



## Acceptable Use of Technology Policy

**This Policy has been approved and adopted by the Xavier Catholic Education Trust**

**Committee Responsible: Risk & Audit Committee**

**To be reviewed in Oct 2026**

N.B. This policy is a supplemental policy to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. This policy is a framework and should be seen as a template for developing a policy that meets the needs and context of individual schools. Please review the template and amend with information relevant to the individual school context.

Areas for attention/amendment are highlighted in yellow.

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This document should be read in conjunction with other relevant policies including, but not limited to, the Xavier Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Online Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Relationship and Sex Education Policy, Staff Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy.

## **Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Templates**

### **Early Years and Key Stage 1 Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Agreement**

I understand that St Thomas of Canterbury Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help keep me safe and happy online.

- I will ask a teacher or suitable adult if I want to use the computers/tablets.
- I will only use the internet when a teacher or suitable adult is with me.
- I will only click on links and buttons online when I know what they do.
- I will keep my personal information and passwords safe.
- I will only send messages online which are polite and friendly.
- I know the school can see what I am doing online when I use school computers and tablets and any school systems, including when I am at home.
- I will always tell a teacher or suitable adult if something online makes me feel upset, unhappy, or worried.
- I can visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) and [www.childnet.com/young-people/primary](http://www.childnet.com/young-people/primary) to learn more about keeping safe online.
- I know that if I do not follow the rules, I might not be allowed to use a computer or tablet.
- I have read and talked about these rules with my teacher and parents/carers.

Signed (child): .....

Signed (parent): .....

## **Key Stage 2 Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Agreement**

I understand that St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help keep me safe and happy online at home and at school. I understand that I must use technology and school systems in a responsible way.

### **Learning**

- I understand that school systems and devices are intended for educational use and that I will not use them for personal or recreational use unless I have permission.
- I will always ask permission from an adult before using the internet.
- I will only use websites and search engines that my teacher has chosen.
- I will use school devices for schoolwork unless I have permission otherwise.
- If I need to learn online at home, I will follow the school remote learning Acceptable Use of Technology policy.
- If I bring in USB sticks from outside of school, I will always give them to my teacher so they can be checked for viruses and content before opening them.
- I know that I am not allowed on personal email, social networking sites or instant messaging in school.

### **Personal Safety**

- I will behave appropriately and responsibly online.
- I only send messages which are polite and friendly.
- I will only post pictures or videos on the internet if they are safe and appropriate, and if I have permission.
- I will only talk with and open messages from people I know.
- I will only click on links if I know they are safe.
- I know that people I meet online may not always be who they say they are. If someone online suggests meeting up, I will immediately talk to an adult.

### **Trust**

- I know that not everything or everyone online is honest or truthful.
- When I am using the internet to find information, I will take care to check that the information that I access is accurate, as I understand that the work of others may not be truthful. I will check content on other sources such as other websites, books or with a trusted adult.
- I will always check I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work.
- I will always credit the person or source that created any work, images or text I use.
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not try to download copies (including music and videos).

### **Responsible**

- I will keep my personal information safe and private online.
- I will keep my passwords safe and secure and I will not share them.

- I will protect myself by not telling anyone I meet online my address, my telephone number, my school's name or by sending a picture of myself without permission from a teacher or other trusted adult.
- I will not arrange to meet anyone I have met online without permission from a teacher or other trusted adult.
- I will not access or change other people's files or information.
- I will only change the settings on a device if a member of staff has allowed me to.
- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it online.

## Understand

- I understand that the school internet filter is there to protect me, and I will not try to bypass it.
- I know that all school devices and systems are monitored to help keep me safe, including when I use them at home.
- I have read and talked about these rules with my parents/carers.
- I can visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) and [www.childnet.com/young-people/primary](http://www.childnet.com/young-people/primary) to learn more about being safe online.
- I understand that if I fail to comply with the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy, I will be subject to sanctions. This may include loss of access to the school network/internet, detentions, exclusions, contact with parents/carers and in the event of illegal activities involvement of the police

## Tell

- If I see anything online that I should not or that makes me feel worried, frightened or upset, I will minimise the page, shut the laptop lid or turn off the screen and tell an adult straight away.
- I will tell a teacher or other adult if someone online makes me feel uncomfortable, worried or frightened when I am online using games or other websites or apps.
- If I am aware of anyone being unsafe with technology, I will report it to a teacher or other adult.
- If, for any reason, I need to bring my mobile phone into school I know that it is to be handed in to the office and then collected at the end of the school day.

