ST JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAMSBOTTOM

SAFE INTERNET USAGE AND E-SAFETY POLICY

MISSION STATEMENT

"There are 3 things that last: Faith, Hope and Love. Love one another as I have loved you."
Our school is proud to be part of the Roman Catholic community in the Parish of St Joseph's Ramsbottom. Our school has a distinctive character, because everything we do is based on the values of the Gospel. The purpose of our community is to recognise the worth and dignity of all and to fully develop the talents of each person."

OVERVIEW

This school has made significant investment in information technology and computer systems to support teaching and learning and to give learners the opportunity to seek information and carry out research. Access to the internet carries with it the danger that learners could find and view material that is unsuitable for them or that they could be put at risk from cyber bullying, unwanted and inappropriate contacts. This policy seeks to ensure that the internet and other forms of information communications technology is used appropriately for learning but with safeguards to protect learners from harm.

INTENT

1. To ensure that learners access to inappropriate sites and locations is restricted.
2. To ensure that the use of the internet is for proper purposes related to the teaching, learning and curriculum of this school.
3. To protect children from harm and upset that could be caused through giving them access to inappropriate sites, materials, images and contacts.
4. To make learners aware that there are inappropriate sites that are harmful and so must be avoided in school and at home.
5. To encourage learners to report immediately any inappropriate, sites, materials or contacts that they find on the internet either at school or at home.
6. To ensure that pupils do not suffer from abuse by other pupils, including abuse by sexting.
7. To ensure that the school complies with section 127 of the communications Act 2003 and the recommendations of the Byron Report 2008.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. As most mobile communication devices and cell phones now have internet access learners bringing any mobile device into school will be required to have it switched off at all times on school premises.
2. Appropriate Firewalls will be put in place and must be enabled at all times on all the school computers.
3. Staff must always check that Firewalls are in place before learners are allowed to access the internet.
4. Staff must not disable or bypass Firewalls on any school owned computer under any circumstances or at any time.
5. Learners must be supervised by adults at any time that they are given access to the internet.

6. Staff must only use computers for school purposes. School computers used by staff either at home or in school must not be modified or used for personal use.
7. If learners bring digitally stored information into school on disk or on pen drive or by other means, staff must check the suitability of the information before it is played on school computers.
8. Learners must be encouraged to notify staff if they at any time come across unsuitable material on a computer or if they feel threatened or harassed by any form of cyber bullying.
9. Staff must notify the headteacher immediately if they find unsuitable or inappropriate material on a computer, mobile phone or storage device or if they find that a learner is the subject of cyber bullying.
10. Spot checks and audits will be carried out from time to time to ensure that computers are being used appropriately.
11. Learners found with mobile devices switched on in school will have those devices confiscated until parents can come into school and collect them. The device will subsequently be banned from school.
12. Incidents of inappropriate use of ICT or of cyber bullying will be reported to the headteacher and records will be kept.

IMPACT
Learners and staff will be able to enjoy and use ICT to enhance teaching, learning and the curriculum and to access useful educational information and materials, without risk of harm or upset.

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