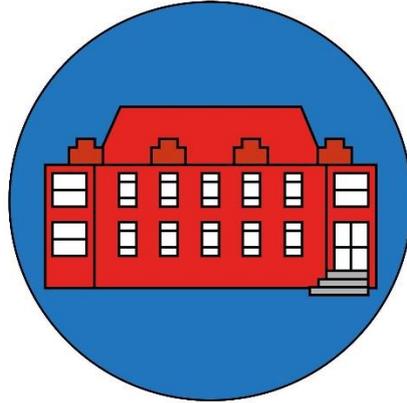


St. Gerard's Catholic Primary School



E –Safety Policy 2024

Signed: C Gurran

(Chair of Governors)

Signed: B. Baxter

(Headteacher)

Date: March 2024

Date to be reviewed: March 2025

Mission Statement

With Christ as our teacher, to enable every child to be the best that they can be.

AIMS

The aim of St. Gerard's school is to provide an environment, which is both attractive and stimulating. We encourage children to achieve high standards in a caring, structured, disciplined atmosphere.

We aim to give all children the chance to see new things, develop their thoughts, try new skills, both physical and mental, and gradually expand their field of experience. In all things, including the everyday life of the school, we do not discriminate on grounds of culture, race or gender.

We believe that, with these aims shaping the way we work together, children will develop a willingness and desire to learn and enjoy school life.

We actively encourage the children to:

- Develop self-confidence and awareness of others and the environment.
- Listen attentively and gain understanding.
- Read fluently and accurately for information and for pleasure.
- Develop attractive handwriting, with high standards of spelling, punctuation and syntax, and be able to use language imaginatively and creatively.
- Speak well and clearly to each other and in public.
- Learn to make decisions and solve problems in a systematic way.
- Develop an understanding of mathematical principals and be able to apply them.
- Develop skills, concepts and understanding in the fields of science, technology and information and communication technology.
- Know about the geographical, historical and social aspect of local, national and global environments.
- Develop their talents in art, drama, music and physical education.

Our guiding Principles

This school is committed to providing equal opportunities for all pupils and an entitlement to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum. We aim to provide a stimulating, supportive environment where children are motivated to learn. Whenever possible, work is based on first hand experience, using a multisensory approach. Work is differentiated according to the needs of the child, or groups of children. We aim to promote confidence, self-esteem and independence.

INTRODUCTION

The online world is rapidly developing and many of our children now have access to devices which enables them to connect to the internet, take images or video and communicate with others. Whilst it is important not to obstruct them from developing skills from using these devices, it is essential that parents can support their child with navigating the online world. Therefore, it is important to identify what is to be achieved by the use of the internet within school, and at home, and how the internet can be safely used.

This policy has been developed to ensure that all adults in St Gerard's Catholic Primary School are working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. This policy has been ratified by the Governing Body and will be reviewed annually.

E-Safety is a safeguarding issue not an ICT issue and all members of the school community have a duty to be aware of e-safety at all times, to know the required procedures and to act on them

This document aims to put in place effective management systems and arrangements which will maximise the educational and social benefit that can be obtained by exploiting the benefits and opportunities of using ICT, whilst minimising any associated risks. It describes actions that should be put in place to redress any concerns about child welfare and safety as well as how to protect children, young people and staff from risks and infringements.

The purpose of internet use in school is to help raise educational standards, promote pupil achievement, and support the professional work of staff as well as enhance the school's management information and business administration systems.

This e-safety policy reflects the need to raise awareness of the safety issues associated with information systems and electronic communication as a whole.

Aims

At St Gerard's we aim to provide a high quality learning environment where children can achieve their full potential. We see the internet as being a valuable tool in helping us achieve this.

We believe access to the internet will:

- Enrich the quality of curriculum provision and extend learning opportunities
- Help raise children's attainment in all core subjects
- Enable children to be educated in the effective use of the internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation and how to keep themselves safe online.
- Encourage children and young people to question what they read and to seek confirmation of matters of fact from more than one source. They will be taught research techniques including the use of subject catalogues and search engines and encouraged to question the validity, currency and origins of information. Children and young people will also be taught that copying material is worth little without an appropriate commentary demonstrating the selectivity used and evaluating the material's significance.
- Support teachers' planning and resourcing of lessons
- Enhance the school's leadership and administration systems,
- Enhance staff development through access to educational materials, as well as the sharing of information and collaboration between schools.
- Support parents to enhance learning at home.

Inappropriate Materials

There is a wealth of valuable educational sites available on the internet, but unfortunately alongside these are websites which contain inappropriate materials which it would be unacceptable for the children to gain access to.

To ensure that children can access the internet safely, we use the Impelling and Safestudy as our internet service provider (ISP). The ISP uses a filter to exclude any inappropriate material by barring access to sites listed as being inappropriate. However, there is always a small chance that inappropriate materials may be unfiltered by this system.

Staff must preview any recommended sites before use. Particular care must be taken when using search engines with the children as these can return undesirable links

Therefore, we have the following guidelines for using the internet within school

Guidelines for Staff

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

- safe use of e-mail
- safe use of the Internet
- safe use of the 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 on the school website
- procedures in the event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community
- their role in providing e-safety education for pupils.