## Key Stage 3/4/5 Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Agreement

I understand that St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help keep me safe online at home and at school. I understand that I must use school systems in a responsible way.

- I know that technology including school computers, tablets, laptops, and internet access has been provided to help me with my learning and that other use of technology may not be allowed. If I am not sure if something is allowed, I will ask a member of staff.
- I know that my use of school computers and devices, systems and on-site internet access will be monitored to keep me safe and ensure policy compliance.
- I will keep my password safe and private as my privacy, schoolwork and safety must be protected.
- If I need to learn online at home, I will follow the school remote learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.

- I will write emails and online messages carefully and politely as I know they could be forwarded or seen by someone I did not intend.
- I know that people I meet online may not be who they say they are. If someone online suggests meeting up then I will immediately talk to an adult and will always arrange to meet in a public place, with a trusted adult present.
- I know that bullying in any form (on and offline) is not tolerated and I know that technology should not be used for harassment. I will report any incidents of bullying to an adult.
- I will not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset, threaten the safety of or offend any member of the school community.
- I understand that it may be a criminal offence or breach of the school policy to download or share inappropriate pictures, videos, or other material online. I also understand that it is against the law to take, save or send indecent images of anyone under the age of 18.
- I will protect my personal information online.
- I will not access or change other people files, accounts, or information.
- I will only upload appropriate pictures or videos of others online and when I have permission.
- I will only use my personal device/mobile phone in school if I have permission from a member of staff.
- I will respect other people's information and copyright by giving a reference and asking permission before using images or text from online sources.
- I will always check that any information I use online is reliable and accurate.
- I will make sure that my internet use is safe and legal, and I am aware that online actions have offline consequences.
- I know it can be a criminal offence to gain unauthorised access to systems ('hacking'), make, supply or obtain malware or send threatening and offensive messages.
- I will only change the settings on the computer if a teacher/technician has allowed me to.
- I know that use of the school ICT system for personal financial gain, gambling, political purposes, or advertising is not allowed.
- I understand that the school internet filter is there to protect me, and I will not try to bypass it.
- I know that if the school suspect that I am behaving inappropriately with technology, then enhanced monitoring and procedures may be used, such as checking and/or confiscating personal technologies such as mobile phones and other devices.
- I know and understand that if I fail to comply with the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy, I will be subject to sanctions. This may include loss of access to the school network/internet, detentions, exclusions, contact with parents/carers and in the event of illegal activities involvement of the police
- If I am aware of anyone trying to misuse technology, I will report it to a member of staff.
- I will speak to an adult I trust if something happens to either myself or another pupil which makes me feel worried, scared, or uncomfortable.
- I will visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com) and [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) to find out more about keeping safe online.
- I have read and talked about these rules with my parents/carers.

## **Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Agreement**

### **Learners with SEND functioning in the Pre-Key Stage Standards 1 and 2**

(Based on Childnet's SMART Rules: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com))

- I ask a grown up if I want to use the computer
- I make good choices on the computer
- I use kind words on the internet
- If I see anything that I don't like online, I tell a grown up
- I know that if I do not follow the school rules then I may be stopped from using school computers

### **Learners with SEND functioning in the Pre-Key Stage Standards 3 to 6**

(Based on Childnet's SMART Rules: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com))

#### **Safe**

- I ask a grown up if I want to use the computer
- On the internet I don't tell strangers my name
- I know that if I do not follow the school rules then I may not be allowed to use the internet for a while.

#### **Meeting**

- I tell a grown up if I want to talk on the internet

#### **Accepting**

- I don't open messages or emails from strangers

#### **Reliable**

- I make good choices on the computer

#### **Tell**

- I use kind words on the internet
- If I see anything that I don't like online, I will tell a grown up

## **Learners with SEND who are working within their Key Stage but below age related expectations**

(Based on Childnet's SMART Rules: [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com))

#### **Safe**

- I ask an adult if I want to use the internet
- I keep my information private on the internet
- I am careful if I share photos online
- I know that if I do not follow the school rules then: (list sanctions)

## **Meeting**

- I tell an adult if I want to talk to people on the internet
- If I meet someone online, I will tell an adult

## **Accepting**

- I don't open messages from strangers
- I won't open links unless I know they are safe

## **Reliable**

- I make good choices on the internet
- I check the information I see online

## **Tell**

- I use kind words on the internet
- If someone is mean online then I don't reply, I save the message and show an adult
- If I see anything online that I don't like, I will tell a teacher or other trusted adult.

