Our **Vision** is to be a...

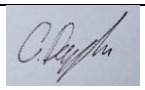
Caring Community, Courageously Learning, Inspired to Live Life to the Full.

Jesus said, ***"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full."***

(John 10:10)

CCI is a vibrant, inclusive and aspirational school that strives to keep the wellbeing, education and safeguarding of children at the centre of all we do. Our staff, families, Church and Governors harmoniously work together to encourage children to flourish as people as well as learners in a setting where every child is empowered, their background celebrated and their mental health protected. Our Church school vision is seen through our values-led curriculum, holistic approach to each individual and community focussed experiences. This approach then enables every child in our care to learn to live life in all its fullness, during their educational journey with us.

The value we place on every individual extends to our staff team too, who are our greatest resource within school. We aim to uphold high levels of wellbeing through continued professional development, high aspirations and an ongoing collaborative approach. In all we do at Christ Church Infant school, we keep children at the heart of our work. The following policy sits within this school vision and ethos so should be read with this context in mind.

Signed CoG: 	Name: Chris Douglas	Review Date: 14.1.25
Signed Head: 	Name: Anna Martin	Review: T3 2027-28

Online Safety Policy

The National Curriculum expects children to learn how to locate, retrieve and exchange information as well as use computational thinking to create programmes and digital literacy. In everyday lessons teachers need to plan for and make use of communication technology, for example, web-based resources and email. Access to lifelong learning and employment increasingly requires children to be computer literate; therefore children need to develop key ICT life skills including a clear understanding of computer science.

Home and social Internet use is continually expanding and has become an integral part of learning and communication during leisure time. This brings children into contact with a wider range of information, the scope and nature of which may or may not be appropriate for them.

At Christ Church Infant School we take all aspects of children's safety very seriously and this includes the use of ICT and the internet. All staff shares the responsibility for teaching children safe use practices and for monitoring these practices during the school day. As most children also have access to the internet outside school, we intend to work closely with parents to support their development of safe practices at home.

Our Statement of Intent:

- To keep children safe when accessing the internet whilst at the same time teaching them how to keep themselves safe independently so that they become confident in practical ways to protect themselves.
- To create a responsible internet community in our school.

Why Internet Access is Important:

- The purpose of internet access in school is to raise educational standards, to support the professional work of staff and to enhance the school's management and administration systems. Access to the internet is a necessary tool for staff and children.

Improving Learning:

The internet is a useful tool to enhance teaching and learning. We will adopt the following systems to ensure internet use is as safe as possible and of high quality.

- Internet access will be used to enrich and extend learning activities. Access will be controlled using filtering software.
- Children will be given clear objectives and instructions for internet use.
- Staff will select sites which will support the learning outcomes, ensuring they are appropriate for children's age and maturity.
- Children will be educated in taking responsibility for internet access.

Teaching children how to assess the quality of material on the Internet:

Although the children at Christ Church Infant School are still very young, as they get older we need to teach them to understand that not all information available on the internet is accurate. We will follow the SMART online safety rules and will begin to develop this understanding in the following ways:

SAFE Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your name, email, phone number, home address, school name to people who you don't know or trust online.

MEETING Meeting someone you have only just been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parent's or carer's permission and even then only when they can be present.

ACCEPTING Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain nasty messages or viruses.

RELIABLE Someone online might be lying about who they are, and information you find on the internet might not be correct.

TELL Tell you parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable while using the internet.

How will email be managed at Christ Church Infant School?

Children at Christ Church Infant School do not use individual email. Children will only use emails in a whole class situation when supervised by an adult. Email is an essential means of communication within education. We believe:

- Children need to use email as part of the National Curriculum.
- Email should only be used in school for educational purposes.
- Children must learn not to reveal personal details about themselves or others in email communication.

Christ Church Infant School Website:

Our own website is primarily used to provide another point of communication for parents whilst also promoting the school and what we have to offer. We have the following rules:

- The point of contact on the website is the school address and telephone number.
- Home information or individual email identities will not be published.
- If a name is used on a website, for example next to a piece of work, only the child's first name is used and it is never accompanied by a photograph.
- Written permission from parents will be sought in the form of the 'Responsible Internet Use' permission form, to allow the school to use photographs of their children on the website and also to allow children to use the internet.
- When images of children are published they will not be named next to the photographs.

Managing Digital Content

Using Images, Video and Sound

Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of children are published. This will be done as part of the induction process. This permission is to cover the use of photographs and videos in the following situations:

- On the school's Website https://www.christchurchinfants.co.uk/
- On the school's Facebook Page or other social media platforms
- In school publications and other printed promotional material e.g. newspapers.
- In display material that may be used around the school.
- In display material that may be used off site.
- Recorded or transmitted on a video or via webcam in an educational conference e.g. via Zoom Meetings.

If any parents change their mind with regard to giving permission during their time at our school, our office staff must be informed as soon as possible.

We will remind children of the risks of inappropriate use of digital images, video and sound in their online activities both at school and at home. Children and staff will only use school equipment to create digital images, video and sound – see Use of Images Policy.

Parents are asked to only take photographs of their own child during events at school, and are only able to do so when a member of staff has agreed it is suitable to do so. They are always reminded not to share any images or videos without permission of parents or carers.

