left unattended.

In classrooms, screens will be set to extend to the Interactive whiteboard rather than duplicate and when using screen sharing facilities, Users will fully close or minimise screens with any sensitive data / emails.

### 15.5 Security of Portable Devices

The school allows the use of school supplied encrypted USBs / removable storage devices.

Sensitive or confidential information will be accessed via the network and will not be permanently stored on portable devices e.g. memory sticks / laptops / tablets.

Where the use of a memory stick to transfer or store data temporarily is unavoidable, this will be done using an encrypted memory stick provided by the school.

All school devices used to store personal information will be fully encrypted.

### 15.6 Physical Security

Building access and physical controls protect areas where sensitive or confidential information is processed. Server access and access to network equipment, telecoms and network access points is restricted to those staff with authorisation. Staff will not attempt to access restricted points, or allow others to use their [passes, codes or keys] to gain access. Staff will report the loss of [passes, codes or keys] immediately following the school reporting process in line with Safeguarding requirements.

### 15.7 Administrative Access

- Administrative accounts and credentials will use strong authentication / complex passwords. Current guidance on the authentication and security measures that should be put into place for network devices, filtering and monitoring services and administrative accounts can be found in the [DfE Digital Standards](#).
- Administrative accounts will not be used for general activities, especially those of high-risk, such as browsing the internet or emailing.
- Administrative access is only provided to designated staff and a review of administrators for each system will be carried out termly, including administrative accounts that have not been used for a prolonged period of time, in line with the DfE Cyber Security Standards.

## 16. Disposal of Computing Resources

Computing resources will be disposed of in line with WEEE regulations, The Hazardous Waste Act, The Environmental Protection Act 1990, The Environment Act 1995, [The Environment Act 2021](#), [The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013](#), [The Waste Management \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2006](#) and The Data Protection Act 2018.

1. **Governor** approval will be sought before Computing resources are disposed.
2. Following **Governor** approval, all equipment which contains sensitive files will have their hard disk drives wiped and all sensitive or confidential data and licensed software will be irretrievably deleted during the disposal process.
3. Damaged devices containing sensitive or confidential data will undergo assessment to determine if the device **will** be destroyed, repaired or discarded.
4. If a third party contractor is used, suppliers will be suitably accredited and disposal certification will be obtained.
5. Finally, the **school's** inventory will be updated.

## 17. Backup Procedures

If software/hardware problems arise, a device may need to be restored to its original settings. Work files may be lost during the restore process, therefore it is the responsibility of all Users to ensure that files are saved to network drives or cloud-based networks.

Removable storage, such as encrypted USBs are not backed up by the routine backup process and Users take responsibility for carrying out a manual backup process.

The **school** ensures that systematic backup of data is completed on a regular basis so that recovery of essential data can be managed in the event of loss of data files or system failure.

School Process	On-site / off-site	Frequency (daily/weekly/monthly)
Main File Server	Cloud based	Daily
School MIS	Real time	Constantly
Email Server	Cloud based	Daily
Curriculum Files	Cloud based	Daily
Administration Files	Cloud based	Daily
Website	Web based	Daily

**The backup is cloud based and protected in the event of an incident.**

## 18. Disaster Recovery Procedures

In the case of a disaster staff **will** refer to the **Critical Incidents Management Plan** and/or the Disaster Recovery Plan, which includes cyber incidents. **The plan includes** the following as per the DfE Cyber Security Standards:

- staff responsibilities
- out of hours contacts and procedures
- internal and external reporting and communications plans
- priorities for service restoration
- the minimum operational IT requirements
- where to can find additional help and resources

Hard copies of key information **will** be kept in case of total system failure, and the plans **will** be regularly tested and reviewed.

The **school will** ensure all items are appropriately insured.

## 19. Breaches of Policy

Breaches of this policy and/or security incidents can be defined as events which could have, or have resulted in, loss or damage to **school** assets, or an event which is in breach of the **school** security procedures and policies.

All **school** employees, supply staff, **Governors**, contractors, and volunteers have a responsibility to report security incidents and breaches of this policy as quickly as possible through the **school** Incident Reporting Procedure. This obligation also extends to any external organisation contracted to support or access the Information Systems of the **school**.

The **school** will take appropriate measures to remedy any breach of the policy and its associated procedures and guidelines through the relevant frameworks in place.

Suspected misuse of the **school** digital systems by a member of staff will be considered by the Headteacher **and if necessary**, **Governors**. In the case of an individual then the matter may be dealt with under the disciplinary process.

**Appendix 1.****iPod/ iPad Setup and Security**

All iPods/ iPads are set up and secured as follows;

**ADMIN and NOT USED folders set up on each device to organise applications and clarify their use for all staff.**

**ADMIN Folder**

- gives access to settings application for use by administrators only.
- within settings, restrictions are on and password protected with a password know only by administrators.
- all applications are set to off, except camera and dictation.
- staff are not permitted to set up mail for use on the iPods. The mail application cannot be removed. NB. Administrators refers to Ruth Davison/ LEAD IT

**NOT USED folder**

Houses all other applications which cannot be removed from the device but are not used by staff. None of the applications stored in this folder pose a threat to security.

**Additional Security. iPods and iPads**

- A password is required to open the device. Passwords are known by EYEs and the administrator.
- An additional sign in and password is required for staff to use Tapestry application.

***iPod D/ Camera Security for Administrators Only*****iPod D:**

- this device is password protected with alternative password known only to the administrators
- administrators only have access to iPod D
- iPod D is set up with 'Facebook' app to allow for quick transfer of photos to Facebook on site at nursery. This is set to nursery account only and has an additional password protection to access the app. Administrators are only permitted to use the 'Facebook' application with the nursery Facebook page.