**Use relevant Key Stage Acceptable Use Agreement for Learners with SEND who are working within age related expectations.**

## **Learner Acceptable Use of Technology Policy Agreement Form (if age appropriate)**

Schools should attach a copy of an age-appropriate Acceptable Use of Technology Policy to this form. Primary Schools will need to provide learners and parents/carers with updated versions of the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy as learners progress through the school.

### **St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy – Learner Agreement**

I, with my parents/carers, have read and understood the *school* Acceptable Use of Technology Policy and remote learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.

I agree to follow the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy when:

1. I use *school* devices and systems, both on site and at home.
2. I use my own devices in *school* when allowed, including mobile phones, smart watches, gaming devices, and cameras.
3. I use my own equipment out of the *school*, including communicating with other members of the *school* or when accessing school systems.

Name..... Signed.....

Class..... Date.....

Parent/Carers Name.....

Parent/Carers Signature.....

Date.....

## Parent/Carer Acknowledgement Form

### Learner Acceptable Use of Technology Policy: St Thomas of Canterbury School Parental Acknowledgment

1. I, with my child, have read and discussed St Thomas of Canterbury School learner Acceptable Use of Technology Policy and understand that the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help keep my child safe online.
2. I understand that the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy applies to my child use of school devices and systems on site and at home, and personal use where there are safeguarding and/or behaviour concerns.
3. I am aware that any use of school devices and systems may be monitored for safety and security reason to keep my child safe and to ensure policy compliance. This monitoring will be proportionate and will take place in accordance with data protection, privacy, and human rights legislation.
4. I am aware that the school mobile technology policy states that my child cannot use personal device and mobile technology on site.
5. I understand that my child needs a safe and appropriate place to access remote learning if school is closed. I will ensure my child's access to remote learning is appropriately supervised and any use is in accordance with the school remote learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy. When accessing live learning, I will ensure my child is in an appropriate location and that they are suitably dressed.
6. I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including implementing appropriate monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure my child is safe when they use school devices and systems. I understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet or if my child is using mobile technologies.
7. I with my child, am aware of the importance of safe online behaviour and will not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset, threaten the safety of or offend any member of the school community.
8. I understand that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy or have any concerns about my child's safety online.
9. I will inform the school or other relevant organisations if I have concerns over my child's or other members of the school communities' safety online.
10. I know that my child 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.
11. I will support the school online safety approaches. I will use appropriate parental controls and will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and other technology at home, as appropriate to their age and understanding.

Child's Name..... Class .....

Parent/Carer's Name..... Parent/Carer's Signature ..... Date.....

## **Staff Acceptable Use of Technology Policy**

As a professional organisation with responsibility for safeguarding, all members of staff are expected to use ST Thomas of Canterbury School IT systems in a professional, lawful, and ethical manner. To ensure that members of staff understand their professional responsibilities when using technology and provide appropriate curriculum opportunities for learners, they are asked to read and sign the staff Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.

Our Acceptable Use of Technology Policy is not intended to unduly limit the ways in which members of staff teach or use technology professionally, or indeed how they use the internet personally, however the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help ensure that all staff understand school expectations regarding safe and responsible technology use and can manage the potential risks posed. The Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will also help to ensure that school systems are protected from any accidental or deliberate misuse which could put the safety and security of our systems or members of the community at risk.

It is recognised that social networking has the potential to play an important part in many aspects of school life, including teaching and learning, external communications and continuing professional development. This policy therefore encourages the responsible and professional use of the Internet and social media to support educational delivery and professional development.

### **Policy Scope**

1. I understand that this Acceptable Use of Technology Policy applies to my use of technology systems and services provided to me or accessed as part of my role within insert name of school both professionally and personally. This may include use of laptops, mobile phones, tablets, digital cameras and email as well as IT networks, data and data storage and online and offline communication technologies.
2. I understand that the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy should be read and followed in line with the Xavier Code of Conduct and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Online Safety Policy.
3. I am aware that this Acceptable Use of Technology Policy does not provide an exhaustive list; all staff should ensure that technology use is consistent with the school ethos, staff behaviour and safeguarding policies, national and local education and child protection guidance, and the law.

