

Online Safety Policy

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Board of Trustees – ratification:	November 2022
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Named Trustee with Lead Responsibility:	Mr Ewart Gibbs

This policy will be reviewed at least annually. It will also be revised following any concerns and/or updates to national and local guidance or procedures.

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1. Policy Aims

- 1.1. This online safety policy has been written by Huntcliff School, involving staff, students and parents/carers, with specialist advice and input as required.
- 1.2. It takes into account the DfE statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education" 2021 and the North Lincolnshire Children's Multi Agency Resilience and Safeguarding (CMARS) procedures.
- 1.3. The purpose of Huntcliff School's online safety policy is to:
 - 1.3.1. Safeguard and protect all members of Huntcliff School community online.
 - 1.3.2. Identify approaches to educate and raise awareness of online safety throughout the community.
 - 1.3.3. Enable all staff to work safely and responsibly, to role model positive behaviour online and to manage professional standards and practice when using technology.
 - 1.3.4. Identify clear procedures to use when responding to online safety concerns.
- 1.4. Huntcliff School identifies that the issues classified within online safety are considerable, but can be broadly categorised into three areas of risk:
 - 1.4.1. Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
 - 1.4.2. Contact: being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users
 - 1.4.3. Conduct: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm.

2. Policy Scope

- 2.1. Huntcliff School believes that online safety is an essential part of safeguarding and acknowledges its duty to ensure that all students and staff are protected from potential harm online.
- 2.2. Huntcliff School identifies that the internet and associated devices, such as computers, tablets, mobile phones and games consoles, are an important part of everyday life.
- 2.3. Huntcliff School believes that students should be empowered to build resilience and to develop strategies to manage and respond to risk online.
- 2.4. This policy applies to all staff including the Board of Trustees, teachers, support staff, external contractors, visitors, volunteers and other individuals who work for, or provide services on behalf of the school (collectively referred to as 'staff' in this policy) as well as students and parents/carers.
- 2.5. This policy applies to all access to the internet and use of technology, including personal devices, or where students, staff or other individuals have been provided with school issued devices for use off-site, such as a work laptops, tablets or mobile phones.

3. Links with other policies and practices

- 3.1. This policy links with a number of other policies, practices and action plans including:
 - 3.1.1. Anti-bullying Policy
 - 3.1.2. Acceptable Use Policy
 - 3.1.3. RRRR (Behaviour) Policy
 - 3.1.4. Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

4. Monitoring and Review

- 4.1. Huntcliff School will review this policy at least annually
- 4.2. The policy will also be revised following any national or local policy requirements, any child protection concerns or any changes to the technical infrastructure.
- 4.3. We will ensure that we regularly monitor internet use and evaluate online safety mechanisms to ensure that this policy is consistently applied.
- 4.4. To ensure they have oversight of online safety, the Headteacher will be informed of online safety concerns, as appropriate.
- 4.5. The named Trustee for safeguarding will report on a regular basis to the Board of Trustees on online safety incidents, including outcomes.
- 4.6. Any issues identified will be incorporated into the school's action planning.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

The school has appointed Mrs K Ashwood, as Designated Safeguarding Lead to be the online safety lead.

Huntcliff School recognises that all members of the community have important roles and responsibilities to play with regards to online safety.

5.1. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will:

- 5.1.1. Ensure that online safety is viewed as a safeguarding issue and that practice is in line with national and local recommendations and requirements.
- 5.1.2. Ensure there are appropriate and up-to-date policies regarding online safety; including an Acceptable Use Policy, which covers acceptable use of technology.
- 5.1.3. Ensure that suitable and appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place.
- 5.1.4. Work with technical staff to monitor the safety and security of school systems and networks.
- 5.1.5. Ensure that online safety is embedded within a progressive whole school curriculum, which enables all students to develop an age-appropriate understanding of online safety.
- 5.1.6. Support the Designated Safeguarding Lead by ensuring they have sufficient time and resources to fulfil their online safety responsibilities.
- 5.1.7. Ensure there are robust reporting channels for the school community to access regarding online safety concerns, including internal, local and national support.
- 5.1.8. Ensure that appropriate risk assessments are undertaken regarding the safe use of technology. Audit and evaluate online safety practice to identify strengths and areas for improvement.

5.2. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will:

- 5.2.1. Act as a named point of contact on all online safeguarding issues and liaise with other members of staff or other agencies, as appropriate.
- 5.2.2. Keep up-to-date with current research, legislation and trends regarding online safety and communicate this with the school community, as appropriate.
- 5.2.3. Ensure all members of staff receive regular, up-to-date and appropriate online safety training.
- 5.2.4. Work with staff to coordinate participation in local and national events to promote positive online behaviour, such as Safer Internet Day.
- 5.2.5. Ensure that online safety is promoted to parents, carers and the wider community, through a variety of channels and approaches.

- 5.2.6. Maintain records of online safety concerns, as well as actions taken, as part of the school's safeguarding recording mechanisms.
- 5.2.7. Monitor online safety incidents to identify gaps and trends, and use this data to update the education response, policies and procedures.
- 5.2.8. Report online safety concerns, as appropriate, to the Headteacher and Board of Trustees.
- 5.2.9. Work with the SLT to review and update online safety policies on a regular basis (at least annually) with stakeholder input.
- 5.2.10. Meet termly with the Trustee with a lead responsibility for safeguarding and online safety.
- 5.2.11. Meet fortnightly with Year Leaders to discuss all aspects of safeguarding including online safety.

5.3. It is the responsibility of all members of staff to:

- 5.3.1. Contribute to the development of online safety policies.
- 5.3.2. Read and adhere to the online safety policy and Acceptable Use Policy
- 5.3.3. Take responsibility for the security of school systems and the data they use, or have access to.
- 5.3.4. Model good practice when using technology and maintain a professional level of conduct in their personal use of technology, both on and off site.
- 5.3.5. Embed online safety education in curriculum delivery, wherever possible.
- 5.3.6. Have an awareness of a range of online safety issues and how they may be experienced by the children in their care.
- 5.3.7. Identify online safety concerns and take appropriate action by following the school's safeguarding policies and procedures.
- 5.3.8. Know when and how to escalate online safety issues, including signposting to appropriate support, internally and externally.
- 5.3.9. Take personal responsibility for professional development in this area.

5.4. It is the responsibility of staff managing the technical environment to:

- 5.4.1. Provide technical support and perspective to the DSL and SLT, especially in the development and implementation of appropriate online safety policies and procedures.
- 5.4.2. Implement appropriate security measures (*including password policies and encryption*) to ensure that the school's IT infrastructure/system is secure and not open to misuse or malicious attack, whilst allowing learning opportunities to be maximised.
- 5.4.3. Ensure that the school's filtering policy is applied and updated on a regular basis; responsibility for its implementation is shared with the SLT.
- 5.4.4. Report any filtering breaches to the DSL and SLT, as well as, the school's Internet Service Provider or other services, as appropriate.
- 5.4.5. Ensure that any safeguarding concerns, identified through monitoring or filtering breaches are reported to the DSL, in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures.

