Parent/Carer 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 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 learners have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the learners to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the learner acceptable use agreement is attached to this permission form, so that parents/carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.
- Parents are requested to sign to show their support of the school in this important aspect of the school's work.

Microsoft 365:

As parents and carers, your role is to support your child in using Microsoft 365 (M365) at home. This may include assisting your child to log-on to their account and to engage with their home learning activities.

Parents and carers must not browse or access their child's M365 account, including Teams, Viva Engage pages or other student account profiles. It is unlawful for parents or carers to impersonate pupils or attempt to contact students through any M365 applications, including Teams and Viva Engage.

Safeguarding and Monitoring

Please be aware that the Trust operates a safeguarding and monitoring system known as 'Lightspeed', which runs in the background and records key words typed and images viewed or shared. Any flagged content is sent directly to the leadership team for review and is also shared with Trustees on a monthly basis. This service runs 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

I know that my son/daughter has understood the 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.

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 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 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.