### **Use of School Devices and Systems**

4. I will only use the equipment and internet services provided to me by St Thomas of Canterbury School for example school provided laptops, tablets, mobile phones and internet access, when working with learners or on school business.
5. I understand that any equipment and internet services provided by my workplace is intended for educational use and should only be accessed by members of staff.
6. I am aware that the use of Xavier Catholic Education Trust email or school email for personal use is not permitted.

## Data and System Security

7. To prevent unauthorised access to systems or personal data, I will not leave any information system unattended without first logging out or securing/locking access.
  - o I will use a 'strong' password to access school systems. *A strong password has a mixture of uppercase, lowercase, characters, numbers and symbols, with 8 or more characters, does not contain a dictionary word and is only used on one system.*
  - o I will protect the devices in my care from unapproved access or theft and will on no account leave devices visible or unsupervised in public places.
8. I will respect system security and will not disclose my password or security information to others including IT support staff. If required, I will be provided with a temporary password by IT support staff.
9. I will not open any hyperlinks or attachments in emails unless they are from a known and trusted source. If I have any concerns about email content sent to me, I will report them to the IT system manager.
10. I will not attempt to install any personally purchased or downloaded software, including browser toolbars, or hardware without permission from the IT system manager.
11. I will ensure that any personal data is kept in accordance with the Data Protection legislation, including GDPR in line with school information security policies.
  - o All personal data will be obtained and processed fairly and lawfully, only kept for specific purposes, held no longer than necessary and will be kept private and secure with appropriate security measures in place, whether used in the workplace, hosted online or accessed remotely.
  - o Any data being removed from the school site, such as via email or on a memory stick, will be suitably protected. This may include data being encrypted by a method approved by the school.
12. I will not keep documents which contain school related sensitive or personal information, including images, files, videos and emails, on any personal devices, such as laptops, digital cameras, and mobile phones. Where possible, I will use the school learning platform to upload any work documents and files in a password protected environment or school approved/provided VPN.
13. I will not store any personal information on the school IT system, including school laptops or similar device issued to members of staff that is unrelated to school activities, such as personal photographs, files or financial information.
14. I will ensure that school owned information systems are used lawfully and appropriately. I understand that the Computer Misuse Act 1990 makes the following criminal offences: to gain unauthorised access to computer material; to gain unauthorised access to computer material with intent to commit or facilitate commission of further offences or to modify computer material without authorisation.
15. I will not attempt to bypass any filtering and/or security systems put in place by the school.

16. If I suspect a computer or system has been damaged or affected by a virus or other malware, I will report this to the IT Manager immediately.
17. If I have lost any school related documents or files, I will report this to the ICT Manager and school Data Protection Officer immediately.
18. Any images or videos of learners will only be used in line with the Photography and Filming Policy.
  - I understand images of learners must always be appropriate and should only be taken with school provided equipment and taken/published where learners and their parent/carer have given explicit consent.

## **Classroom Practice**

19. I am aware of the expectations relating to safe technology use in the classroom, safe remote learning and other working spaces, including appropriate supervision of learners, as outlined in the school Online Safety Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
20. I have read and understood the school online safety policy which covers expectations for learners regarding mobile technology and social media.
21. I will promote online safety with the learners in my care and will help them to develop a responsible attitude to safety online, system use and to the content they access or create by:
  - exploring online safety principles as part of an embedded and progressive curriculum and reinforcing safe behaviour whenever technology is used on site.
  - creating a safe environment where learners feel comfortable to say what they feel, without fear of getting into trouble and/or be judged for talking about something which happened to them online.
  - involving the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Safeguarding Lead as part of planning online safety lessons or activities to ensure support is in place for any learners who may be impacted by the content.
  - make informed decisions to ensure any online safety resources used with learners is appropriate.
22. I will report any filtering breaches (such as access to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material) to the DSL and IT Manager in line with the school online safety and child protection and safeguarding policy.
23. I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights; I will obtain appropriate permission to use content, and if videos, images, text or music are protected, I will not copy, share or distribute or use them.

## **Use of Social Media and Mobile Technology**

24. I have read and understood the School Online Safety Policy which covers expectations regarding staff use of mobile technology and social media.
25. I will ensure that my online reputation and use of IT and information systems is compatible with my professional role and in line with the Code of Conduct, Online Safety Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the law when using school and personal systems. This includes my use of email, text, social media and any other personal devices or mobile technology.
  - I will take appropriate steps to protect myself online when using social media as outlined in the Online Safety Policy.