5.5. It is the responsibility of students (at a level that is appropriate to their individual age, ability and vulnerabilities) to:

- 5.5.1. Engage in age appropriate online safety education opportunities.
- 5.5.2. Contribute to the development of online safety policies.
- 5.5.3. Read and adhere to the school's online safety guidance in student journal
- 5.5.4. Respect the feelings and rights of others both on and offline.
- 5.5.5. Take responsibility for keeping themselves and others safe online.
- 5.5.6. Seek help from a trusted adult, if there is a concern online, and support others that may be experiencing online safety issues.

5.6. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to:

- 5.6.1. Read the school online safeguarding information published on the school website and encourage their children to adhere to them.
- 5.6.2. Support the school in their online safety approaches by discussing online safety issues with their children and reinforce appropriate, safe online behaviours at home.
- 5.6.3. Role model safe and appropriate use of technology and social media.
- 5.6.4. Identify changes in behaviour that could indicate that their child is at risk of harm online.
- 5.6.5. Seek help and support from the school, or other appropriate agencies, if they or their child encounter risk or concerns online.
- 5.6.6. Use school systems and other network resources safely and appropriately.
- 5.6.7. Take responsibility for their own awareness in relation to the risks and opportunities posed by new and emerging technologies.

6. Education and Engagement Approaches

6.1. Education and engagement with students

- 6.1.1. The school will establish and embed a progressive online safety curriculum throughout the whole school, to raise awareness and promote safe and responsible internet use amongst students by:
 - 6.1.1.1. Ensuring education regarding safe and responsible use precedes internet access.
 - 6.1.1.2. Including online safety in the PSHE, SRE and Computing programmes of study, covering use both at home and school.
 - 6.1.1.3. Reinforcing online safety messages whenever technology or the internet is in use.
 - 6.1.1.4. Educating students in the effective use of the internet to research; including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
 - 6.1.1.5. Teaching students to be critically aware of the materials they read and shown how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- 6.1.2. The school will support students to read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy in a way which suits their age and ability by:
 - 6.1.2.1. Informing students that network and internet use will be monitored for safety and security purposes and in accordance with legislation.
 - 6.1.2.2. Rewarding positive use of technology by students.
 - 6.1.2.3. Implementing appropriate peer education approaches.
 - 6.1.2.4. Providing online safety education and training as part of the transition programme across the key stages and when moving between establishments.
 - 6.1.2.5. Seeking student voice when writing and developing school online safety policies and practices, including curriculum development and implementation.
 - 6.1.2.6. Using support, such as external visitors, where appropriate, to complement and support the school's internal online safety education approaches.

6.1.3. Vulnerable Students

- 6.1.3.1. Huntcliff School is aware that some students are considered to be more vulnerable online due to a range of factors. This may include, but is not limited to children in care, children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or mental health needs, children with English as an additional language (EAL) and children experiencing trauma or loss.
- 6.1.3.2. Huntcliff School will ensure that differentiated and ability appropriate online safety education, access and support is provided to vulnerable students. This will include students accessing the Indigo provision.
- 6.1.3.3. Huntcliff School will seek input from specialist staff as appropriate, including the SENCO (Mrs S Palin) and the Designated Teacher for Looked After Children (Mrs K Ashwood)

6.2. Training and engagement with staff

6.2.1. The school will:

- 6.2.1.1. Provide and discuss the online safety policy with all members of staff as part of induction.
- 6.2.1.2. Provide up-to-date and appropriate online safety training for all staff on a regular basis, with at least annual updates as part of existing safeguarding and child protection training/updates. This will cover the potential risks posed to students (Content, Contact and Conduct) as well as our professional practice expectations.
- 6.2.1.3. Make staff aware that school systems are monitored and activity can be traced to individual users; staff will be reminded to behave professionally and in accordance with school's policies when accessing school systems and devices.
- 6.2.1.4. Make staff aware that their online conduct out of school, including personal use of social media, could have an impact on their professional role and reputation within school.
- 6.2.1.5. Highlight useful educational resources and tools which staff should use, according to the age and ability of the students.
- 6.2.1.6. Ensure all members of staff are aware of the procedures to follow regarding online safety concerns affecting students, colleagues or other members of the school community.

6.3. Awareness and engagement with parents and carers

- 6.3.1. Huntcliff School recognises that parents and carers have an essential role to play in enabling children to become safe and responsible users of the internet and associated technologies.
- 6.3.2. The school will build a partnership approach to online safety with parents and carers by:
- 6.3.3. Providing information and guidance on online safety in a variety of formats. This will include offering specific online safety awareness information via the school website and highlighting online safety at other events such as parent evenings, transition events, fetes and sports days as appropriate:
 - 6.3.3.1. Drawing their attention to the school online safety policy and expectations in letters, our prospectus and on our website;
 - 6.3.3.2. Requesting that they read online safety information as part of joining our school, for example, within our student journal and on school website

7. Reducing Online Risks

7.1. Huntcliff School recognises that the internet is a constantly changing environment with new apps, devices, websites and material emerging at a rapid pace. We will:

- 7.1.1.1. Regularly review the methods used to identify, assess and minimise online risks;
- 7.1.1.2. Examine emerging technologies for educational benefit and undertake appropriate risk assessments before use in school is permitted;
- 7.1.1.3. Ensure that appropriate filtering and monitoring is in place and take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users can only access appropriate material;
- 7.1.1.4. Due to the global and connected nature of the internet, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material cannot be accessed via a school computer or device;

All members of the school community are made aware of the school's expectations regarding safe and appropriate behaviour online and the importance of not posting any content, comments, images or videos which could cause harm, distress or offence to members of the community. This is clearly outlined in the school's Acceptable Use Policy and highlighted through a variety of education and training approaches.

8. Safer Use of Technology

8.1. Classroom Use

8.1.1. Huntcliff School uses a wide range of technology. This includes access to:

- 8.1.1.1. Computers, laptops and other digital devices
- 8.1.1.2. Internet which may include search engines and educational websites
- 8.1.1.3. School learning platform/web-based subject learning
- 8.1.1.4. Email
- 8.1.1.5. Digital cameras and video cameras
- 8.1.1.6. Online learning – MS Teams

8.1.2. All school owned devices will be used in accordance with the school's Acceptable Use Policy and with appropriate safety and security measures in place.

8.1.3. Members of staff will always evaluate websites, tools and apps fully before use in the classroom or recommending for use at home.

8.1.4. The school will use age appropriate search tools following an informed risk assessment, to identify which tool best suits the needs of our community.