Storage of Images

Any images, videos or sound clips of children must be stored on the school drives and never be transferred to personally-owned equipment.

Children and staff are not permitted to use personal portable media for storage of any images, videos or sound clips of children, unless encrypted.

Internet Access at Christ Church Infant School

- All internet access is by adult demonstration with directly supervised access to specific, approved on-line material.
- The school may decide to withdraw access permission to the internet if it is misused by any children.
- Emerging technologies are assessed for educational benefit before use in school is allowed.
- Children are taught how to stay online on a regular basis as part of the curriculum and in assemblies.

How will Social Networking and Personal Publishing be managed?

- The age of our children falls considerably below the minimum age limit of most social networking sites. However, children are taught never to give out personal details of any kind which may identify themselves or others and/or their location.
- Members of staff do not use social networking sites to discuss work or any work matters, including positive and negative comments.

How will Risks be Assessed?

It is difficult to completely remove the risk that children might access unsuitable materials via the school system; however several safeguards are put in place to remove as many risks as possible:

- The school will supervise children and take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of information available via the internet, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a terminal.
- The use of computer systems without permission or for purposes not agreed by the school could constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
- Methods to identify, assess and minimise risks will be reviewed at the same time as the policy is reviewed.
- Staff, parents and governors will work to establish agreement that every reasonable measure is being taken.
- The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will ensure that this policy is implemented effectively.

Filtering and Web Access Monitoring

The school employs an IT Provider who manage filtering and web access monitoring. This is an accredited filtering system and is a fully cloud-based solution. It supports every device kind in every location for every user type.

This provides delegated administration and a live activity feed, meaning that the school's senior leaders are provided with instant reports on filtering and web access. Incidents are addressed quickly and governors can monitor these reports.

How to report an incident

If staff or children discover unsuitable sites, the web address and content must be reported by a member of staff to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. If a complaint regarding the handling of online safety is received the facts of the case will need to be established, for instance whether the issue has arisen through Internet use inside or outside school. All complaints will be thoroughly investigated by a member of the SLT.

How will online safety be introduced to children?

Online safety is taught prior to internet use and is embedded in Computing and Enquiry Curriculum.

- Every year group covers an Internet Safety lesson each term (6 a year) each lesson is based on one of the SMART rules and includes scenarios, video clips and activities.
- Online safety is revisited constantly throughout the rest of the year to consolidate children's learning, including during Internet Safety Day each year in February.
- During Safer Internet Day in February the whole school participates in a share Online Safety Day which consists of a whole school assembly, interactive and fun technology activities in class, sometimes involving parents and carers.
- Every term a member of teaching staff leads a whole school assembly on Internet Safety.
- We have a virtual Internet Safety resource library which has video clips and interactive stories to share in class.

How will parents' support be enlisted?

Almost all of our children have access to the internet in their own homes. Part of our duty of care includes sharing information about internet safety with our parents. We will ensure there is:

- A careful balance between informing and alarming parents.

- Clear online safety links on our website.
- Every term a newsletter for parents is shared within the weekly newsletter, detailing information on how to keep your child safe online at home. We include details of new apps and games so parents are informed to make calculated decisions.
- Extra support offered for parents who need educating on safe internet practice.

Written by: Miss Stephanie Essex, Computing Lead

2026 Update: The 4 Cs of Online Risk

Content Risk: exposure to harmful, inappropriate or misleading online content.

Contact Risk: contact from individuals who may seek to exploit, groom or manipulate children online.

Conduct Risk: unsafe or inappropriate behaviour online, including cyberbullying and sharing personal information.

Commerce Risk: exposure to scams, phishing, gambling-related content, advertising and financial pressures.

Filtering and Monitoring

Christ Church Infant School works in partnership with Soltech to provide filtering and monitoring services in line with Department for Education standards.

The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher receive filtering and monitoring reports from Soltech and review incidents, alerts and trends. Appropriate safeguarding action is taken where required.

Soltech provides filtering and monitoring training and support. An annual filtering and monitoring report is provided to governors to support effective oversight.

Governor Responsibilities

Governors review the annual Soltech report, receive safeguarding updates and seek assurance that filtering and monitoring systems remain effective.

Staff Training

All staff receive training on the 4Cs of online risk, reporting concerns, filtering and monitoring arrangements and emerging online risks. Additional support is provided by Soltech.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Christ Church Infant School recognises that Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are becoming increasingly common in education and everyday life. AI must be used safely, ethically and in a manner that protects children, staff and the wider school community.

The school will ensure that AI tools are risk assessed before use, personal or safeguarding information is never entered into public AI platforms, and children are taught age-appropriate understanding of AI-generated content and its limitations.

The school recognises that AI may increase risks across the four categories of online risk: Content, Contact, Conduct and Commerce. These risks are considered within safeguarding reviews, filtering and monitoring arrangements and staff training programmes.

Governors and AI Oversight

Governors will seek assurance that AI use complies with safeguarding, GDPR and data protection requirements, receive updates regarding significant developments in AI, ensure AI-related risks are considered within online safety arrangements and support the safe and ethical use of AI across the school.

Staff training includes the safe and responsible use of AI, verification of AI-generated content, safeguarding considerations and professional responsibilities when using emerging technologies.