



# **Family / Carer Acceptable Use Policy**

## Introduction

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. They help prepare students for the world they are about to enter. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of the world around them 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 ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk
- that families and carers are aware of the importance of e-safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people with regard to their on-line behaviour
- that families are aware of the resources available to them via the Learning Gateway

The Academy will try to ensure that *students* will have good access to ICT to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the *students* to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the Student Acceptable Use Policy is attached to this permission form, so that parents / carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.

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

- As the parent / carer, I give permission for my son / daughter to have access to the internet, the Learning Gateway and to ICT systems at school.
- I know that my son / daughter will be required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement and has received, or will receive, e-safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of ICT – 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 Academy 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 e-safety.

I am aware that there is an e-safety site on the Family Portal that can support me and my son / daughter.

I am aware that the Academy provides regular e-safety awareness sessions that I can attend.

I will keep the Family Portal password safe and will not share it anyone including my son /daughter, as sensitive, personal information can be accessed.