8.1.5. The school will ensure that the use of internet-derived materials, by staff and students, complies with copyright law and acknowledge the source of information.

8.1.6. Supervision of students will be appropriate to their age and ability:

- 8.1.6.1. **Key Stage 3 and 4** - Students will be appropriately supervised when using technology, according to their ability and understanding.

8.2. Managing Internet Access

8.2.1. The school will maintain a written record of users who are granted access to the school's devices and systems.

- 8.2.2. All staff will read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy and Parents must complete and sign an online permissions form to enable students to access the internet before being given access to the school computer system, IT resources or internet.

8.3. Filtering and Monitoring

8.3.1. Decision Making

- 8.3.1.1. Huntcliff School Trustees and leaders have ensured that the school has age and ability appropriate filtering and monitoring in place, to limit children's exposure to online risks.
- 8.3.1.2. The Trustees and leaders are aware of the need to prevent "over blocking", as that may unreasonably restrict what children can be taught, with regards to online activities and safeguarding.
- 8.3.1.3. The school's decision regarding filtering and monitoring has been informed by a risk assessment, taking into account our school's specific needs and circumstances.
- 8.3.1.4. Changes to the filtering and monitoring approach will be risk assessed by staff with educational and technical experience and, where appropriate, with consent from the SLT.
- 8.3.1.5. The SLT will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering and monitoring methods are effective and appropriate.
- 8.3.1.6. All members of staff are aware that they cannot rely on filtering and monitoring alone to safeguard students; effective classroom management and regular education about safe and responsible use is essential.

8.3.2. Filtering

- 8.3.2.1. The school uses educational broadband connectivity through Entanet International Ltd, in conjunction with Talk Talk.
- 8.3.2.2. The school uses WatchGuard filtering to block sites which can be categorised as: pornography, racial hatred, extremism, gaming, social media and sites of an illegal nature.
- 8.3.2.3. The school works with Watch Guard to ensure that our filtering policy is constantly updated.
- 8.3.2.4.** The school continually monitors the use of bad language/inappropriate internet searching.

8.3.3. Dealing with Filtering breaches

- 8.3.3.1. The school has a clear procedure for reporting filtering breaches.
- 8.3.3.2. If students discover unsuitable sites, they will be required to report it immediately to a member of staff.
- 8.3.3.3. The member of staff will report the concern (including the URL of the site if possible) to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or technical staff.
- 8.3.3.4. The breach will be recorded and escalated as appropriate.
- 8.3.3.5. Parents/carers will be informed of filtering breaches involving their child.
- 8.3.3.6. Any material that the school believes is illegal will be reported immediately to the appropriate agencies.

8.3.4. Monitoring

- 8.3.4.1. The school will appropriately monitor internet use on all school owned or provided internet enabled devices. This is achieved by:
- 8.3.4.2. Physical monitoring (supervision);
- 8.3.4.3. Monitoring internet and web access (reviewing logfile information)
- 8.3.4.4. Pro-active technology monitoring services.
- 8.3.4.5. The school has a clear procedure for responding to concerns identified via monitoring approaches. DSL will respond in line with the Safeguarding and child protection policy.
- 8.3.4.6. All users will be informed that use of school systems can be monitored and that all monitoring will be in line with data protection, human rights and privacy legislation.

8.4. Managing Personal Data Online

- 8.4.1. Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available online in accordance with the GDPR legislation.

8.5. Security and Management of Information Systems

- 8.5.1. The school takes appropriate steps to ensure the security of our information systems, including:
- 8.5.2. Virus protection being updated regularly.
- 8.5.3. Encryption for personal data sent over the Internet or taken off site (such as via portable media storage) or access via appropriate secure remote access systems.
- 8.5.4. Not using portable media without specific permission; portable media will be checked by an anti-virus /malware scan before use.
- 8.5.5. Not downloading unapproved software to work devices or opening unfamiliar email attachments.
- 8.5.6. Regularly checking files held on the school's network,
- 8.5.7. The appropriate use of user logins and passwords to access the school network.
- 8.5.8. Specific user logins and passwords will be enforced for all members of the school community
- 8.5.9. All users are expected to log off or lock their screens/devices if systems are unattended.

8.5.10. Password policy

- 8.5.10.1. All members of staff will have their own unique username and private passwords to access school systems; members of staff are responsible for keeping their password private.
- 8.5.10.2. From entry into year 7, or at date of admission for in-year transfers, all students are provided with their own unique username and private passwords to access school systems; students are responsible for keeping their password private.
- 8.5.10.3. We require all users to:
 - 8.5.10.3.1. Use strong passwords for access into our system.
 - 8.5.10.3.2. Change their passwords when prompted.
 - 8.5.10.3.3. Always keep their password private; users must not share it with others or leave it where others can find it.
 - 8.5.10.3.4. Not to login as another user at any time.

8.6. Managing the Safety of the School Website

- 8.6.1. The school will ensure that information posted on our website meets the requirements as identified by the Department for Education (DfE).
- 8.6.2. The school will ensure that our website complies with guidelines for publications including: accessibility; data protection; respect for intellectual property rights; privacy policies and copyright.
- 8.6.3. Staff or students' personal information will not be published on our website; the contact details on the website will be the school address, email and telephone number.
- 8.6.4. The administrator account for the school website will be secured with an appropriately strong password.
- 8.6.5. The school will post appropriate information about safeguarding, including online safety, on the school website for members of the community.

8.7. Publishing Images and Videos Online

- 8.7.1. The school will ensure that all images and videos shared online are used in accordance with the associated policies, including (but not limited to): Acceptable Use, Codes of conduct, Social media and Use of personal devices and mobile phones.

8.8. Managing Email

- 8.8.1. Access to school email systems will always take place in accordance with Data protection legislation and in line with other school policies, including: Acceptable Use Policy and Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- 8.8.2. The forwarding of any chain messages/emails is not permitted. Spam or junk mail will be blocked and reported to the email provider.
- 8.8.3. Any electronic communication which contains sensitive or personal information will only be sent using secure and encrypted email.
- 8.8.4. School email addresses and other official contact details will not be used for setting up personal social media accounts.
- 8.8.5. Members of the school community will immediately tell Mrs C Ireland (Network Manager) if they receive offensive communication.
- 8.8.6. Excessive social email use can interfere with teaching and learning and will be restricted; access to external personal email accounts may be blocked in school.

8.8.7. Staff

- 8.8.7.1. The use of personal email addresses by staff for any official school business is not permitted.
- 8.8.7.2. All members of staff are provided with a specific school email address, to use for all official communication.
- 8.8.7.3. Members of staff are encouraged to have an appropriate work life balance when responding to email, especially if communication is taking place between staff and students and parents.

8.8.8. Students

- 8.8.8.1. Students will use school provided email accounts for educational purposes.
- 8.8.8.2. Students will sign a home-school agreement in the school journal, read the mobile and internet safety information provided and will receive education regarding safe and appropriate email etiquette before access is permitted.