- I am aware of school expectations with regards to use of personal devices and mobile technology, including mobile phones as outlined in the Online Safety Policy.
- I will not discuss or share data or information relating to learners, staff, school business or parents/carers on social media.
- I will ensure that my use of technology and the internet does not undermine my professional role or interfere with my work duties and is in accordance with the Code of Conduct and the law.

26. My electronic communications with current and past learners and parents/carers will be transparent and open to scrutiny and will only take place within clear and explicit professional boundaries.

- I will ensure that all electronic communications take place in a professional manner via school approved and/or provided communication channels, such as a school email address or telephone number.
- I will not share any personal contact information or details with learners, such as my personal email address or phone number.
- I will not add or accept friend requests or communications on personal social media with current or past learners and/or their parents/carers.
- I will only use professional networking sites for social media communications with past learners and only for professional reasons.
- If I am approached online by a current or past learner or parents/carer, I will not respond and will report the communication to my line manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Any pre-existing relationships or situations that compromise my ability to comply with the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will be discussed with the Headteacher.

27. If I have any queries or questions regarding safe and professional practise online either in school or off site, I will raise them with the Headteacher.

28. I will not upload, download or access any materials which are illegal, such as child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act.

29. I will not attempt to access, create, transmit, display, publish or forward any material or content online that is inappropriate or likely to harass, cause offence, inconvenience or needless anxiety to any other person.

30. I will not engage in any online activities or behaviour that could compromise my professional responsibilities or bring the reputation of the school into disrepute.

## **Policy Compliance**

31. I understand that St Thomas of Canterbury School may exercise its right to monitor the use of information systems, including internet access and the interception of emails, to monitor policy compliance and to ensure the safety of learners and staff. This monitoring will be proportionate and will take place in accordance with data protection, privacy and human rights legislation.

## **Policy Breaches or Concerns**

32. I will report and record concerns about the welfare, safety or behaviour of learners or parents/carers to the DSL in line with the school Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
33. I will report and record concerns about the welfare, safety or behaviour of staff to the Headteacher in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Staff Code of Conduct.
34. I will report and record concerns about the welfare, safety or behaviour of the Headteacher to the Xavier CEO, James Kibble.
35. I understand that if St Thomas of Canterbury School believe that unauthorised and/or inappropriate use of school systems or devices is taking place, the school may invoke its disciplinary procedures as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
36. I understand that if St Thomas of Canterbury School believe that unprofessional or inappropriate online activity, including behaviour which could bring the school into disrepute, is taking place online, the school may invoke its disciplinary procedures as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
37. I understand that if St Thomas of Canterbury School suspects criminal offences have occurred, the police will be informed.

**I have read, understood and agreed to comply with the Staff Acceptable Use of Technology Policy when using the internet and other associated technologies, both on and off site.**

Name of staff member: .....

Signed: .....

Date (DDMMYY).....

# **Visitor and Volunteer Acceptable Use of Technology Policy**

As a professional organisation with responsibility for children's safeguarding, it is important that all members of the community, including visitors and volunteers, are aware of their professional responsibilities when using technology.

This Acceptable Use of Technology Policy will help St Thomas of Canterbury School ensure that all visitors and volunteers understand the school expectations regarding safe and responsible technology use.

## **Policy Scope**

1. I understand that this Acceptable Use of Technology Policy applies to my use of technology systems and services provided to me or accessed as part of my role within St Thomas of Canterbury School both professionally and personally. This may include use of laptops, mobile phones, tablets, digital cameras, and email as well as IT networks, data and data storage, remote learning systems and communication technologies.
2. I understand that this Acceptable Use of Technology Policy should be read and followed in line with the School Staff Code of Conduct.
3. I am aware that this Acceptable Use of Technology Policy does not provide an exhaustive list; visitors and volunteers should ensure that all technology use is consistent with the school ethos, Xavier Code of Conduct and the School Child Protection and Safeguarding policy, national and local education and child protection guidance, and the law.

## **Data and Image Use**

4. I will ensure that any access to personal data is kept in accordance with Data Protection legislation, including GDPR.
5. I understand that I am not allowed to take images or videos of learners. Any images or videos of learners will only be taken in line with the School Photography and Filming Policy.

## **Classroom Practice**

6. I am aware of the expectations regarding safe use of technology in the classroom and other working spaces, including appropriate supervision of learners, as outlined in the School Online Safety Policy.
7. Where I deliver or support remote learning, I will comply with the school remote learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.
8. I will support staff in reinforcing safe behaviour whenever technology is used on site and I will promote online safety with the children in my care.

