

	Name of School	Corbets Tey School
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	Written by	Sean Loveday, Colin Arthey, Susan Cumbers, Robin Brown
	Reviewed by	Governors Name: _____ Governors Signature: _____

## Policy: The Acceptable Use of the Internet and related Technologies

**Contents (each element is in a separate document)**

**Policy – e-safety policy overview (this document)**

**Policy - Managing the Internet safely**

**Policy – Managing email**

**Policy – Use of digital and video images**

**Policy – Managing equipment**

**Policy – How will Infringements be handled**

**AUP (Acceptable Use Policy) – Parents**

**AUP – Pupils**

**AUP - Staff**

**Guidance – What do we do if?**

Our e-Safety Policy has been written by the school, building on the London Grid for Learning (LGfL) exemplar policy and Becta guidance. It has been agreed by the senior management and approved by Governors. It will be reviewed annually.

### ICT in the SEF (or the replacement document)

**3a** - the extent to which information and communication technology (ICT) capability and other key skills enable learners to improve the quality of their work and make progress

**4b** - the extent to which learners adopt safe and responsible practices in using new technologies, including the Internet.

**4e** - through the development of literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology, enterprise capability, economic and business understanding and financial capability

We have a duty to ensure that all students are able to make a valuable contribution to society & this is impossible to achieve if we do not ensure that students develop and apply their ICT capability effectively in their everyday lives.

### SRF elements – working towards ICT Mark

#### 1c-4 Safeguarding

The school is aware of its responsibilities in ensuring that ICT usage by all network users is responsible, safe and secure. There are relevant and comprehensive policies in place which are understood and adhered to by many network users (including pupils according to their level of understanding).

#### 3b-2 Effective and safe use of digital resources

Most pupils have a good range of skills that enable them to access and make effective use of digital resources to support their learning. They are regularly reminded of the issues relating to safe and responsible use of ICT and adopt appropriate practices

*Harnessing Technology: Transforming learning and children's services*<sup>1</sup> sets out the government plans for taking a strategic approach to the future development of ICT.

*"The Internet and related technologies are powerful tools, which open up new prospects for communication and collaboration. Education is embracing these new technologies as they bring with them fresh opportunities for both teachers and learners.*

*To use these technologies effectively requires an awareness of the benefits and risks, the development of new skills, and an understanding of their appropriate and effective use both in and outside of the classroom."* DfES, eStrategy 2005

The Green Paper *Every Child Matters*<sup>2</sup> and the provisions of the *Children Act 2004*<sup>3</sup>, *Working Together to Safeguard Children*<sup>4</sup> sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/e-strategy/>

<sup>2</sup> See The Children Act 2004 [<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/20040031.htm>]

<sup>3</sup> See Every Child Matters website [<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk>]

The staying safe outcome includes aims that children and young people are:

- safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- safe from accidental injury and death
- safe from bullying and discrimination
- safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school
- secure, stable and cared for.

Much of these aims apply equally to the virtual world that children and young people will encounter whenever they use ICT in its various forms. For example, we know that the internet has been used for grooming children and young people with the ultimate aim of exploiting them sexually; we know that ICT can offer new weapons for bullies, who may torment their victims via websites or text messages; and we know that children and young people have been exposed to inappropriate content when online, which can sometimes lead to their involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour.

It is the duty of the school to ensure that every child in their care is safe, and the same principles should apply to the virtual or digital world as would be applied to the school's physical buildings.

This Policy document is drawn up to protect all parties - the students, the staff and the school and aims to provide clear advice and guidance on how to minimise risks and how to deal with any infringements.

## 1. The technologies

ICT in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has an all-encompassing role within the lives of children and adults. New technologies are enhancing communication and the sharing of information. Current and emerging technologies used in school and, more importantly in many cases, used outside of school by children include:

- The Internet
- e-mail
- Instant messaging (<http://www.msn.com>, <http://info.aol.co.uk/aim/>) often using simple web cams
- Blogs (an on-line interactive diary)
- Podcasting (radio / audio broadcasts downloaded to computer or MP3/4 player)
- Social networking sites (Popular [www.myspace.com](http://www.myspace.com) / [www.piczo.com](http://www.piczo.com) / [www.bebo.com](http://www.bebo.com) / <http://www.hi5.com> / <http://www.facebook.com>)
- Video broadcasting sites (Popular: <http://www.youtube.com/>)
- Chat Rooms (Popular [www.teenchat.com](http://www.teenchat.com), [www.habbohotel.co.uk](http://www.habbohotel.co.uk))
- Gaming Sites (Popular [www.neopets.com](http://www.neopets.com), <http://www.miniclip.com/games/en/>, <http://www.runescape.com/> / <http://www.clubpenguin.com>)
- Music download sites (Popular <http://www.apple.com/itunes/> <http://www.napster.co.uk/> <http://www.kazaa.com/>, <http://www.livewire.com/>)
- Mobile phones with camera and video functionality
- Mobile technology (e.g. games consoles) that are internet ready
- Smart phones with e-mail, web functionality and cut down Office applications.