8.9. Management of Learning Platforms

- 8.9.1. Huntcliff School uses Office 365 as its official learning platform.
- 8.9.2. Leaders and staff will regularly monitor the usage of Office 365 in all areas, in particular, message and communication tools and publishing facilities.
- 8.9.3. Only current members of staff and students will have access to Office 365
- 8.9.4. When staff and/or students leave the school, their account or rights to specific school areas will be disabled or transferred to their new establishment on request.
- 8.9.5. Students and staff will be advised about acceptable conduct and use when using Office 365.
- 8.9.6. All users will be mindful of copyright and will only upload appropriate content onto Office 365 following appropriate training.

- 8.9.7. Any concerns about content on Office 365 will be recorded and dealt with in the following ways:
- 8.9.8. The user will be asked to remove any material deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.
- 8.9.9. If the user does not comply, the material will be removed by the network manager, the account will be disabled or removed.
- 8.9.10. Access to Office 365 for the user may be suspended.
- 8.9.11. The user will need to discuss the issues with a member of the SLT before reinstatement. A student's parent/carer may be informed.
- 8.9.12. If the content is considered to be illegal, then the school will respond in line with existing child protection procedures.
- 8.9.13. A visitor may be invited to use Office 365 by a member of the SLT; in this instance, there may be an agreed focus or a limited time slot. A valid school email account will be required in order to access Office 365.

8.10. Management of Applications (apps) used to Record Children's Progress

- 8.10.1. The school uses SIMS and SMID to track students' progress and shares appropriate information with parents and carers.
- 8.10.2. The Headteacher is ultimately responsible for the security of any data or images held of children. As such, they will ensure that the use of tracking systems is appropriately risk assessed prior to use, and that they are used in accordance with data protection legislation
- 8.10.3. In order to safeguard students' data:
 - 8.10.3.1. School issued devices are used for apps that record and store children's personal details, attainment or photographs.
 - 8.10.3.2. Access to student data for staff is secure and password protected.
 - 8.10.3.3. Personal staff mobile phones or devices will not be used to access or upload content to any apps which record and store children's personal details, attainment or images.
 - 8.10.3.4. School devices will be appropriately encrypted if taken off site, to reduce the risk of a data security breach, in the event of loss or theft.
 - 8.10.3.5. All users will be advised regarding safety measures, such as using strong passwords and logging out of systems.
 - 8.10.3.6. Parents and carers will be informed of the expectations regarding safe and appropriate use, prior to being given access; for example, not sharing passwords or images.

9. Social Media

9.1. Expectations

- 9.1.1. The expectations regarding safe and responsible use of social media applies to all members of Huntcliff School community.
- 9.1.2. The term social media may include (but is not limited to): blogs; wikis; social networking sites; forums; bulletin boards; online gaming; apps; video/photo sharing sites; chatrooms and instant messenger.

- 9.1.3. All members of Huntcliff School community are expected to engage in social media in a positive, safe and responsible manner, at all times.
- 9.1.4. All members of Huntcliff School community are advised not to publish specific and detailed private thoughts, concerns, pictures or messages on any social media services, especially content that may be considered threatening, hurtful or defamatory to others.
- 9.1.5. The school will control student and staff access to social media whilst using school provided devices and systems on site.
- 9.1.6. The use of social media during school hours for personal use is not permitted.
- 9.1.7. Inappropriate or excessive use of social media during school/work hours or whilst using school devices may result in disciplinary or legal action and/or removal of internet facilities.
- 9.1.8. Concerns regarding the online conduct of any member of Huntcliff School community on social media, should be reported to the school and will be managed in accordance with our Anti-bullying, Allegations against staff, Behaviour and Safeguarding policies.

9.2. Staff Personal Use of Social Media

- 9.2.1. The safe and responsible use of social networking, social media and personal publishing sites will be discussed with all members of staff as part of staff induction and will be revisited and communicated via regular staff training opportunities.
- 9.2.2. Safe and professional behaviour will be outlined for all members of staff (including volunteers) as part of the school Code of conduct within the Acceptable Use Policy.

9.2.3. Reputation

- 9.2.3.1. All members of staff are advised that their online conduct on social media can have an impact on their role and reputation within school. Disciplinary action may be taken if they are found to bring the profession or institution into disrepute, or if something is felt to have undermined confidence in their professional abilities.
- 9.2.3.2. All members of staff are advised to safeguard themselves and their privacy when using social media sites. Advice will be provided to staff via staff training and by sharing appropriate guidance and resources on a regular basis. This will include (but is not limited to):
 - 9.2.3.2.1. Setting the privacy levels of their personal sites as strictly as they can.
 - 9.2.3.2.2. Being aware of location sharing services.
 - 9.2.3.2.3. Opting out of public listings on social networking sites.
 - 9.2.3.2.4. Logging out of accounts after use.
 - 9.2.3.2.5. Keeping passwords safe and confidential.
 - 9.2.3.2.6. Ensuring staff do not represent their personal views as that of the school.
 - 9.2.3.2.7. Members of staff are encouraged not to identify themselves as employees of Huntcliff School on their personal social networking accounts. This is to prevent information on these sites from being linked with the school and also to safeguard the privacy of staff members.

- 9.2.4. All members of staff are encouraged to carefully consider the information, including text and images, they share and post online and to ensure that their social media use is compatible with their professional role and is in accordance with school's policies and the wider professional and legal framework.

- 9.2.5. Information and content that staff members have access to as part of their employment, including photos and personal information about students and their family members or colleagues will not be shared or discussed on social media sites.
- 9.2.6. Members of staff will notify the SLT immediately if they consider that any content shared on social media sites conflicts with their role in the school.

9.2.7. Communicating with students and parents and carers

- 9.2.7.1. All members of staff are advised not to communicate with or add as 'friends' any current or past students or current or past students' family members via any personal social media sites, applications or profiles.
- 9.2.7.2. Any pre-existing relationships or exceptions that may compromise this will be discussed with Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Headteacher.
- 9.2.7.3. If ongoing contact with students is required once they have left the school roll, members of staff will be expected to use existing alumni networks or use official school provided communication tools.
- 9.2.7.4. Staff will not use personal social media accounts to contact students or parents, nor should any contact be accepted, except in circumstance whereby prior approval has been given by the Headteacher.
- 9.2.7.5. Any communication from students and parents received on personal social media accounts will be reported to the schools Designated Safeguarding Lead.

