

**Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices,
mobile phones, cameras and social
networking sites
Policy**

Clifton Lodge School



Clifton Lodge

September 2016

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KEY FACTS: pi

- **The policy defines and describes the acceptable use of ICT (Information and Communications Technology) and all mobile devices for school-based employees.**
- **Its purpose is to minimise the risk to students of inappropriate contact from staff, to protect employees and schools from litigation and to minimise the risk to ICT systems. and even dangerous situations.**

1. Purpose and Scope

- 1.1 This policy deals with the use of ICT equipment and services in schools in the Cognita Group and applies to all school-based employees and other authorised users, e.g. suppliers, contractors and volunteers.

2. School responsibilities

- 2.1 Cognita acting as the Governing Body is responsible for ensuring that its employees act in a lawful manner, making appropriate use of school technologies for approved purposes only.
- 2.2 Cognita is responsible for adopting relevant policies and the Headteacher for ensuring that the school adopts the policy and staff are aware of its contents.
- 2.3 The Headteacher is responsible for maintaining an inventory of ICT assets (hardware and software), including any equipment issued to staff for personal use, such as a laptop or mobile phone.
- 2.4 If the Headteacher has reason to believe that any ICT equipment has been misused, s/he should consult Cognita Head Office without delay. They will agree with the Headteacher an appropriate strategy for the investigation of the allegations. Incidents will be investigated in a timely manner in accordance with agreed procedures.
- 2.5 The Headteacher should make it clear that internal school staff should not carry out any investigations unless they are qualified and authorised to do so.

3. User Responsibilities

- 3.1 Staff found to be in breach of this policy may be disciplined in accordance with the disciplinary procedure. In certain circumstances, breach of this policy may be considered gross misconduct resulting in termination of employment. Staff must report all suspected breaches of this policy to the Headteacher.
- 3.2 Staff and their line managers are responsible for ensuring that adequate

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

induction, training and support is undertaken to implement this policy.

- 3.3 By logging on to ICT systems, staff users agree to abide by this Acceptable Use policy and other policies that relate to the use of ICT.
- 3.4 All users are expected to act in a responsible, ethical and lawful manner. Users should uphold privacy and confidentiality in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Care must also be taken not to breach another person's copyright, trademark or design, nor to publish any defamatory content.
- 3.5 Staff provided with any portable ICT equipment, such as a laptop or mobile phone, are expected to sign for its use on receipt. Staff may use school equipment for authorised business use only.
- 3.6 Staff must follow authorised procedures when taking mobile devices offsite. Staff are not permitted to relocate ICT equipment without express permission by the ICT Department.
- 3.7 No one may use ICT resources in violation of license agreements, copyrights, contracts or national laws.
- 3.8 Users are required to protect their password and not utilise another user's account to misrepresent their identity for any reason.
- 3.9 No user shall access (e.g. read, write, modify, delete, copy, move) another user's **personal** electronic documents (including email) without the owner's permission or as allowed by this policy or by law.
- 3.10 Users must not load or download software on any device without the authorisation of the Headteacher. Periodic audits of software held on ICT equipment will be undertaken.
- 3.11 Users must not take personal data (e.g. student data) away from the school without authorisation from the Headteacher. Any electronic data that is taken offsite must be password protected and encrypted. This includes data held on portable equipment (laptops, USB drives) and Internet based file synchronisation tools, such as Dropbox.
- 3.12 Any device connecting to the school network must have school approved anti-virus software installed and activated. Users may not turn off anti-virus software. All users of ICT resources have the responsibility to take precautions to prevent the initial occurrence and subsequent spreading of a computer virus. No one may knowingly create, install, run, or distribute any malicious code (e.g. viruses, Trojans, worms) or another destructive program on any ICT resource.
- 3.13 No one may knowingly or willingly interfere with the security mechanisms or integrity of ICT resources. No one may use ICT resources to attempt unauthorised use, or interfere with the legitimate use by authorised users, of other computers on internal or external networks. Access to networks will be monitored.