Children should:

- Only use the internet under the supervision of an adult.
- Only use the WebPages that they have been asked to access by their teacher or responsible adult.
- Inform teachers immediately if they encounter any information or WebPages that they feel are inappropriate or offensive.
- Only send polite e-mails to the address that their teacher has specified and not include any personal information (i.e. address or telephone number)

If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address) and content must be reported to the Internet Service Provider via the School Business Manager.

School Will:

Inform all parents that their children will be provided with supervised Internet access as part of the school's curriculum.

Inform all parents of the school's "Rules for Responsible Internet Use" which their children will be expected to abide by in order to ensure a safe environment.

Answer parents' queries and concerns about their child's use of the Internet and our safeguards to protect them from unpleasant material. (Parental permission will not be called for by the school before a child is allowed to gain access to the Internet).

Make available advice on filtering systems and appropriate educational activities including responsible use of the Internet to parents/carers.

Refer parent/carers to organisations such as Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) and the NSPCC site SHAREAWARE and NETAWARE for further information.

Parents are advised to spend time speaking with their child(ren) about online safety and reminding them of the importance of reporting to an adult anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online. While we will be doing our best to ensure links shared are appropriate, there may be tailored advertising which displays differently in your household or other changes beyond our control.

The School Website

The school web site provides information for parents, examples of children's work and useful links for children, parents and teachers. It is our policy only use photographs of children on the school website if we have parental consent to do so. Parents/carers will be issued with a consent form for this purpose when their child initially enters school.

Social Networking Sites

As use of the internet continues to grow, children are using it at home for social networking. Parents should be aware that if children are accessing Face book or other such social networking sites then they have used incorrect personal details- i.e. they have lied about their age. This will not be condoned by the school.

Parents should not post about the school or individual children on any social networking sites.

Sometimes, problems online started at home can spill into school.

A Partnership approach with parents is encouraged to include parent information sessions with demonstrations and suggestions for safe home Internet use. School will inform parents if an incident from home impacts into school. School will not tolerate any form of bullying. Parents' attention will be drawn to this policy in newsletters, the school prospectus and on the school website

Some of the issues related to primary pupils using the internet are:

- Accessing inappropriate content on the internet.
- Using 'mature' social networking sites such as Facebook and connecting with individuals they don't know.
- Being cyberbullied by others on the internet.
- Appropriate use of technology such as webcams and cameras on mobile devices.
- Sharing personal information with others they don't know on the internet.
- Playing video games with adult rating e.g. Call of Duty.

If you feel that your child is being groomed or abused online, then use the Child Exploitation Online Protection (CEOP) Centre's reporting form:

<http://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

THE IMPORTANT MESSAGE IS THAT PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN CAN SPEAK TO A RESPONSIBLE ADULT IF THEY FEEL WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING RELATED TO THE INTERNET.

For further information about family filtering for home broadband:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Primary/Tools/Parental-controls/>

The resources on this page are to help pupils and parents understanding the risks and how to make devices safer to use.

FOR PUPILS

Early Years & Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1

Smartie The Penguin (Online story)

<http://kidsmart.org.uk/teachers/ks1/readsmartie.aspx>

Digiduck's Big Decision (Online story)

<http://kidsmart.org.uk/teachers/ks1/digiduck.aspx>

Hectors World (Cartoon's)

http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/hectorsworld/

Lee & Kim (Cartoon and resources)

http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/LeeandKim/

Key Stage 2

The Smart Crew (Cartoon's and resources)

<http://www.childnet.com/resources/the-adventures-of-kara-winston-and-the-smart-crew>

Kidsmart (information Site)

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

CEOP Think U Know 8-10 Year Olds (Games & resources)

http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/

CEOP 'Jigsaw' (Video)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_o8auwnJtqE

YHGfL 'Daydreaming' (Cyberbullying video)

<http://www.yhgfl.net/content/download/3316/21955/file/Daydreaming.avi>

FOR PARENTS

CEOP Parent's Guide To The Internet (Video)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/parentsguide/>

CEOP Primary Parent's Site (Advice)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Primary/>

ParentPort (Advice)

<https://www.parentport.org.uk/top-tips-for-parents/>

UK SIC Guide To Technology (Advice)

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-to-technology>

Pan European Game Information (Advice)

<http://www.pegi.info/en/index/>

YHGfL Digital Parenting (Documents & links)

<http://www.yhgfl.net/eSafeguarding/eSafety/Digital-parenting>

For resources in Polish: <http://www.saferinternet.pl/wiadomosci/strona1.html>

For resources in Romanian : <http://www.sigur.info/>

For resources in Slovakian : <http://www.zodpovedne.sk/>

For resources in Bulgarian : <http://www.safenet.bg/>

Leaflets in Urdu/Hindi/Punjabi : <http://www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-keeping-up-with-children-on-the-internet>

The eSafeguarding co-ordinator in school is Bernadette Jenkinson, if you need any further support, then please contact the school office.