9.3. Students' Personal Use of Social Media

- 9.3.1. Safe and appropriate use of social media will be taught to students as part of an embedded and progressive education approach, via age appropriate sites and resources.
- 9.3.2. The school is aware that many popular social media sites state that they are not for children under the age of 13, therefore the school will not create accounts specifically for children under this age.
- 9.3.3. Any concerns regarding students' use of social media, both at home and at school, will be dealt with in accordance with existing school policies including anti-bullying and behaviour. Concerns will also be raised with parents/carers as appropriate, particularly when concerning underage use of social media sites or tools.
- 9.3.4. Students will be advised:
 - 9.3.4.1. To consider the benefits and risks of sharing personal details on social media sites which could identify them and/or their location. Examples would include real/full name, address, mobile or landline phone numbers, school attended, other social media contact details, email addresses, full names of friends/family, specific interests and clubs.
 - 9.3.4.2. To only approve and invite known friends on social media sites and to deny access to others by making profiles private/protected.
 - 9.3.4.3. Not to meet any online friends without a parent/carer or other responsible adult's permission and only when a trusted adult is present.
 - 9.3.4.4. To use safe passwords.
 - 9.3.4.5. To use social media sites which are appropriate for their age and abilities.
 - 9.3.4.6. How to block and report unwanted communications and report concerns both within school and externally.

9.4. Official Use of Social Media

9.4.1. Huntcliff School official social media channels are:

- 9.4.1.1. The school Facebook Page
- 9.4.1.2. Twitter
- 9.4.1.3. OurSchoolApp

- 9.4.2. The official use of social media sites, by the school, only takes place with clear educational or community engagement objectives, with specific intended outcomes.
- 9.4.3. The official use of social media as a communication tool has been formally risk assessed and approved by the Headteacher.
- 9.4.4. Leadership staff have access to account information and login details for the social media channels, in case of emergency, such as staff absence.
- 9.4.5. Official school social media channels have been set up as distinct and dedicated social media sites or accounts for educational or engagement purposes only.
- 9.4.6. Staff use school provided email addresses to register for and manage any official school social media channels.
- 9.4.7. Official social media sites are suitably protected and, where possible, are linked to the school website.
- 9.4.8. Public communications on behalf of the school will, where appropriate and possible, be read and agreed by at least one other colleague.
- 9.4.9. Official social media use will be conducted in line with existing policies, including: Anti-bullying, Photo permissions, Data protection and Safeguarding.
- 9.4.10. All communication on official social media platforms will be clear, transparent and open to scrutiny.
- 9.4.11. Parents, carers and students will be informed of any official social media use, along with expectations for safe use and action taken to safeguard the community.
- 9.4.12. Social media tools which have been risk assessed and approved as suitable for educational purposes will be used.
- 9.4.13. Any official social media activity involving students will be moderated by the school where possible.
- 9.4.14. Parents and carers will be informed of any official social media use with students and written parental consent will be obtained, as required.
- 9.4.15. The school will ensure that any official social media use does not exclude members of the community who are unable or unwilling to use social media channels.

9.4.16. Staff expectations

- 9.4.17. Members of staff who follow and/or like the school social media channels will be advised to use dedicated professional accounts, where possible, to avoid blurring professional boundaries.
- 9.4.18. If members of staff are participating in online social media activity as part of their capacity as an employee of the school, they will:
 - 9.4.18.1. Sign the school's Acceptable Use Policy.
 - 9.4.18.2. Be professional at all times and aware that they are an ambassador for the school.

- 9.4.18.3. Disclose their official role and/or position, but make it clear that they do not necessarily speak on behalf of the school.
- 9.4.18.4. Be responsible, credible, fair and honest at all times and consider how the information being published could be perceived or shared.
- 9.4.18.5. Always act within the legal frameworks they would adhere to within the workplace, including: Libel, Defamation, Confidentiality, Copyright, Data protection and Equalities laws.
- 9.4.18.6. Ensure that they have appropriate written consent before posting images on the official social media channel.
- 9.4.18.7. Not disclose information, make commitments or engage in activities on behalf of the school unless they are authorised to do so.
- 9.4.18.8. Not engage with any direct or private messaging with current, or past, students, parents and carers.
- 9.4.18.9. Inform their line manager, the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or the Headteacher of any concerns, such as criticism, inappropriate content or contact from students.

10. Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

Huntcliff School recognises that personal communication through mobile technologies is an accepted part of everyday life for students, staff and parents/carers, but technologies need to be used safely and appropriately within school.

10.1. Expectations

- 10.1.1. All use of personal devices and mobile phones will take place in accordance with the law and other appropriate school policies, including, but not limited to: Mobile Phone Policy (copy in student journal), Anti-bullying, RRR Behaviour and Safeguarding and Child Protection.
- 10.1.2. Electronic devices of any kind that are brought onto site are the responsibility of the user at all times.
- 10.1.3. All members of Huntcliff School community are advised to take steps to protect their mobile phones or devices from loss, theft or damage; the school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of such items on school premises.
- 10.1.4. All members of Huntcliff School community are advised to use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised calls or actions cannot be made on their phones or devices; passwords and pin numbers should be kept confidential and mobile phones and personal devices should not be shared.
- 10.1.5. The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages/ content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the community; any breaches will be dealt with as part of our RRRR (Behaviour) policy.
- 10.1.6. All members of Huntcliff School community are advised to ensure that their mobile phones and personal devices do not contain any content which may be considered to be offensive, derogatory or would otherwise contravene the school Behaviour or Safeguarding policies.

10.2. Staff Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- 10.2.1. Members of staff will ensure that use of personal phones and devices takes place in accordance with the law, as well as, relevant school policy and procedures, such as: Confidentiality, Safeguarding, Data security and Acceptable use.
- 10.2.2. Staff will be advised to:
 - 10.2.2.1. Keep mobile phones and personal devices in a safe and secure place during lesson time
 - 10.2.2.2. Keep mobile phones and personal devices switched off or switched to 'silent' mode during lesson times.
 - 10.2.2.3. Ensure that Bluetooth or other forms of communication (such as 'airdrop') are hidden or disabled during lesson times.
 - 10.2.2.4. Not use personal devices during teaching periods, unless written permission has been given by the Headteacher, such as in emergency circumstances.
 - 10.2.2.5. Ensure that any content bought onto site via mobile phones and personal devices are compatible with their professional role and expectations.
- 10.2.3. Members of staff are not permitted to use their own personal phones or devices for contacting students or parents and carers.
- 10.2.4. Any pre-existing relationships, which could undermine this, will be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Headteacher.
- 10.2.5. If a member of staff breaches the school policy, action will be taken in line with the school behaviour and allegations policy
- 10.2.6. If a member of staff is thought to have illegal content saved or stored on a mobile phone or personal device or have committed a criminal offence, appropriate action will be taken.

