

Crofton Hammond Infant School

ONLINE SAFETY POLICY



Policy approved:	March 2024	FGB
Signed:	<i>S Hosmer</i>	Headteacher
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Monitored and evaluated by:	Curriculum Committee	Annually

CROFTON HAMMOND INFANT SCHOOL ONLINE SAFETY POLICY

This policy should be read alongside Crofton Hammond Infant School's policies and procedures on child protection and safeguarding.

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of children is paramount when adults or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices.
- Provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety.
- Ensure that, as a school, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices. The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers and children at Crofton Hammond Infant School.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of the key legislation and guidance are available on:

- **Online abuse** learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse
- **Bullying** learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying
- **Child protection** learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.
- Children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times.

We recognise that:

- The online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges.
- We have a duty to ensure that all children and adults at Crofton Hammond Infant School are protected from potential harm online.
- We have a responsibility to help keep children safe online, whether or not they are using a school network and devices.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

We will seek to keep children and staff safe by:

- Appointing an online safety coordinator who is also a Designated Safeguarding Lead – this is Ruth Halbauer.
- Providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online.
- Supporting and encouraging children to use the internet in school in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others.
- Teaching the schools online safety curriculum through half termly lessons, but also in response to issues as they arise.
- Supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online at home.
- Having a clear online safety agreement for use with our children.
- Having an 'Acceptable use of ICT for staff' document that includes Online Safety and is reviewed and signed annually by staff.
- Having a clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person.

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- Reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly with support from AgileICT.
- Ensuring that user names, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively and not shared.
- Ensuring personal information, about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation, is held securely and shared only as appropriate.
- Ensuring that images of children and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given.
- Providing supervision, support and training for staff about online safety.
- Examining and risk assessing new technologies before they are used within school.
- Having filters on school systems to prevent access to harmful content, managed by AgileICT.

If online abuse occurs, we will respond to it by:

- Having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse (including online abuse).
- Providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying/cyberbullying, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.
- Making sure our response takes the needs of the person experiencing abuse, any bystanders and our organisation as a whole into account.