9. I will immediately report any filtering breaches (such as access to illegal, inappropriate, or harmful material) to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in line with the School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
10. I will respect copyright and intellectual property rights; I will obtain appropriate permission to use content, and if videos, images, text, or music is protected, I will not copy, share, or distribute or use it.

## **Use of Social Media and Mobile Technology**

11. I have read and understood the School Online Safety Policy which covers expectations regarding use of social media and mobile technology.
12. I will ensure that my online reputation and use of technology is compatible with my role St Thomas of Canterbury School. This includes my use of email, text, social media, social networking, gaming and any other personal devices or websites.
  - I will take appropriate steps to protect myself online as outlined in the Online Safety Policy
  - I will not discuss or share data or information relating to learners, staff, school business or parents/carers on social media.
  - I will ensure that my use of technology and the internet will not undermine my role, interfere with my duties and will be in accordance with the School Staff Code of Conduct and the law.
13. My electronic communications with learners, parents/carers and other professionals will only take place within clear and explicit professional boundaries and will be transparent and open to scrutiny.
  - All communication will take place via school approved communication channels such as via a school provided email address, account or telephone number.
  - Communication will not take place via personal devices or communication channels such as via my personal email, social networking account or mobile phone number.
  - Any pre-existing relationships or situations that may compromise this will be discussed with the DSL Esther Sharpe and/or headteacher Kate Carter.

## **Policy Compliance, Breaches or Concerns**

14. If I have any queries or questions regarding safe and professional practise online either in school or off site, I will raise them with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Esther Sharpe and/or the headteacher Kate Carter.
15. I will not upload, download, or access any materials which are illegal, such as child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act.
16. I will not attempt to access, create, transmit, display, publish or forward any material or content online that is inappropriate or likely to harass, cause offence, inconvenience, or needless anxiety to any other person.
17. I will not engage in any online activities or behaviour that could compromise my professional responsibilities or bring the reputation of the school into disrepute.
18. I understand that the school may exercise its right to monitor the use of school information systems, including internet access and the interception of emails, to monitor policy compliance and to ensure the safety of

learners, staff and visitors or volunteers. This monitoring will be proportionate and will take place in accordance with data protection, privacy, and human rights legislation.

19. I will report and record concerns about the welfare, safety or behaviour of learners or parents/carers to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in line with the School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.
20. I will report concerns about the welfare, safety, or behaviour of staff to the Headteacher, in line with the School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.
21. I will report concerns about the welfare, safety or behaviour of the Headteacher to the Xavier CEO James Kibble.
22. I understand that if the school believes that unauthorised and/or inappropriate use, or unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour is taking place online, the school may invoke its disciplinary procedures.
23. I understand that if the school suspects criminal offences have occurred, the police will be informed.

**I have read, understood and agreed to comply with St Thomas of Canterbury School visitor/volunteer Acceptable Use of Technology Policy when using the internet and other associated technologies, both on and off site.**

Name of visitor/volunteer: .....

Signed: .....

Date (DDMMYY).....

## Wi-Fi Acceptable Use Policy (Can be electronic)

As a professional organisation with responsibility for children's safeguarding it is important that all members of St Thomas of Canterbury School community are fully aware of the school boundaries and requirements when using the school Wi-Fi systems and take all possible and necessary measures to protect data and information systems from infection, unauthorised access, damage, loss, abuse and theft.

This is not an exhaustive list and all members of the school community are reminded that technology use should be consistent with our ethos, other appropriate policies and the law.

