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Safeguarding Communities

Embracing Difference

Unlocking Potential

## Acceptable Use Policy – Resources & Agreement for parents and carers April 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

All students at Great Oaks Small School use computer facilities and internet access as an essential part of learning. Your child will have the opportunity to access a wide range of information and communication technology (ICT) resources. This includes access to:

- Computers, laptops and other digital devices
- The Internet, which may include search engines and educational sites
- School learning platform/intranet
- Email
- Games consoles and other games-based technologies
- Digital cameras and video cameras

Great Oaks Small School; recognises the essential and important contribution that technology plays in promoting children's learning and development, believe it and offers a fantastic range of positive activities and experiences. We do recognise however that this can bring risks. We take your child's online safety seriously and, as such, will take all reasonable precautions, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that all students are safe when they use our internet and systems. This also includes:

- Teaching students how to use a range of devices safely
- Appropriate supervision
- An online safety and curriculum

We recognise however that no technical system can replace online safety education and believe that children themselves have an important role to play in developing responsible behaviour. To support the school in developing your child's knowledge and understanding about online safety, we request that you read the Acceptable Use Policy for Students with your child, discuss the content with them and return the attached Parent/Carer Acknowledgement Form (2) and also the enclosed Acceptable Use Policy for Students Agreement Form (1). The Acceptable Use Policy for Students can be found on the school website (<http://www.greatoakssmallschool.co.uk/>). Click on the **Policies** tab at the top of the website page – the policy is listed below the **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES**.

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Please note when visiting: we have staff and students who are allergic to fragrances e.g. perfume, aftershave, body sprays etc

Hopefully, you will also find this Acceptable Use Policy provides you with an opportunity for conversations between you and your child about safe and appropriate use of the technology, both at school and at home.

We request that all parents support our approach to online safety by role modelling safe and positive online behaviour and by discussing online safety whenever children access technology at home. Parents can visit the school website for more information about our approach to online safety:

<http://www.greatoakssmallschool.co.uk>.

Full details of the school's online safety policy are available on the school website or on request from the school office. Parents/carers may also like to visit the following links for more information about keeping children safe online:

- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
- [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)
- [www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety)
- [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)
- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- <https://w3.cerebra.org.uk/help-and-information/guides-for-parents/learning-disabilities-autism-and-internet-safety-a-parents-guide/>
- <https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Supporting-Young-People-Online.pdf>

Please read the Student Acceptable Use Policy - Parental/Carer Acknowledgment and return it to the school office. Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Kelly  
Head Teacher

## 2. Parent/Carer Acknowledgement Form

### Acceptable Use Policy for Students - Parental/Carer Acknowledgment

I, with my child, have read and discussed Great Oaks Small School's Student Acceptable Use Policy.

I am aware that any internet and computer use using school equipment may be monitored for safety and security reason to safeguard both my child and the schools' systems. This monitoring will be proportionate and will take place in accordance with data protection, privacy and human rights legislation.

I with my child, am aware of the importance of safe online behaviour and will not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset, threaten the safety of or offend any member of the school community.

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use Policy or have any concerns about my child's safety.

I will inform the school or other relevant organisations if I have concerns over my child's or other members of the school communities' safety online.

I know that my child will receive online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

I will support the schools online safety approaches and will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home.

Child's Name.....

Signed **(if appropriate)** .....

Date.....

Parents Name.....

Parents Signature..... Date.....