

Burradon Community Primary School



E–Safety Policy

September 2026
Mrs McKnight

1. Aims Our school aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE) statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#), and its advice for schools on:

- [Teaching online safety in schools](#)
- [Preventing and tackling bullying](#) and [cyber-bullying: advice for headteachers and school staff](#)
- [Relationships and sex education](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation](#)
- [Filtering and monitoring](#)

It also refers to the DfE's guidance on [protecting children from radicalisation](#).

It reflects existing legislation, including but not limited to the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended), the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#) and the [Equality Act 2010](#).

In addition, it reflects the [Education Act 2011](#), which has given teachers stronger powers to tackle cyberbullying by, if necessary, searching for and deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils' electronic devices where they believe there is a 'good reason' to do so.

The policy also takes into account the National Curriculum computing programmes of study.

3. E-Safety - Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 The governing body

The governing body has overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

The governing body will co-ordinate regular meetings with appropriate staff to discuss online safety, and monitor any online safety logs.

All governors will:

- Ensure that they have read and understand this policy
- Agree and adhere to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet

3.2 The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that staff understand this policy, and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school.

3.3 The Designated Safeguarding Lead

Details of the school's DSL and deputies are set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy as well as relevant job descriptions.

The E-Safety Lead takes lead responsibility for online safety in school, in particular:

- Supporting the headteacher in ensuring that staff understand this policy and that it is being implemented consistently throughout the school
- Working with the headteacher, ICT Network Manager, North Tyneside, and other staff, as necessary, to address any online safety issues or incidents
- Ensuring that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy
- Updating and delivering staff training on online safety
- Liaising with other agencies and/or external services if necessary

3.4 The ICT Network Manager, North Tyneside

The ICT Network Manager:

- Putting in place appropriate filtering and monitoring systems, which are updated on a regular basis and keep pupils safe from potentially harmful and inappropriate content and contact online while at school, including terrorist and extremist material
- Ensuring that the school's ICT systems are secure and protected against viruses and malware, and that such safety mechanisms are updated regularly
- Conducting a full security check and monitoring the school's ICT systems on a regular basis
- Blocking access to potentially dangerous sites and, where possible, preventing the downloading of potentially dangerous files

3.5 All staff and volunteers

All staff, including contractors and agency staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- Maintaining an understanding of this policy
- Implementing this policy consistently
- Agreeing and adhering to the terms on acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet and ensuring that pupils follow the school's terms on acceptable use

- Working with the E-Safety Lead to ensure that any online safety incidents are logged and dealt with appropriately in line with this policy
- Ensuring that any incidents of cyber-bullying are dealt with appropriately in line with the school behaviour policy

4. Educating pupils about online safety

4.1 Pupils will be taught about online safety as part of the curriculum:

In **Key Stage 1**, pupils will be taught to:

- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private
- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Pupils in **Key Stage 2** will be taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact

By the end of primary school, pupils will know:

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- That the same principles apply to online relationships as to face-to-face relationships, including the importance of respect for others online including when we are anonymous
- The rules and principles for keeping safe online, how to recognise risks, harmful content and contact, and how to report them
- How to critically consider their online friendships and sources of information including awareness of the risks associated with people they have never met
- How information and data is shared and used online
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults they may encounter (in all contexts, including online) whom they do not know

4.2 Curriculum Content - Implementation

- The school believes it is essential for e-safety guidance to be given to the students on a regular and meaningful basis. E-safety is embedded within the curriculum and the school continually looks for new opportunities to promote e-safety.
- Our E-Safety Curriculum uses resources from Project Evolve, covering each of the 330 statements from UK Council for Internet Safety's (UKCIS). This includes areas such as: Self Image and Identity; Online Relationships; Online Reputation; Online Bullying; Managing Information Online; Health Well-being and Lifestyle; Privacy and Security; and Copyright and Ownership.

- The school provides opportunities within a range of curriculum areas to teach about e-safety including, but not limited to, IT and SMSC. Throughout the curriculum, students learn about internet safety and are offered advice on how to stay safe online.
- The school provides a half-termly focus on key areas of Social Media and Gaming that children are accessing e.g. SnapChat, TikTok.
- Pupils are made aware of the dangers when using the internet such as data protection, intellectual property and on-line gaming which may limit what they want to do but also serves to protect them.
- Pupils are taught about copyright and respecting other people's information, images, etc. through discussion, modelling and activities.
- Pupils are aware of the impact of Cyberbullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying.
- Pupils are made aware of Harmful Online Challenges and Online Hoaxes this includes advice on preparing for any online challenges and hoaxes, sharing information with parents and carers and where to get help and support. [Harmful Online Challenges and Online Hoaxes](#)
- Pupils are made aware about misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories.
- At an age appropriate level, pupils will receive learning around online misogyny and what consent means online.
- Pupils are taught about both the positives and negatives of generative AI but the use of this in school is minimal. This includes (at an age appropriate level) the use of deepfakes which can be used to create false or misleading images, videos or audio. These may be used for bullying, harassment, impersonation or the sharing of harmful content.

