Parent Acceptable Use Agreement

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within schools and outside school. These technologies provide powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. They can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

- that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.

- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.

- that parents and carers are aware of the importance of online safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people with regard to their on-line behaviour.

The school will try to ensure that pupils will have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the pupils to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy is available on the school website, so that parents / carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.

Parents are requested to sign the permission form below to show their support of the school in this important aspect of the school's work.

Permission Form

Parent / Carers Name		Pupil Name and Class	

As the parent / carer of the above pupil, I give permission for my son / daughter to have access to the internet and to ICT systems at school.

KS2 Parents
I know that my son / daughter has signed an Acceptable Use Agreement and has received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

Foundation/KS1 Parents
I understand that the school has discussed the Acceptable Use Agreement with my son / daughter and that they have received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and ICT systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that my son's / daughter's activity on the ICT systems will be monitored and that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use Policy.

I will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home and will inform the school if I have concerns over my child's online safety.

Signed		Date	

The use of social networking and on-line media

This school asks its whole community to promote the 3 commons approach to online behaviour:

- Common courtesy
- Common decency
- Common sense

How do we show common courtesy online?
- We ask someone's permission before uploading photographs, videos or any other information about them online.
- *We do not write or upload 'off-hand', hurtful, rude or derogatory comments and materials. To do so is disrespectful and may upset, distress, bully or harass.*

How do we show common decency online?
- We do not post comments that can be considered as being **intimidating, racist, sexist, homophobic or defamatory.   This is cyber-bullying** and may be harassment or libel.
- When such comments exist online, we do not forward such emails, tweets, videos, etc. By creating or forwarding such materials we are all liable under the law.

How do we show common sense online?
- We think before we click.
- We think before we upload comments, photographs and videos.
- We think before we download or forward any materials.
- We think carefully about what information we share with others online, and we check where it is saved and check our privacy settings.
- We make sure we understand changes in use of any web sites we use.
- We block harassing communications and report any abuse.

Any actions online that impact on the school and can potentially lower the school's (or someone in the school) reputation in some way or are deemed as being inappropriate will be responded to.

In the event that any member of staff, student or parent/carer is found to be posting libellous or inflammatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site.

(All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this.)

In serious cases we will also consider legal options to deal with any such misuse.

The whole school community is reminded of the CEOP report abuse process:
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/browser-safety/