

## Rationale

Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) can bring benefits to young people and enhance their learning experience. At St. Dominic's RCPS we strive to ensure all learners have the opportunity to experience these new technologies and to develop skills that are likely to be part of their everyday life.

Nevertheless, this same ability to access information on almost any subject, and to communicate throughout the world, carries with it the risk that young people will be exposed to material, situations or communications that are undesirable.

To ensure that any risk is minimised, St Dominic's RCPS has implemented an Acceptable Use Policy.

## Aims

This policy aims to:

- Keep individuals safe and protected
- Enhance learners experiences
- Develop active and responsible citizens

## MOBILE PHONES

### Pupils

- Pupils may bring a mobile phone to school for personal safety e.g. travel to and from home
- Smart watches may be worn provided cellular data is switched off (i.e. phone calls and messaging are not enabled)

## Pupil Responsibilities

- Ensure their phone is switched off at all times whilst on school grounds
- Phones are handed into class teacher at start and collected at the end of school day
- Using a mobile phone to take photographs /videos clips of other pupils/staff without permission is not permitted. Article 16 of the UNCRC states that every child has the right to privacy.
- Mobile phones are not permitted on school trips.
- Mobile phones brought to school and not handed in will be confiscated and Parents/carers advised.
- "Mobile phone" is used throughout this document but refers to any type of digital device e.g. watches, iPads or tablets, which use the same technologies.

## Parents/Carers

- should be aware that if their child takes a mobile phone to school, it is assumed household insurance will provide the required cover in the event of loss or damage
- that they should inform the school of any change to routine
- should not use mobile technologies in the playground
- only post photos on social media that you have permission to do so

## INTERNET

Pupil access is granted for educational purposes and courses. Every attempt is made for staff, parents and pupils to work together so that use of the internet is as safe as possible.

Article 17 of the UNCRC states that children have the right to reliable information from a variety of sources but Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

To manage use of the internet and electronic communications, as well as the electronic safeguards, one of the key ways of achieving this is to ensure appropriate supervision. All staff in the school are aware of the issues surrounding internet access and the need for appropriate adult supervision.

## Teacher

A number of aspects are under the strict control of the classroom teacher.

- The use of chat and newsgroups is restricted. Any use of these facilities should be in line with specific instructions issued by the class teacher.
- Saving or downloading materials is subject to guidance from the class teacher.
- Pupils may not use files brought from outwith the school without prior permission.
- Pupils may not use material from the internet outside the school without permission.

## Learning and Teaching

Acceptable use of technology will be explored through:

- Engaging the Community Police in appropriate discussions within class lessons
- Personal safety explored across the curriculum, in particular Digital Technologies and Health topics

## Pupils

All equipment and other users should be treated with respect. This means that:

- any person who discovers any materials they consider may be offensive or inappropriate, or believes that attempts have been made to make unacceptable use of the internet should report the matter immediately to a member of staff
- users should not use their home address or phone number or those of other students or when on the network
- any email from unknown sources should be reported

## Dealing with Misuse

Any incidents will be recorded and appropriate action taken. Any evidence that pupils have been accessing material that should not be available through the school network will be considered seriously and may be dealt with formally.

## Parents

We recommend that parents refer to available advice about safe use of the internet and ensure that they are aware of any access that is taking place.

Guidance is available from a number of websites, including [Thinkuknow](#).

In addition to producing this policy, Perth and Kinross Council has a Code of Conduct that applies to each member of staff and has implemented user authentication procedures and internet and email filtering.

## Consultation

This policy has been created in consultation with pupils, parents and staff. (November 2016, updated 2022)

Review Date: November 2024

## For further information, please contact:

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*I have read the above and agree to the acceptable use of mobile technologies detailed there-in.*

*Pupil Signature*\_\_\_\_\_

*Parent Signature*\_\_\_\_\_

*Date*

## St Dominic's RC Primary School & ELC



## Mobile Technologies Acceptable Use Policy

### Policy



### Vision

Our vision for St Dominic's RC Primary School, ELC and Wraparound Care Service is for a harmonious and inclusive community where everyone is held in high regard; where dignity, worth and individuality is respected through Christian values, evident in the personal example of staff in their interaction with pupils, parents and each other. We want our parents and carers to feel welcome and to know that we will work in partnership with them to ensure that all children grow and develop educationally, socially, emotionally and spiritually.