10.3. Students' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- 10.3.1. Students will be educated regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal devices and mobile phones and will be made aware of boundaries and consequences.
- 10.3.2. Huntcliff School expects student's personal devices and mobile phones to be switched off and kept out of sight during the school day.
- 10.3.3. If a student needs to contact his/her parents or carers they will go to their Year Leader or Reception and will be allowed to use a school phone.
- 10.3.4. Parents are advised to contact their child via Reception or their Year Leader during school hours; exceptions may be permitted on a case-by-case basis, as approved by the Headteacher.
- 10.3.5. Mobile phones or personal devices will not be used by students during lessons or formal school time unless as part of an approved and directed curriculum based activity with consent from a member of staff.

- 10.3.6. The use of personal mobile phones or devices for a specific education purpose does not mean that blanket use is permitted.
- 10.3.7. If members of staff have an educational reason to allow children to use their mobile phones or personal devices as part of an educational activity, it will only take place when approved by the SLT.
- 10.3.8. Mobile phones and personal devices must not be taken into examinations.
- 10.3.9. Students found in possession of a mobile phone or personal device during an exam will be reported to the appropriate examining body. This may result in the student's withdrawal from either that examination or all examinations.
- 10.3.10. If a student breaches the school policy, the phone or device will be confiscated and will be held at Reception.
- 10.3.11. School staff may confiscate a student's mobile phone or device if they believe it is being used to contravene the school's Behaviour or Anti-Bullying policy, or could contain youth produced sexual imagery (sexting).
- 10.3.12. Searches of mobile phone or personal devices will only be carried out in accordance with the school's policy.
- 10.3.13. Students' mobile phones or devices may be searched by a member of the SLT, with the consent of the student or a parent/ carer. Content may be deleted or requested to be deleted, if it contravenes school policies. **This is not the case when images of a sexual nature may be present on the phone.**
- 10.3.14. Mobile phones and devices that have been confiscated will be released to students at the end of the school day on the first occasion. On the second occasion, they will be returned following a discussion with parent/carer, and on the third occasion the phone or device will need to be collected from school by the parent/carer.
- 10.3.15. If there is suspicion that material on a student's personal device or mobile phone may be illegal or may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence, legal advice will be sought and the device may be handed over to the police for further investigation.

10.4. Visitors' Use of Personal Devices and Mobile Phones

- 10.4.1. Parents, carers and visitors (including volunteers and contractors) must use their mobile phones and personal devices in accordance with the school's Acceptable Use Policy and other associated policies, such as: Anti-bullying, Behaviour and Safeguarding.
- 10.4.2. The school will ensure appropriate information is provided to inform parents, carers and visitors of expectations of use.
- 10.4.3. Members of staff are expected to challenge visitors if they have concerns and will always inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any breaches of school policy.

11. Responding to Online Safety Incidents and Concerns

All members of the school community will be made aware of the reporting procedure for online safety concerns, including: breaches of filtering, youth produced sexual imagery (sexting), sexual violence, sexual harassment, cyberbullying and illegal content.

All members of the community must respect confidentiality and the need to follow the official school procedures for reporting concerns.

Students, parents and staff will be informed of the school's complaints procedure and staff will be made aware of the whistleblowing procedure.

The school requires staff, parents, carers and students to work in partnership to resolve online safety issues.

After any investigations are completed, the school will debrief, identify lessons learnt and implement any policy or curriculum changes as required.

If the school is unsure how to proceed with an incident or concern, the DSL will seek advice from the North Lincolnshire CMARS.

Where there is suspicion that illegal activity has taken place, the school will contact the North Lincolnshire CMARS or Police using 101, or 999 if there is immediate danger or risk of harm.

If an incident or concern needs to be passed beyond the school community (for example if other local schools are involved or the public may be at risk), the school will speak with Police and/or the North Lincolnshire CMARS first, to ensure that potential investigations are not compromised.

11.1. Concerns about Students Welfare

- 11.1.1. The DSL will be informed of any online safety incidents involving safeguarding or child protection concerns.
- 11.1.2. The DSL will record these issues in line with the school's safeguarding policy.
- 11.1.3. The DSL will ensure that online safety concerns are escalated and reported to relevant agencies in line with the North Lincolnshire CMARS thresholds and procedures.
- 11.1.4. The school will inform parents and carers of any incidents or concerns involving their child, as and when required.

11.2. Staff Misuse

- 11.2.1. Any complaint about staff misuse will be referred to the Headteacher.
- 11.2.2. Any allegations regarding a member of staff's online conduct will be discussed with the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer).
- 11.2.3. Appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the Behaviour policy and Code of conduct.

12. Procedures for Responding to Specific Online Incidents or Concerns

12.1. Youth Produced Sexual Imagery or "Sexting", Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

- 12.1.1. Huntcliff School recognises youth produced sexual imagery (known as "sexting"), sexual violence and sexual harassment as a safeguarding issue; therefore, all concerns will be reported to and dealt with by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- 12.1.2. The school will follow the advice as set out in the non-statutory UKCCIS guidance: '[Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people](#)' and [North Lincolnshire CMARS guidance](#), as well as the [OFSTED review on Sexual Abuse in Schools 2021](#).
- 12.1.3. Huntcliff School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of the potential social, psychological and criminal consequences of 'sexting', sexual violence and sexual harassment by implementing preventative approaches, via a range of age and ability appropriate

educational methods including curriculum lessons, assemblies and small-group work as applicable.

12.1.4. The school will ensure that all members of the community are aware of sources of support regarding youth produced sexual imagery, sexual violence and sexual harassment.

12.1.5. Dealing with 'Sexting'

12.1.5.1. If the school are made aware of an incident involving the creation or distribution of youth produced sexual imagery, the school will:

- 12.1.5.1.1. Act in accordance with our Safeguarding policy and the relevant North Lincolnshire CMARS procedures.
- 12.1.5.1.2. Immediately notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- 12.1.5.1.3. Store the device securely.
- 12.1.5.1.4. If an indecent image has been taken or shared on the school network or devices, the school will act to block access to all users and isolate the image.
- 12.1.5.1.5. Carry out a risk assessment which considers any vulnerability of student(s) involved; including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies.
- 12.1.5.1.6. Inform parents and carers, if appropriate, about the incident and how it is being managed.
- 12.1.5.1.7. Make a referral to Specialist Children's Services and/or the Police, as appropriate.
- 12.1.5.1.8. Provide the necessary safeguards and support for students, such as offering counselling or pastoral support.
- 12.1.5.1.9. Implement appropriate sanctions in accordance with the school's Behaviour policy, but taking care not to further traumatise victims where possible.
- 12.1.5.1.10. Consider the deletion of images in accordance with the UKCCIS: 'Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people' guidance.
- 12.1.5.1.11. Images will only be deleted once the school has confirmed that other agencies do not need to be involved; and are sure that to do so would not place a child at risk or compromise an investigation.
- 12.1.5.1.12. Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that best practice was implemented; the leadership team will also review and update any management procedures, where necessary.
- 12.1.5.1.13. The school will take action regarding youth produced sexual imagery, regardless of whether the incident took place on/off school premises, using school or personal equipment.