Burradon Community Primary School will:

- Teach pupils that online content may not always be real or trustworthy.
- Educate pupils about the safe and responsible use of AI technologies.
- Encourage pupils to report any concerning online content to a trusted adult.
- Ensure staff are aware of the safeguarding risks associated with AI-generated content and deepfakes.
- Manage any incidents involving AI misuse through the school's safeguarding procedures.
- Pupils are also aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies; i.e. parent/ carer, teacher/ trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Childline or CEOP report abuse button.
- Pupils are taught to critically evaluate materials and learn good searching skills through cross-curricular teacher models, discussions and via the ICT.

5. E-safety Skills Development for Staff/Training

- All new staff members will receive training, as part of their induction, on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues including cyber-bullying and the risks of online radicalisation. They also read and sign the school's Acceptable Use Policy.

- All staff members will receive refresher training at least once each academic year as part of safeguarding training, as well as relevant updates as required (for example through emails, ebulletins and staff meetings).
- All staff are made aware of individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of e-safety and know what to do in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community.
- Governors will receive training on safe internet use and online safeguarding issues as part of their safeguarding training.
- Volunteers will receive appropriate training and updates, if applicable.

More information about safeguarding training is set out in our child protection and safeguarding policy.

6. Educating parents about online safety

The school will raise parents' awareness of internet safety in letters or other communications home, and in information via our website or seesaw. Online safety will also be covered during parents' information evenings. If parents have any queries or concerns in relation to online safety, these should be raised in the first instance with the headteacher and/or E-Safety Lead.

Parent/carers workshops for KS2 will be carried out during the year to support and discuss children's usage and access to online sites/platforms when away from school. This aims to also support parents with setting up safety controls.

7. Managing the School E-Safety Messages

- The School endeavours to embed e-safety messages across the curriculum whenever the internet and/or related technologies are used.
- The E-Safety policy will be introduced to the pupils at the beginning of each school year.
- E-safety posters will be prominently displayed in the IT suite and in each classroom.
- There is a dedicated e-safety page on the school website which provides information to parents and pupils, signposts for support, websites etc.

8. Incident Reporting, E-Safety Incident Log & Infringements

8.1 Incident Reporting

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the school's e-safety lead.

Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access SecureID tokens and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all

other policy non-compliance must also be reported to the GDPR coordinator who will report incidents to GDPR depending on the severity of the breach.

8.2 E-safety Incidents

- These could include accidental or unintentional access to unsuitable websites, Internet searches which bring up undesirable content or minor misuse of IT.
- These should be recorded on our Google Drive form which can be accessed by staff, noting the date, year group, device number and nature of the incident. The incidents will then be assessed in case further action is needed.

8.3 Further Action or More Serious Incidents

- Some incidents may need to be passed to the DSL, particularly if they relate to a bullying or racist incident. Acts of Cyber Crime will be dealt with in accordance with the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- Any concerns relating to AI-generated content, deepfakes, online impersonation or image-based abuse will also be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) immediately and dealt with in line with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies, as well as relevant external agencies.
- The E-Safety coordinator must be informed immediately. Further action will then be taken in accordance with CEOP and school safeguarding guidance. SMT and Head Teacher will be made aware.

8.4 Monitoring of Incidents

- All incidents will be brought to the attention of the senior management team and Curriculum Governors with information on any actions that needed to be taken and how they were resolved.

8.5 Burradon Community Primary School e-safety Incident Log

- Details of ALL e-safety incidents are recorded by the relevant member of staff and E-Safety lead or DSL (in their absence).

The incident logs will be monitored by the Head and E-Safety Lead

8.6 Filtering and Monitoring

Burradon Community Primary schools provides a safe environment to learn and work, including when online. Filtering and monitoring are both important parts of safeguarding pupils and staff from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. Our filtering and monitoring systems are regularly reviewed

As a school, our filtering and monitoring is provided by North Tyneside Council (NTC) Network. This includes web filtering for students and teachers, as well as, security and firewall management. School undertakes regular filtering checks to ensure we are protected. Any time, we are not fully protected, this is referred to NTC.

The DSL holds responsibility for safeguarding and online safety, which could include overseeing and acting on:

- filtering and monitoring reports
- safeguarding concerns
- checks to filtering and monitoring systems

North Tyneside Council hold technical responsibility for:

- maintaining filtering and monitoring systems
- providing filtering and monitoring reports
- completing actions following concerns or checks to systems

8.7 Meeting digital and technology standards in schools

7.1/ You should identify and assign roles and responsibilities to manage your filtering and monitoring systems

- DSL: Angela Hunter
- IT Provider: North Tyneside Council
- IT Technician: North Tyneside Council
- Filtering and monitoring system: Smoothwall

7.2/ You should review your filtering and monitoring provision at least annually

- Review of filtering and monitoring by DSL and IT provider twice yearly.

7.3/ Your filtering system should block harmful and inappropriate content, without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning

- See weekly Smoothwall filtering reports

7.4/ You should have effective monitoring strategies that meet the safeguarding needs of your school or college

- See Smoothwall monitoring log and device (inappropriate and blocked sites) report

7.5/ LGfL

- See review completed : Autumn 2026

7.6/ Filter Test Result

- See weekly filtering test log. Reports sent from North Tyneside if inappropriate content is flagged.

