



MANOR HOUSE SCHOOL POLICY INCL EYFS ICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Date of Issue: **January 2026**

Date of Review: **January 2028**

Responsibility: Head of IT (EST)/ Deputy Head

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1. Introduction and aims

Information and communications technology (ICT) is an integral part of the way our school works, and is a critical resource for pupils, staff (including senior leadership teams), governors, volunteers and visitors. It supports teaching and learning, pastoral and administrative functions of the school.

However, the ICT resources and facilities our school uses also pose risks to data protection, online safety and safeguarding.

This policy aims to:

- Set guidelines and rules on the use of school ICT resources for staff, pupils, parents, and governors
- Establish clear expectations for the way all members of the school community engage with each other online
- Support the school's policy on data protection, online safety and safeguarding
- Prevent disruption to the school through the misuse, or attempted misuse, of ICT systems
- Support the school in teaching pupils safe and effective internet and ICT use

This policy covers all users of our school's ICT facilities, including governors, staff, pupils, volunteers, contractors, and visitors.

Breaches of this policy may be dealt with under our behaviour, safeguarding, behaviour and staff disciplinary policies.

2. Relevant legislation and guidance

This policy refers to, and complies with, the following legislation and guidance:

- [Data Protection Act 2018](#)
- [The General Data Protection Regulation](#)
- [Computer Misuse Act 1990](#)
- [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
- [Education Act 2011](#)
- [Freedom of Information Act 2000](#)
- [The Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools](#)
- [National Cyber Security Centre \(NCSC\)](#)
- [Education and Training \(Welfare of Children Act\) 2021](#)

3. Definitions

- **“ICT facilities”:** includes all facilities, systems and services including but not limited to network infrastructure, desktop computers, laptops, tablets, phones, music players or hardware, software, websites, web applications or services, and any device system or service which may become available in the future which is provided as part of the ICT service. This includes the use of both school owned and personal iPads or smart phones whilst using any aspect of the school ICT facilities as outlined above.
- **“Users”:** anyone authorised by the school to use the ICT facilities, including governors, staff, pupils, volunteers, contractors, and visitors
- **“Personal use”:** any use or activity not directly related to the users' employment, study or purpose
- **“Authorised personnel”:** employees authorised by the school to perform systems administration and/or monitoring of the ICT facilities
- **“Materials”:** files and data created using the ICT facilities including but not limited to documents, photos, audio, video, printed output, web pages, social networking sites and blogs

See appendix 6 for a glossary of cyber security terminology.

4. Unacceptable use

The following is considered unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities by any member of the school community. Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary or behaviour proceedings (see section 4.2 below).

Unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities includes:

- Using the school's ICT facilities to breach intellectual property rights or copyright
- Using the school's ICT facilities to bully or harass someone else, or to promote unlawful discrimination
- Breaching the school's policies or procedures
- Any illegal conduct, or statements which are deemed to be advocating illegal activity
- Online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and/or financial scams
- Accessing, creating, storing, linking to, or sending material that is pornographic, offensive, obscene or otherwise inappropriate or harmful
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos and/or livestreams (also known as sexting or youth-produced sexual imagery)
- Activity which defames or disparages the school, or risks bringing the school into disrepute
- Sharing confidential information about the school, its pupils, or other members of the school community
- Connecting any device to the school's ICT network without approval from authorised personnel

- Setting up any software, applications, or web services on the school's network without approval from the Deputy Headteacher or Head of IT, or creating or using any program, tool or item of software designed to interfere with the functioning of the ICT facilities, accounts or data
- Gaining, or attempting to gain, access to restricted areas of the network, or to any password-protected information, without approval from authorised personnel
- Allowing, encouraging, or enabling others to gain (or attempt to gain) unauthorised access to the school's ICT facilities
- Causing intentional damage to ICT facilities
- Removing, deleting, or disposing of ICT equipment, systems, programs, or information without permission by authorised personnel
- Causing a data breach by accessing, modifying, or sharing data (including personal data) to which a user is not supposed to have access, or without authorisation
- Using inappropriate or offensive language
- Promoting a private business, unless that business is directly related to the school
- Using or attempting to use websites or mechanisms to bypass the school's filtering mechanisms
- Engaging in content or conduct that is radicalised, extremist, racist or discriminatory in any other way

This is not an exhaustive list. The school reserves the right to amend this list at any time. The Deputy Headteacher will use professional judgement to determine whether any act or behaviour not on the list above is considered unacceptable use of the school's ICT facilities.

4.1 Exceptions from unacceptable use

Where the use of school ICT facilities (on the school premises and/or remotely) is required for a purpose that would otherwise be considered an unacceptable use, exemptions to the policy may be granted at the Deputy Headteachers discretion. This includes stress testing of network systems and monitoring software. Prior written approval must be sought from the Deputy Headteacher. If this is being undertaken by the Deputy Headteacher, s/he should inform the Headteacher or Bursar in advance of any testing.