12.1.6. The school will not:

- 12.1.6.1.1. View any images suspected of being youth produced sexual imagery, unless there is no other possible option, or there is a clear need or reason to do so.
- 12.1.6.1.2. In this case, the image will only be viewed by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and their justification for viewing the image will be clearly documented.
- 12.1.6.1.3. Send, share, save or make copies of content suspected to be an indecent image of children (i.e. youth produced sexual imagery) and will not allow or request students to do so.

12.2. Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation including Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

- 12.2.1. Huntcliff School will ensure that all members of the community are aware of online child sexual abuse, including: exploitation and grooming; the consequences; possible approaches which may be employed by offenders to target children and how to respond to concerns.
- 12.2.2. Huntcliff School recognises online child sexual abuse as a safeguarding issue and, as such, all concerns will be reported to and dealt with by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- 12.2.3. The school will implement preventative approaches for online child sexual abuse via a range of age and ability appropriate education for students, staff and parents/carers.
- 12.2.4. The school will ensure that all members of the community are aware of the support available regarding online child sexual abuse, both locally and nationally. (School website).

12.2.5. Dealing with Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation including Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

- 12.2.5.1. If the school are made aware of incident involving online sexual abuse of a child, the school will:
 - 12.2.5.1.1.1. Act in accordance with the school's Safeguarding policy and the relevant North Lincolnshire CMARS procedures.
 - 12.2.5.1.1.2. Immediately notify the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
 - 12.2.5.1.1.3. Store any devices involved securely.
 - 12.2.5.1.1.4. Immediately inform police via 101 (or 999 if a child is at immediate risk)
 - 12.2.5.1.1.5. Carry out a risk assessment which considers any vulnerabilities of student(s) involved (including carrying out relevant checks with other agencies).
 - 12.2.5.1.1.6. Inform parents/carers about the incident and how it is being managed.
 - 12.2.5.1.1.7. Make a referral to Specialist Children's Services (if required/ appropriate).
 - 12.2.5.1.1.8. Provide the necessary safeguards and support for students, such as, offering counselling or pastoral support.
 - 12.2.5.1.1.9. Review the handling of any incidents to ensure that best practice is implemented; school leadership team will review and update any management procedures, where necessary.
- 12.2.6. The school will take action regarding online child sexual abuse, regardless of whether the incident took place on/off school premises, using school or personal equipment.
- 12.2.7. Where possible students will be involved in decision making and if appropriate, will be empowered to report concerns such as via the Click CEOP report : www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/
- 12.2.8. If the school is unclear whether a criminal offence has been committed, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through the North Lincolnshire CMARS or local police.
- 12.2.9. If the school is made aware of intelligence or information which may relate to child sexual exploitation (on or offline), it will be passed through to the relevant authorities by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- 12.2.10. If students at other schools are believed to have been targeted, the school will seek support from local Police and/or the North Lincolnshire CMARS first to ensure that potential investigations are not compromised.

12.3. Indecent Images of Children (IIOC)

- 12.3.1. Huntcliff School will ensure that all members of the community are made aware of the possible consequences of accessing Indecent Images of Children (IIOC).
- 12.3.2. The school will take action regarding IIOC on school equipment and/or personal equipment, even if access took place off site.
- 12.3.3. The school will take action to prevent accidental access to IIOC by using an internet Service provider (ISP) which subscribes to the Internet Watch Foundation block list and by implementing appropriate filtering, firewalls and anti-spam software. This is currently Watch Guard and Microsoft Essentials.
- 12.3.4. If the school is unclear if a criminal offence has been committed, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice immediately through local Police and/or the North Lincolnshire CMARS.

12.3.5. If made aware of IIOC, the school will:

- 12.3.5.1. Act in accordance with the school's safeguarding policy and the relevant North Lincolnshire North Lincolnshire CMARS procedures.
- 12.3.5.2. Immediately notify the school Designated Safeguard Lead.
- 12.3.5.3. Store any devices involved securely.
- 12.3.5.4. Immediately inform appropriate organisations, such as the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), local police or the LADO.

12.3.6. If made aware that a member of staff or a student has been inadvertently exposed to indecent images of children whilst using the internet, the school will:

- 12.3.6.1. Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
- 12.3.6.2. Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via www.iwf.org.uk .
- 12.3.6.3. Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted.
- 12.3.6.4. Report concerns, as appropriate to parents and carers.

12.3.7. If made aware that indecent images of children have been found on the school devices, the school will:

- 12.3.7.1. Ensure that the Designated Safeguard Lead is informed.
- 12.3.7.2. Ensure that the URLs (webpage addresses) which contain the suspect images are reported to the Internet Watch Foundation via www.iwf.org.uk .
- 12.3.7.3. Ensure that any copies that exist of the image, for example in emails, are deleted.
- 12.3.8. Inform the police via 101 (999 if there is an immediate risk of harm) and children's social services (as appropriate).
- 12.3.8.1. Only store copies of images (securely, where no one else has access to them and delete all other copies) at the request of the police only.
- 12.3.8.2. Report concerns, as appropriate to parents and carers.

12.3.9. If made aware that a member of staff is in possession of indecent images of children on school devices, the school will:

- 12.3.9.1. Ensure that the Headteacher is informed.

12.3.9.2. Inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and other relevant organisations in accordance with the schools managing allegations policy.

12.3.9.3. Quarantine any devices until police advice has been sought.

12.4. Cyberbullying

12.4.1. Cyberbullying, along with all other forms of bullying, will not be tolerated at Huntcliff School.

12.4.2. Full details of how the school will respond to cyberbullying are set out in the Anti-bullying policy which is available on the school website. Key advice is also published in the student journal.

12.5. Online Hate

12.5.1. Online hate content, directed towards or posted by, specific members of the community will not be tolerated at Huntcliff School and will be responded to in line with existing school policies, including Anti-bullying and Behaviour.

12.5.2. All members of the community will be advised to report online hate in accordance with relevant school policies and procedures.

12.5.3. The Police will be contacted if a criminal offence is suspected.

12.5.4. If the school is unclear on how to respond, or whether a criminal offence has been committed, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will obtain advice through the North Lincolnshire CMARS and/or local police.

12.6. Online Radicalisation and Extremism

12.6.1. The school will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.

12.6.2. If the school is concerned that a child or parent/carer may be at risk of radicalisation online, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed immediately and action will be taken in line with the Safeguarding policy.

12.6.3. If the school is concerned that member of staff may be at risk of radicalisation online, the Headteacher will be informed immediately and action will be taken in line with the Safeguarding and Inclusion policies.