1. St Thomas of Canterbury School provides Wi-Fi for the school community and allows access for school business and education use only.
2. I am aware that St Thomas of Canterbury School will not be liable for any damages or claims of any kind arising from the use of the Wi-Fi. St Thomas of Canterbury School takes no responsibility for the security, safety, theft, insurance and ownership of any device used within the school premises that is not the property of the school.
3. The use of technology falls under St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy, Online Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Code of Conduct, Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Data Protection Policy which all learners/staff/visitors and volunteers must agree to and comply with.
4. St Thomas of Canterbury School reserves the right to limit the bandwidth of the Wi-Fi, as necessary, to ensure network reliability and fair sharing of network resources for all users.
5. St Thomas of Canterbury School owned information systems, including Wi-Fi, must be used lawfully; I understand that the Computer Misuse Act 1990 makes the following criminal offences: to gain unauthorised access to computer material; to gain unauthorised access to computer material with intent to commit or facilitate commission of further offences or to modify computer material without authorisation.
6. I will take all practical steps necessary to make sure that any equipment connected to the school service is adequately secure, such as up-to-date anti-virus software, systems updates.
7. The school Wi-Fi is not secure and the school cannot guarantee the safety of traffic across it. Use of the school Wi-Fi is done at my own risk. By using this service, I acknowledge that security errors and hacking are an inherent risk associated with any Wi-Fi network. I confirm that I knowingly assume such risk.
8. St Thomas of Canterbury School accepts no responsibility for any software downloaded and/or installed, email opened, or sites accessed via the school Wi-Fi connection to the internet. Any damage done to equipment for any reason including, but not limited to, viruses, identity theft, spyware, plug-ins or other internet-borne programs is my sole responsibility; and I indemnify and hold harmless St Thomas of Canterbury School any such damage.
9. I will respect system security; I will not disclose any password or security information that is given to me. To prevent unauthorised access, I will not leave any information system unattended without first logging out or locking my login as appropriate.

10. I will not attempt to bypass any of the St Thomas of Canterbury School security and filtering systems or download any unauthorised software or applications.
11. My use of St Thomas of Canterbury School Wi-Fi will be safe and responsible and will always be in accordance with the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy and the law including copyright and intellectual property rights. This includes the use of email, text, social media, social networking, gaming, web publications and any other devices or websites.
12. I will not upload, download, access or forward any material which is illegal or inappropriate or may cause harm, distress or offence to any other person, or anything which could bring St Thomas of Canterbury School into disrepute.
13. I will report any online safety concerns, filtering breaches or receipt of inappropriate materials to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible.
14. If I have any queries or questions regarding safe behaviour online, I will discuss them with Designated Safeguarding Lead or the headteacher.
15. I understand that my use of the St Thomas of Canterbury School Wi-Fi may be monitored and recorded to ensure policy compliance in accordance with privacy and data protection legislation. If the school suspects that unauthorised and/or inappropriate use or unacceptable or inappropriate behaviour may be taking place, then St Thomas of Canterbury School may terminate or restrict usage. If the school suspects that the system may be being used for criminal purposes, the matter will be brought to the attention of the relevant law enforcement organisation.

**I have read, understood and agreed to comply with St Thomas of Canterbury School Wi-Fi Acceptable Use Policy.**

Name .....

Signed: ..... Date (DDMMYY) .....

## **Appendix 1 - Staff Acceptable Use of Technology Policy for Remote Learning and Online Communication**

The Remote Learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy is in place to safeguard all members of St Thomas of Canterbury School community when taking part in remote learning following any full or partial school closures.

### **Leadership Oversight and Approval**

1. Remote learning will only take place using school approved systems (Google Classroom)
2. Staff will only use school managed or specific, approved professional accounts with learners and/or parents and carers.

- Use of any personal accounts to communicate with learners and/or parents/carers is not permitted.
  - Any pre-existing relationships or situations which mean this cannot be complied with will be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Headteacher.
- Staff will use work provided equipment where possible e.g. a school/setting laptop, tablet, or other mobile device.

3. Online contact with learners and/or parents and carers will not take place outside of the operating times as defined by SLT:
4. All remote lessons will be formally timetabled; a member of SLT, DSL and/or head of department is able to drop in at any time.
5. Live streamed remote learning sessions will only be held with approval and agreement from the headteacher/a member of SLT.

## **Data Protection and Security**

6. Any personal data used by staff and captured by Google Classroom when delivering remote learning will be processed and stored with appropriate consent and in accordance with our data protection policy.
7. All remote learning and any other online communication will take place in line with current school confidentiality expectations as outlined in the Data Protection Policy as Staff Code of Conduct.
8. All participants will be made aware that Google Classroom records activity.
9. Staff will not record lessons or meetings using personal equipment unless agreed and risk assessed by SLT and in line with our data protection policy requirements.
10. Only members of St Thomas of Canterbury School community and external IT support services will be given access to Google Classroom
11. Access to Google Classroom will be managed in line with current IT security expectations as outlined in the School Online Safety Policy.