4.2 Sanctions

Pupils and staff who engage in any of the unacceptable activity listed above may face disciplinary action in line with the school's policies on behaviour, safeguarding, behaviour and staff disciplinary policies. Please refer to Behaviour Policy (Seniors), Behaviour Policy (Prep incl. EYFS),

5. Staff (including governors, volunteers, and contractors)

5.1 Access to school ICT facilities and materials

The Trust's Head of IT manages access to the school's ICT facilities and materials for school staff. That includes, but is not limited to:

- Computers, tablets, mobile phones, and other devices
- Access permissions for certain programmes or files

Staff will be provided with unique log-in/account information and passwords that they must use when accessing the school's ICT facilities.

Staff who have access to files they are not authorised to view or edit, or who need their access permissions updated or changed, should contact the IT helpdesk.

Staff to be directed to call the Trust IT Duty Phone on 07442 670348.

5.2 Use of iPads

iPads are used to support teaching and learning at Manor House. iPads and their usage are covered as part of the school's ICT Facilities and are therefore subject to all aspects of this policy. Staff iPads will be managed and monitored via school device management software. Staff may however use their own apple IDs to download apps for school and personal use, so as long as these do not breach any other aspects of this policy.

Any data stored locally on the iPad is **not backed up** on the school's network. Staff should therefore ensure their devices have iCloud back up activated and save any documents to OneDrive (which is backed-up).

iPads remain the property of Manor House School and should be returned to the ICT Technician when staff leave the school. Any apple ID accounts must be disabled logged out of and 'find my iPad' switched off before return.

5.3 Use of phones and email

The school provides each member of staff and Governors with an email address.

This email account should be used for work purposes only. Staff should enable multi-factor authentication on their email accounts.

All work-related business should be conducted using the email address the school has provided.

Staff must not share their personal email addresses with parents and pupils and must not send any work-related materials using their personal email account.

Staff must take care with the content of all email messages, as incorrect or improper statements can give rise to claims for discrimination, harassment, defamation, breach of confidentiality or breach of contract.

Email messages are required to be disclosed in legal proceedings or in response to requests from individuals under the Data Protection Act 2018 in the same way as paper documents. Deletion from a user's inbox does not mean that an email cannot be recovered for the purposes of disclosure. All email messages should be treated as potentially retrievable.

Staff must take extra care when sending sensitive or confidential information by email. Any attachments containing sensitive or confidential information should be encrypted so that the information is only accessible by the intended recipient.

If staff receive an email in error, the sender should be informed, and the email deleted. If the email contains sensitive or confidential information, the user must not make use of that information or disclose that information.

If staff send an email in error that contains the personal information of another person, they must inform the Deputy Headteacher immediately and follow our data breach procedure.

Staff must not give their personal phone numbers to parents or pupils. Staff must use phones provided by the school to conduct all work-related business, including on school trips and visits.

Staff who are provided with mobile phones as equipment for their role must abide by the same rules for ICT acceptable use as set out in section 4.

5.4 Personal use

Staff are permitted to occasionally use school ICT facilities for personal use subject to certain conditions set out below. Personal use of ICT facilities must not be overused or abused. The ICT Technician, under the direction of the Deputy Headteacher, may withdraw permission for it at any time or restrict access at their discretion.

Personal use is permitted provided that such use:

- Does not constitute 'unacceptable use', as defined in section 4
- Takes place when no pupils are present
- Does not interfere with their jobs, or prevent other staff or pupils from using the facilities for work or educational purposes
- Mobile phones must not be used or visible in classrooms whilst pupils are present (see separate policy for EYFS)

Staff may not use the school's ICT facilities to store locally on a school device or network area, personal non-work-related information, or materials (such as music, videos, or photos).

Staff should be aware that use of the school's ICT facilities for personal use may put personal communications within the scope of the school's ICT monitoring activities (see section 5.5). Where breaches of this policy are found, disciplinary action may be taken.

Staff should be aware that personal use of ICT (even when not using school ICT facilities) can impact on their employment by, for instance, putting personal details in the public domain, where pupils and parents could see them.

Staff should take care to follow the school's guidelines on social media (see appendix 1) and use of email (see section 5.1.1) to protect themselves online and avoid compromising their professional integrity.

5.5 Personal social media accounts

Members of staff should ensure their use of social media, either for work or personal purposes, is appropriate at all times.

The school has guidelines for staff on appropriate security settings for Facebook accounts (see appendix 1).

5.6 Remote access

We allow staff to access the school's ICT facilities and materials remotely as part of their Office 365 account.