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<sup>4</sup> Full title: Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. See Every Child Matters website [[http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/\\_files/AE53C8F9D7AEB1B23E403514A6C1B17D.pdf](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/AE53C8F9D7AEB1B23E403514A6C1B17D.pdf)]

## 2. Whole school approach to the safe use of ICT

Creating a safe ICT learning environment includes three main elements at this school:

- An effective range of technological tools;
- Policies and procedures, with clear roles and responsibilities;
- A comprehensive e-Safety education programme for pupils, staff and parents.

*Ref: Becta - E-safety Developing whole-school policies to support effective practice*<sup>5</sup>

## 3. Roles and Responsibilities

e-Safety is recognised as an essential aspect of strategic leadership in this school and the Head, with the support of Governors, aims to embed safe practices into the culture of the school. The headteacher ensures that the Policy is implemented and compliance with the Policy monitored. The responsibility for e-Safety has been designated to a member of the senior management team.

Our school **e-Safety Co-ordinator** is Colin Arthey.

Our e-Safety Coordinator ensures they keep up to date with e-Safety issues and guidance through liaison with the Local Authority e-Safety Officer and through organisations such as The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP)<sup>6</sup>. The school's e-Safety coordinator ensures the Head, senior management and Governors are updated as necessary.

Governors need to have an overview understanding of e-Safety issues and strategies at this school. We ensure our governors are aware of our local and national guidance<sup>7</sup> on e-Safety and are updated at least annually on policy developments.

All teachers are responsible for promoting and supporting safe behaviours in their classrooms and following school e-Safety procedures. Central to this is fostering a ~~No Blame~~ culture so pupils feel able to report any bullying, abuse or inappropriate materials.

All staff should be familiar with the school's Policy including:

- Safe use of e-mail;
- Safe use of Internet including use of internet-based communication services, such as instant messaging and social network;
- Safe use of school network, equipment and data;
- Safe use of digital images and digital technologies, such as mobile phones and digital cameras;
- publication of pupil information/photographs and use of website;
- eBullying / Cyberbullying procedures;
- their role in providing e-Safety education for pupils;

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<sup>5</sup> <http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=is>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.ceop.gov.uk/>

<sup>7</sup> Safety and ICT - available from Becta, the Government agency at:  
[http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=lv&catcode=ss\\_lv\\_str\\_02&rid=10247](http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=lv&catcode=ss_lv_str_02&rid=10247)

Staff are reminded / updated about e-Safety matters at least once a year.

Schools should include esafety in the curriculum and ensure that every pupil has been educated about safe and responsible use. Pupils need to know how to contain and minimise online risks and how to report a problem.

Schools should ensure that they make efforts to engage with parents over e-safety matters and that parents/guardians/carers have signed and returned an e-safety/AUP form.

#### **4. Communications**

##### **E-safety for Pupils**

**In our school e-safety principals, covering both school and home use, will be taught primarily within the ICT curriculum, but will also be promoted through P.S.H.M.E. and other subject areas when appropriate and whenever technology is utilised.**

Useful e-safety programmes include:

- Think U Know; currently available for secondary pupils. ([www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/))
- Know It All - [www.childnet-int.org/kia/](http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/)
- The BBC's ChatGuide: [www.bbc.co.uk/chatguide/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/chatguide/)

##### **E-safety for Staff**

All staff will be given opportunities to discuss the issues and develop appropriate teaching strategies for e-safety.

**In our school staff should be aware that Internet traffic is monitored and can be traced to the individual user. Discretion and professional conduct is essential.**

**In our school staff that manage filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by senior management and have clear procedures for reporting issues.**

**In our school staff training in safe and responsible Internet use and on the school e-Safety Policy will be provided as required.**

If a member of staff is concerned about any aspect of their ICT use in school, they should discuss this with their line manager to avoid any possible misunderstanding.

##### **E-safety for Parents**

Internet use in pupils' homes is increasing rapidly. Unless parents are aware of the dangers, pupils may have unrestricted access to the Internet.

**In our school Internet issues will be handled sensitively, and parents will be advised accordingly.**

**In our school a partnership approach with parents will be encouraged through parent evenings with demonstrations and suggestions for safe home Internet use.**

## **5. How will complaints regarding e-Safety be handled?**

The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure e-Safety. However, owing to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, the availability of mobile technologies and speed of change, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a school computer or mobile device. Neither the school nor the Local Authority can accept liability for material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.

Staff and pupils are given information about infringements in use and possible sanctions.

Sanctions available include:

- interview/counselling by tutor / Head of Year / e-Safety Coordinator / Headteacher;
- informing parents or carers;
- removal of Internet or computer access for a period, [which could ultimately prevent access to files held on the system, including examination coursework];
- referral to LA / Police.

Our e-Safety Coordinator acts as first point of contact for any complaint. Any complaint about staff misuse is referred to the Headteacher.

Complaints of cyberbullying are dealt with in accordance with our Anti-Bullying Policy. Complaints related to child protection are dealt with in accordance with school / LA child protection procedures.