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

- 3.14 Within the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998, Human Rights Act 1998 and the Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, Cognita or the school may record or inspect any information transmitted through or stored in its computers, including e-mail communications and individual login sessions, without notice when:
There is reasonable cause to believe the user has violated or is violating this policy, any guidelines or procedures established to implement this policy.

An account appears to be engaged in unusual or unusually excessive activity.

It is necessary to do so to protect the integrity, security, or functionality of ICT resources or to protect Cognita or its partners from liability.

- Establishing the existence of facts relevant to the business.
- Ascertaining or demonstrating standards which ought to be achieved by those using the ICT facilities.
- Preventing or detecting crime.
- Investigating or detecting unauthorised use of ICT facilities.
- Ensuring effective operation of ICT facilities.
- Determining if communications are relevant to the business (for example, in the last resort where an employee is off sick or on holiday and business continuity is threatened).
- It is otherwise permitted or required by law.
- E-mail communication and any user data held on Cognita equipment may be inspected by the central ICT Support team with the agreement of the Headteacher. Other Internet based communication, such as web browsing, is monitored using automated software.

- 3.15 Do not send private, sensitive or confidential information either by email or to a public printer – particularly to an external recipient - if accidental disclosure could lead to significant harm or embarrassment. Anonymise personal data where possible, e.g. by using initials. Use passwords on sensitive documents that must be sent to external recipients. The central ICT Support team can provide advice and guidance on solutions for secure email and print.

- 3.16 Websites should not be created on school equipment without the written permission of the Headteacher.

- 3.17 No one may use ICT resources to transmit abusive, threatening, or harassing material, chain letters, spam, or communications prohibited by law, or may impact the image or reputation of the school or Cognita. No one may abuse the policies of any newsgroups, mailing lists and other public forums through which they participate from a school account.

- 3.18 Users should adhere to the 'good practice guidelines for email communication', contained within the school Induction Pack.

- 3.19 The following content should not be created or accessed on ICT equipment at any time:

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

- Pornography and “top-shelf” adult content.
- Material that gratuitously displays images of violence, injury or death.
- Material that is likely to lead to the harassment of others.
- Material that promotes intolerance and discrimination because of race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age.
- Material relating to criminal activity.
- Material relating to any other unlawful activity e.g. breach of copyright.
- Material that may generate security risks and encourage computer misuse.

3.20 It is possible to access or be directed to unacceptable Internet sites by accident. These can be embarrassing and such sites can be difficult to get out of. If staff have accessed unacceptable content or are in receipt of unacceptable material via email, they should inform the Headteacher. This may avoid problems later should monitoring systems be alerted to the content

3.21 Remote access to school based systems must be authorised by the Headteacher and configured by the ICT Support team. Examples of remote access methods include:

- webmail or other mobile email solutions (Blackberry, Windows Mobile)
- email forwarding to a personal account
- Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection
- LogMeIn or other remote desktop connection
- Web portals
- File synchronisation tools such as Dropbox

3.22 Users must not connect any personal ICT equipment (e.g. laptop, netbook) to the school network without the authorisation of the Headteacher and the central ICT Support team.

3.23 All portable ICT equipment should be locked away or safely secured when not in use. Any staff authorised to use portable equipment, such as a laptop, for home or roaming use must take all reasonable efforts to keep the equipment safe and secure.

3.24 For security purposes users should log off or lock their computer if they expect to be absent from their desk for any length of time. Users must shutdown their computer at the end of the day.

3.25 Do not copy or install software owned by the school to any personal equipment without authorisation from the central ICT Support team.

3.26 Digital recording equipment e.g. cameras may be available for staff to use as part of delivering ICT and the broader curriculum. Safe and appropriate use of recording equipment should be discussed with the students as part of the curriculum and referred to whenever recording is to take place.

3.27 Staff must not use images and recordings for activities and purposes beyond school endorsed projects. The materials are not to be circulated in the public domain and are not to be used for personal gain. Staff should be aware of the students whose parents have expressly requested that photographs are not to

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

be taken of them.