## **Session Management**

12. Staff will record the length, time, date, and attendance of any sessions held.
13. Appropriate privacy and safety settings will be used to manage access and interactions. This includes:
  - Language filters, disabling/limiting chat, staff not permitting learners to share screens, keeping meeting IDs private, use of lobbies or equivalent.
14. When live streaming with learners:
  - contact will be made via learners' school provided email accounts and/or logins.
  - staff will mute/disable learners' videos and microphones as appropriate.
  - at least 2 members of staff will be present.
15. Live 1 to 1 sessions will only take place with approval from the headteacher/a member of SLT. A parent must be present in the room during the session.
16. A pre-agreed invitation/email detailing the session expectations will be sent to those invited to attend.
  - Access links should not be made public or shared by participants.
  - Learners and/or parents/carers should not forward or share access links.
  - If learners/parents/carers believe a link should be shared with others, they will discuss this with the member of staff running the session first.
  - Learners are encouraged to attend lessons in a shared space or room with an open door and/or when appropriately supervised by a parent/carer or another appropriate adult.
17. Alternative approaches and/or access will be provided to those who do not have access.

## **Behaviour Expectations**

18. Staff will model safe practice and moderate behaviour online during remote sessions as they would in the classroom.
19. All participants are expected to behave in line with existing school policies and expectations. This includes:
  - Appropriate language will be used by all attendees.

- Staff will not take or record images for their own personal use.
- Setting decisions about if other attendees can or cannot record events for their own use, and if so, any expectations or restrictions about onward sharing.

20. Staff will remind attendees of behaviour expectations and reporting mechanisms at the start of the session.

21. When sharing videos and/or live streaming, participants are required to:

- wear appropriate dress.
- ensure backgrounds of videos are neutral (blurred if possible).
- ensure that personal information and/or unsuitable personal items are not visible, either on screen or in video backgrounds.

22. Educational resources will be used or shared in line with our existing teaching and learning policies, taking licensing and copyright into account.

## **Policy Breaches and Reporting Concerns**

23. Participants are encouraged to report concerns during remote and/or live streamed sessions:

- Learners should report concerns to the member of staff running the session or tell parent/carer.

24. If inappropriate language or behaviour takes place, participants involved will be removed by staff, the session may be terminated, and concerns will be reported to the Headteacher.

25. Inappropriate online behaviour will be responded to in line with existing policies such as Acceptable Use of Technology Policy, Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Staff Code of Conduct and Behaviour Policy.

26. Sanctions for deliberate misuse may include: restricting/removing use, contacting police if a criminal offence has been committed.

27. Any safeguarding concerns will be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, in line with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

**I have read and understood the St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy for remote learning.**

Staff Member Name: .....

Staff Signature .....

Date.....

## **Appendix 2 - Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 Remote Learning Acceptable Use of Technology Policy**

1. I understand that:
  - these expectations are in place to help keep me safe when I am learning at home using insert name of system/s.
  - I should read and talk about these rules with my parents/carers.
  - remote learning will only take place using insert name of system/s and during usual school times.
  - My use of insert name of system/s is monitored to help keep me safe.
2. Only members of insert name of school or external support providers can access insert name of system/s.
  - I will only use my school provided email accounts and/or login to access remote learning.
  - I will use privacy settings as agreed with my teacher.
  - I will not share my login/password with others.
  - I will not share any access links to remote learning sessions with others.
  - I will report any technical issues or errors to my teacher.
3. When taking part in remote learning I will behave as I would in the classroom. This includes:
  - Using appropriate language.
  - Not taking or recording images/content without agreement from the teacher.
4. When taking part in live sessions I will:
  - mute my video and microphone.
  - wear appropriate clothing and be in a suitable location.
  - ensure backgrounds of videos are neutral and personal information/content is not visible.
  - use appropriate alternative backgrounds.
  - attend a session in full.
  - attend lessons in a shared/communal space or room with an open door and/or where possible when I can be supervised by a parent/carer or another appropriate adult.
5. If I am concerned about anything that takes place during remote learning, I will:
  - report concerns to the member of staff running the session or tell a parent/carer.

6. I understand that inappropriate online behaviour or concerns about my safety during remote learning will be taken seriously. This could include:

- restricting/removing access, informing parents/carers, contacting police if a criminal offence has been committed.

**I have read and understood the St Thomas of Canterbury School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy for remote learning.**

Name..... Signed.....

Class..... Date.....

Parent/Carers Name ..... (*If appropriate*)

Parent/Carers Signature ..... (*If appropriate*)