13. Useful Links for Educational Settings

North Lincolnshire CMARS - <http://www.northlincscmars.co.uk/>

A guide for education settings about establishing 'appropriate levels' of filtering and monitoring can be found at: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/teachers-and-school-staff/appropriate-filtering-and-monitoring>

National Links and Resources

Action Fraud: www.actionfraud.police.uk

CEOP:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.ceop.police.uk

Childnet: www.childnet.com

Get Safe Online: www.getsafeonline.org

Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org

Internet Watch Foundation (IWF): www.iwf.org.uk

Lucy Faithfull Foundation: www.lucyfaithfull.org

NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

ChildLine: www.childline.org.uk

Net Aware: www.net-aware.org.uk

The Marie Collins Foundation: www.mariecollinsfoundation.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

Professional Online Safety Helpline: www.saferinternet.org.uk/about/helpline

360 Safe Self-Review tool for schools: www.360safe.org.uk

Online Safety Policy

COVID-19 Addendum

Huntcliff School is committed to providing a safe environment for online learning. This commitment remains the same in the difficult circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 outbreak. During any period of Guided Home Learning our expectations of staff and students also remain the same, and the principles and practices of the school's *Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy* and *Online Safety Policy*, staff Code of Conduct and *Acceptable Use Agreements* for staff and students will continue to apply, both to existing and any new online and distance learning arrangements introduced. Staff and students must review these policies and ensure that they adhere to them at all times.

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of children during any period that students are engaging in guided home learning, the school will continue to follow the DfE remote learning guidance.

The following guidelines will also apply:

Providing a safe system

- Huntcliff school will continue to ensure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place to protect children when they are online on the school's IT systems or recommended resources.
- For the purposes of guided home learning, the primary platform used is Microsoft Teams. The online safety implications of this platform were carefully considered before use.
- Some live online sessions may be recorded for safeguarding purposes. When a recording is made access is restricted to the teacher and the IT Administrator. Access may be granted to other members of the school community in the event of a complaint when the school's existing complaints procedure will be adhered to. Further distribution is strictly prohibited.
- The school has technical support dedicated to maintaining a safe and operational online environment. Where local IT teams are unavailable, Local Authority IT staff will provide technical support to schools.
- The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead has day to day responsibility for online safety, and will maintain an oversight of the management of guided home learning from a safeguarding perspective. Procedures will be kept under review and action will be taken swiftly if concerns about the use of technologies arise.
- The school will keep in regular contact with parents, updating them as appropriate with information on how the school is providing guided home learning, how they can keep their children safe online, and any new developments.

Guided Home Learning

There is a wide range of formats for guided home learning, including:

- Posting activities for students at agreed intervals, with students posting responses
- Providing recorded material in the form of podcasts or video tutorials
- Directing students to web-based resources and activities they can engage with on or offline e.g. Seneca
- Interactive/live teaching in real time.

Live online teaching

Live online teaching has now become an additional form of learning and support for students of all ages. However, whilst online contact will not replace face to face contact as a form of additional support, live sessions are helpful as they allow communication, with students able to respond to staff questions and vice versa. Live classes also give students the opportunity to interact with peers.

However, it should be remembered that live online teaching remains “one tool in the box” and it will be balanced alongside other learning opportunities in a range of other formats.

In order to safeguard both students and staff, live online sessions must be conducted following the protocols set out below.

Protocols for staff in relation to guided home learning:

- Only use school approved platforms; do not use social media in communicating with students
- Reinforce online safety messages regularly in your teaching
- Consider online safety when sharing resources – vet websites and videos/apps/software carefully and bear in mind that the home environment will not have the same content filtering systems as at school. If introducing new apps and resources, make sure these meet GDPR requirements. Contact your line manager/network manager for further guidance.
- If concerned about online safety/resources, check with IT support
- Ensure that passwords and secure information, such as log-ins for SIMS, are kept confidential
- Adhere to copyright and GDPR guidelines
- Continue to look out for signs that a child may be at risk – which may differ from typical triggers in a school environment. Report any concerns to the DSL without delay in the usual way.
- Do not provide students or parents with personal contact details – email, home or mobile numbers, details of web-based identities, social media contacts etc.
- Remain professional and objective in all email and other forms of correspondence.

In relation to live online teaching and online parents’ evenings:

- Keep a record/log of live online lessons – date and time, attendance, what was covered, any incidents. Any serious incidents should be reported in the usual manner depending on the nature of the issue.
- Maintain professional conduct during live streaming – dress appropriately, consider your surroundings (background, other household members who may come into view etc) and blur if necessary, and remember that your microphone may be on.
- Maintain the same boundaries and insist on the same standard of behaviour as in a classroom setting. Make specific protocols clear at the outset e.g. muting of microphones, use of chat function etc.

Reporting an issue for staff:

- Any child protection or safeguarding concern must be reported to the DSL without delay.
- Concerns about the safety of procedures, behaviours or use of technology should be dealt with following the usual school protocols.
- Routine queries about the use of apps or online materials should be addressed to your line manager or IT support depending on the nature of the issue.

Protocols for students in relation to guided home learning:

- Always log on through your school account and use your school email for communication with members of staff.

- Do not make recordings, take screenshots/screengrabs or photographs, or store or distribute footage of teachers or other students.
- Be aware that some live online sessions may be recorded by the teacher.
- Dress appropriately for online learning when accessing from home.
- Ensure that you have a safe and appropriate place to participate from. Blur your background if necessary.
- Follow the school rules for conduct during online lessons as if you were in school.
- Do not undermine in any way the technology used to offer online lessons.
- If you have concerns about online safety, or if you feel you are being bullied, talk to someone you trust.

Reporting an issue for students:

- Speak to a trusted adult.
- Contact Childline 0800 1111 or click CEOP button

The role of parent/carer:

- It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that students are monitored in their use of technology for guided home learning as they would ordinarily do when their children are using technology at home.
- While students are working from home they are connected to their home broadband so their traffic does not go through the Huntcliff firewall – parents will therefore need to ensure that age-appropriate filtering or safe search is enabled at home. Information on setting this up can be found at: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>
- Communication during online learning is between student and teacher: parents should communicate with school staff in the usual manner, via school email or telephone.
- Social media, networking apps and gaming platforms remain particularly popular and parents are advised to be mindful of age restrictions and to oversee their child's social media activity.
- The school will update parents regularly on online safety matters.

Reporting an issue for parents/carers:

- Contact the DSL for any safeguarding or child protection concerns
- You can also report an incident to CEOP or Report Harmful Content.
- Contact your child's tutor in the usual way for routine enquiries about guided home learning.
- See the sources of support and advice below.

Sources of support and advice

UK Safer Internet Centre (<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>) - includes a range of activities for children of different ages.

CEOP / Thinkuknow (<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>) – includes a range of home activity packs

National Online Safety (<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>) – good guides for parents and staff

Parent Info (<https://parentinfo.org/>) – specifically aimed at parents

Internet Matters (<https://parentinfo.org/>) – specifically aimed at parents

Net Aware (<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>) – NSPCC's advice on online matters