4. Mobile Phone Communications and instant messaging

- 4.1 Staff are advised not to give their home telephone number, mobile phone number or personal email address to students. Mobile phone communication should be used sparingly and only when deemed necessary.
- 4.2 Staff are advised not to make use of students' mobile phone number either to make or receive phone calls or to send to or receive from students' text messages other than for approved school business.
- 4.3 Staff should only communicate electronically with students from school accounts on approved school business, e.g. coursework.
- 4.4 Staff should not enter into instant messaging communications with students.
- 4.5 Staff should not make or take personal calls or engage in personal texting when they are on duty.

5.0 Social Networking Sites

- 5.1 Staff should not connect with any current pupil or person under the age of 18 that they have taught on any social networking site.
- 5.2 Staff should not create any social networking group that links directly to the school or Cognita without the written permission of the Headteacher.
- 5.3 Staff that use social networking sites should not discuss work-related issues and should not bring the school's reputation in to disrepute.

Audience	
Audience	All school based staff

Document application and publication	
UK	Yes
Spain	Yes

Version control	
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Review date	September 2016

Related documentation	
Related documentation	Safeguarding and child protection policy ICT: E-Safety Policy School Compliments and complaints Procedure Employee handbook School staff handbook

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

Appendix 1: for staff

BBC Stay Safe

www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/safesurfing/

Becta

<http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=is>

Chat Danger

www.chatdanger.com/

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

www.ceop.gov.uk/ Childnet www.childnetint.org/

Cyber Café

http://thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/cybercafe/cafe/base.aspx Digizen www.digizen.org/

Kent e-Safety Policy and Guidance, Posters etc

www.clusterweb.org.uk/kcn/e-safety_home.cfm

Kidsmart

www.kidsmart.org.uk/

Kent Police – e-Safety

www.kent.police.uk/Advice/Internet%20Safety/e-safety%20for%20teacher.html

Think U Know

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Safer Children in the Digital World

www.dfes.gov.uk/byronreview/

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

Appendix 2: Useful resources for parents

Care for the family

www.careforthefamily.org.uk/pdf/supportnet/InternetSafety.pdf

Childnet International "Know It All" CD

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk>

Family Online Safe Institute

www.fosi.org

Internet Watch Foundation

www.iwf.org.uk

Kent leaflet for parents: Children, ICT & e-Safety

www.kented.org.uk/ngfl/ict/safety.htm

Parents Centre

www.parentscentre.gov.uk

Internet Safety Zone

www.internetsafetyzone.c

Acceptable Use of ICT, mobile devices, mobile phones, cameras and social networking sites by staff Policy

Appendix 3:

Clifton Lodge School Staff Code of Conduct for ICT

Name:

Date:

To ensure that members of staff are fully aware of their professional responsibilities when using information systems and when communicating with pupils, they are asked to sign this code of conduct. Members of staff should consult the school's e-safety policy for further information and clarification.

- I understand that it is a criminal offence to use a school ICT system for a purpose not permitted by its owner.
- I appreciate that ICT includes a wide range of systems, including mobile phones, PDAs, digital cameras, email, social networking and that ICT use may also include personal ICT devices when used for school business.
- I understand that school information systems may not be used for private purposes without specific permission from the headteacher.
- I understand that my use of school information systems, Internet and email may be monitored and recorded to ensure policy compliance.
- I will respect system security and I will not disclose any password or security information to anyone other than an authorised system manager.
- I will not install any software or hardware without permission.
- I will ensure that personal data is stored securely and is used appropriately, whether in school, taken off the school premises or accessed remotely.
- I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights.
- I will report any incidents of concern regarding children's safety to the e-Safety Coordinator, the Designated Child Protection Coordinator or Headteacher.
- I will ensure that electronic communications with pupils including email, IM and social networking are compatible with my professional role and that messages cannot be misunderstood or misinterpreted.
- I will promote e-safety with students in my care and will help them to develop a responsible attitude to system use, communications and publishing.

The school may exercise its right to monitor the use of the school's information systems and Internet access, to intercept e-mail and to delete inappropriate materials where it believes unauthorised use of the school's information system may be taking place, or the system may be being used for criminal purposes or for storing unauthorised or unlawful text, imagery or sound.

I have read, understood and accept the Staff Code of Conduct for ICT. E-Safety Policy

Signed: _____ Date