



Acceptable Use of Technology Policies Information for Parents

Recently, we have updated the school's Acceptable Use of Technology Policies (AUP). These policies outline how we keep our school community safe online.

Copies of the children's acceptable usage policies (one for EYFS and Key Stage One – years R and 2 and one for Key Stage Two – years 3 to 6) have been sent out to you via ParentMail. They can also be found on the Online Safety page of the school website. We refer to these as our Online Safety Rules when talking to the children. Please have a look through these and talk to your child about them. Regularly throughout the year, staff will also talk to the children about how to stay safe online and remind them of our online safety rules.

Things that parents should be aware of;

- All children have the opportunity to use the internet in school – this may be for the purpose of research or using an educational website. The children are always supervised when working online. Online access is age appropriate and follows our IT curriculum.
- Our AUPs apply to a child's use of school devices and systems on site (or off site in the event that school technology is loaned out for home use), and personal use where there are safeguarding and/or behaviour concerns. This may include if online behaviour poses a threat or causes harm to another child, if it could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school, if a child is identifiable as a member of the school, or if the behaviour could adversely affect the reputation of the school.
- School devices and systems are appropriately and robustly filtered, ensuring child-safe internet access. Our filtering systems are managed by Towers IT support who manage all aspects of IT support at Godinton. Our monitoring systems ensure that school systems and devices are being appropriately used and identify, for example if any inappropriate searches have been carried out. Monitoring approaches keep our children safe and are always proportionate and take place in accordance with data protection, privacy and human rights legislation.

- Our school takes every reasonable precaution, including implementing appropriate monitoring and filtering systems as above, to ensure that children are safe when they use school devices and systems. However the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for filtering breaches that occur due to the dynamic nature of materials accessed online.
- The school's Online Safety Policy outlines that children cannot use personal devices, including mobile and smart technology on site.
- Parents should help to support their children in staying safe online and in ensuring that their children do not abuse other children online. Parents should ensure that their children do not deliberately upload or share any content that could upset, threaten the safety of or offend any member of the school community, or content that could adversely affect the reputation of the school/setting.
- In the event that the school has a concern about possible breaches of our online safety rules or any concerns about a child's online activity, parents will be contacted.
- If a parents is concerned about their child's online activity or about that of other members of the school community, they should contact Miss Talbot (Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead).
- Online safety forms a key part of our IT curriculum. Children receive online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet, both in and out of school. In addition to this, each year, the school participates in activities to promote National Safer Internet Day. Further information about staying safe online, including links to useful websites, can be found on the school website:
- <https://godinton.kent.sch.uk/safeguarding/online-safety/>
- Parents have a role and responsibility to support the school's online safety approaches. Parents should use parental controls, supervise access and encourage their child to adopt safe use of the internet and other technology at home, as appropriate to their age and understanding.