

Online Safety Policy

At The Redeemer, we see Online Safety as a fundamental aspect of our duty to safeguard everyone in our care. As a result, we ensure both children, staff, governors and parents are informed and supported in combatting the Online Safety issues we as a community face. We intend to ensure all our children are educated and supported to become responsible users of technology and the internet, knowing the potential dangers, as well as how to avoid them and what to do if they ever come across any issues. To ensure our curriculum meets the needs of the ever-changing Online Safety challenges we are always adapting and improving our Online Safety curriculum, seeking input from staff, children, governors and parents/carers during our review.

Curriculum for 21st century Children

Through our Online Safety curriculum we aim to protect our children from the 4 categories of risk (KCSIE 2024):

Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate, or harmful content, for example: pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation, and extremism

Contact: being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; for example: peer to peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes.

Conduct: online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography, sharing other explicit images and online bullying.

Commerce: risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and or financial scams. If you feel your pupils, students or staff are at risk, please report it to the Anti-Phishing Working Group

Above all, we tell all children to be **SMART**

Safe

- Never give out personal information

Meet

- Don't meet anyone you have met online

Accept

- Never accept anyone's friendship you don't know

Reliable

- Don't believe everything you have read online

Tell

- If you have any problems tell a trusted adult

Every half term, each class begins a Computing unit with a lesson on Online Safety linked to the unit they are studying. These lessons - studied over a year - all follow a theme designed to teach the children how to keep safe online and have been designed with input from a range of stakeholders in school.

Year 1: Being Safe

Year 2: The internet

Year 3: Playing Games Safely

Year 4: Screen Time

Year 5: Communication

Year 6: Reliable

Further detail is on our Online Safety page.

Children also study units in PSHE, which further examine Online Safety and reinforce the messages from our Computing Online Safety lessons. Where issues arise amongst children in a class or year group, PSHE may be used to teach about a particular issue.

To contribute to the Online Safety curriculum, we have an Online Safety team of staff that meet to discuss any issues or patterns that arise and how our curriculum can respond to them. Members of the Online Safety Team are:

Online Safety DSL SLT Link – Sam Smallridge

Family Support DSL (Mental Health First Aider) – Kay Mayfield

Computing Lead – Adam Bird

PSHE Lead - Lewis Grant

The Online Safety Team also meet with the Computing Ambassadors to discuss any issues of Online Safety.

We also promote children's responsible use of technology in and out of school through our Technology in School Policy

Cyber-Bullying

The definition of Cyber-Bullying is:

Cyber-bullying takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites. Like other forms of bullying, it is the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. (See also the school behaviour policy.)

To help prevent cyber-bullying, we will ensure that pupils understand what it is and what to do if they become aware of it happening to them or others. We will ensure that pupils know how they can

report any incidents and are encouraged to do so, including where they are a witness rather than the victim.

We will actively discuss cyber-bullying with pupils, explaining the reasons why it occurs, the forms it may take and what the consequences can be.

All staff receive training on cyber-bullying, its impact and ways to support pupils, as part of safeguarding training.

The school also sends posts contemporary Online Safety issues on Class Dojo so they are aware of the signs, how to report it and how they can support children who may be affected.

In relation to a specific incident of cyber-bullying, the school will follow the processes set out in the school behaviour policy. Where illegal, inappropriate or harmful material has been spread among pupils, the school will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure the incident is contained.

Vigilant and Watchful Support

Online Safety is a key part of our safeguarding training and is updated throughout the year so that staff are aware of and equipped to deal with contemporary issues.

We teach our staff to have 'Open Ears' so that that children feel comfortable talking about any issues they may have and so they are aware of the dangers any overheard conversation could pose.

Staff are also trained in the use of CPOMS to notify DSLs of any potential issues. Incidents are then followed up on by DSLs and we hold monthly monitoring of CPOMS to pick up on any patterns with Online Safety issues.

When school is made aware of Online Safety issues outside of school they will then be dealt with in school. Parents/carers will be made aware and consequences will then follow in line with the school behaviour policy. Where issues of illegality occur, Police will be contacted.

In line with all Blackburn with Darwen schools, we use a Filtering and Monitoring system policy that ensures everyone in school only has access to appropriate material. Daily reports from the service are sent to all DSLs and indicate users of the internet who are not using the technology in line with our policy. Follow up conversations are then used to determine the origin of inappropriate web searches.

We also respond to current Online Safety issues by keeping parents/carers informed about any issues that have arisen. We use Class Dojo to promote supporting materials from the National College.

Ever-Changing

All staff in school monitor the effectiveness of our Online Safety policies through discussion in and out of lessons and by being vigilant in combatting Online Safety issues. DSLs use CPOMS and pupil voices to assess the impact of our curriculum and will feedback in governor meetings. From this, we will make appropriate changes (if necessary) to our Online Safety offer to ensure our curriculum keeps all our children safe online.