9. Misuse and Infringements

9.1 Cyberbullying

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy and the anti-bullying policy.)

9.2 Preventing and addressing cyber-bullying

E-safety practice is advocated at all times in school. At Burradon Community Primary School the following will take place:

- To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others.
- We will ensure that pupils know how they can report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim
- The school will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be.
- Teaching staff are also encouraged to find opportunities to use aspects of the curriculum to cover cyber-bullying. This includes personal, social, health and PSHE education, and other subjects where appropriate.
- Cyberbullying will be addressed at least termly through assemblies and through House Events. It will be revisited informally through the year.
- Safer Internet Day will be used to reinforce messages regarding the safe use of technology.
- All staff, governors and volunteers (where appropriate) receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training.
- Information for parents will be published in the school's website.
- The school also sends information/leaflets on cyber-bullying to parents so that they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.
- All incidents of cyberbullying must be reported to the Headteacher. This can be done directly to staff or anonymously through class worry boxes.
- In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.
- The DSL will consider whether the incident should be reported to the police if it involves illegal material, and will work with external services if it is deemed necessary to do so. Whilst the school recognises that cyberbullying may take place out of school hours, it will wherever possible, step in to mediate a suitable solution.

10. Child on Child Abuse (Peer on Peer Abuse)

This school recognises that children sometimes display harmful behaviour themselves and that such incidents or allegations must be referred on for appropriate support and intervention. Such abuse is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In the context of this policy, this abuse could for example include:

- 'upskirting'
- all forms of bullying via electronic devices
- aggravated sexting

- nudes and semi nudes (consensual and non-consensual). This includes the creation, sharing or possession of AI-generated or digitally manipulated images intended to humiliate, harass, intimidate or exploit another person.
- exploitation via devices and the internet

To prevent child on child abuse and address the wider social factors that can influence behaviour, the school will educate pupils about abuse, its forms and the importance of discussing any concerns and respecting others through the curriculum, assemblies and PSHE lessons. The school will also ensure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum in PSHE lessons, RSE and group sessions.

All staff will be aware that pupils of any age and sex are capable of abusing their peers and will never tolerate abuse as “banter” or “part of growing up”.

All staff will be aware that child on child abuse can be manifested in many ways, including sexting or cyberbullying which aims to cause emotional or psychological harm, for example.

Pupils will be made aware of how to raise concerns or make a report and how any reports will be handled – this includes the process for reporting concerns about friends or peers. If a child has been harmed, is in immediate danger or is at risk of harm, a referral will be made to children’s social care services (CSCS).

11. Examining electronic devices

School staff have the specific power under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (which has been increased by the Education Act 2011) to search for and, if necessary, delete inappropriate images or files on pupils’ electronic devices, including mobile phones, iPads and other tablet devices, where they believe there is a ‘good reason’ to do so. When deciding whether there is a good reason to examine or erase data or files on an electronic device, staff must reasonably suspect that the data or file in question has been, or could be, used to:

- Cause harm, and/or
- Disrupt teaching, and/or
- Break any of the school rules

If inappropriate material is found on the device, it is up to the staff member in conjunction with the DSL or other member of the senior leadership team to decide whether they should:

- Delete that material, or
- Retain it as evidence (of a criminal offence or a breach of school discipline), and/or
- Report it to the police

Any searching of pupils will be carried out in line with the DfE’s latest guidance on screening, searching and confiscation.

Any complaints about searching for or deleting inappropriate images or files on pupils’ electronic devices will be dealt with through the school complaints procedure.

12. Acceptable use of the internet in school

All staff are expected to sign an agreement regarding the acceptable use of the school's ICT systems and the internet. Visitors will be expected to read and agree to the school's terms on acceptable use if relevant. Use of the school's internet must be for educational purposes only, or for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an individual's role.

12.1 Use of Generative AI

Any use of generative AI by staff, students, and pupils should be carefully considered and assessed, evaluating the benefits and risks of use in its education setting. Staff must not enter confidential, personal or safeguarding information relating to pupils, families or staff into public AI systems unless explicitly authorised and compliant with UK GDPR and school data protection procedures.

[See: Generative AI: product safety expectations](#)

13. Staff using work devices outside school

All staff members will take appropriate steps to ensure their devices remain secure. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Keeping the device password-protected – strong passwords are at least 8 characters, with a combination of upper and lower-case letters, numbers and special characters (e.g. asterisk or currency symbol)
- Making sure the device locks if left inactive for a period of time
- Not sharing the device among family or friends
- Installing anti-virus and anti-spyware software
- Keeping operating systems up to date – always install the latest updates

Staff members must not use the device in any way which would violate the school's terms of acceptable use.

Work devices must be used solely for work activities. If staff have any concerns over the security of their device, they must seek advice from the IT Network Manager (North Tyneside).

Policies Linked to this Policy:

- Computing Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- RSE Policy
- Safe Guarding Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Acceptable User Policy
- Generative AI policy