Staff accessing the school's ICT facilities and materials remotely must abide by the same rules as those accessing the facilities and materials on-site. Staff must be particularly vigilant if they use the school's ICT facilities outside the school and should take precautions to ensure that the device they are using is protected against cyber threats (is fully patched, running supported software and employ virus/malware protection), if in doubt should seek advice from the IT team.

Our ICT facilities contain information which is confidential and/or subject to data protection legislation. Such information must be treated with extreme care and in accordance with our data protection policy.

5.7 School social media accounts

The school has an official Facebook/Twitter/Instagram accounts, managed by the Marketing team. Staff members who have not been authorised to manage, or post to, the account, must not access, or attempt to access the account.

- The login and passwords are not to be shared with anyone else without prior permission from the Marketing Department.
- Representatives must be aware of omitting girls whose parents have not given permission for social media usage. Please familiarise yourself with the latest data protection declined usage which can be found at: S:\OFFICE\Data protection\Data Protection - declined use\Declined Use of Data and Photographic - Date – with photos.
- If you are unsure as to the content or relevance of the post, then please refer to the Marketing Department.

5.8 Monitoring of school network and use of ICT facilities

The school reserves the right to monitor the use of its ICT facilities and network. This includes, but is not limited to, monitoring of:

- Internet sites visited
- Bandwidth usage
- Email accounts
- Telephone calls

- User activity/access logs
- Any other electronic communications
- Copy/printing

Only authorised ICT staff may inspect, monitor, intercept, assess, record, and disclose the above, to the extent permitted by law.

The school monitors ICT use in order to:

- Obtain information related to school business
- Investigate compliance with school policies, procedures, and standards
- Ensure effective school and ICT operation
- Conduct training or quality control exercises
- Prevent or detect crime
- Comply with a subject access request, Freedom of Information Act request, or any other legal obligation

5.9 Procedure on termination of employment

On your last day of work, or your last day before commencing a period of extended leave, all school data (including work e-mails), and any software applications provided by us for work purposes, will be removed from the device. If this cannot be achieved remotely, the device must be submitted to the IT Technician or Deputy Head for wiping and software removal. Any devices provided by the school remain the property of the school regardless of age or length of time the member of staff has used it for. You must provide all necessary co-operation and assistance in relation to this process.

5.10 Lost or stolen devices and unauthorised access

In the event of a lost or stolen device, or where a staff member believes that a device may have been accessed by an unauthorised person or otherwise compromised, the staff member must report the incident to the IT Technician or Deputy Head immediately. If out of hours, please contact via the IT Duty phone.

Appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that school data on or accessible from the device is secured, including remote wiping of the device where appropriate. The remote wipe will destroy all school data on the device (including information contained in a work e-mail account, even if such e-mails are personal in nature).

5.11 Connecting personal devices to our systems

With school issued iPads, it should not generally be necessary to connect a personal device to the school network. We have staff WiFi and guest WiFi enabled at Manor House School, the passwords are available from the Deputy Head or ICT Technician. Connectivity of some devices is centrally managed by Deputy Head and ICT Technician, who must approve a device before it can be connected to our networked systems. We reserve the right to refuse or remove permission for your device to connect with our systems.

The contents of our systems and school data are our property. We reserve the right to monitor, intercept, review and erase, without further notice, all content on the device that has been created for us or on our behalf. This might include, without limitation, the monitoring, interception, accessing, recording, disclosing, inspecting, reviewing, retrieving and printing of transactions, messages, communications, postings, log-ins, recordings and other uses of the device, whether or not the device is in your possession.

It is possible that personal data may be inadvertently monitored, intercepted, reviewed or erased. You should have no expectation of privacy in any data on the device. Staff should not use our systems for any matter intended to be kept private or confidential and that may breach the staff code of conduct.

6. Students

6.1 Access to ICT facilities

- Pupils will be provided with an account linked to the school's learning environment, which they can access from any device by using the following www.office.com

6.2 Search and deletion

Under the Education Act 2011, and in line with the Department for Education's [guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#), the school has the right to search pupils' phones, iPads, computers or other devices for pornographic images or any other data or items banned under school rules or legislation.

The school can, and will, delete files and data found on searched devices if we believe the data or file has been, or could be, used to disrupt teaching or break the school's rules.

Staff members may also confiscate devices for evidence to hand to the police, if a pupil discloses that they are being abused and that this abuse contains an online element.

6.3 Unacceptable use of ICT and the internet outside of school

The school will sanction pupils, in line with the behaviour policy, if a pupil engages in any of the following **at any time** (even if they are not on school premises):

- Using ICT or the internet to breach intellectual property rights or copyright
- Using ICT or the internet to bully or harass someone else, or to promote unlawful discrimination
- Breaching the school's policies or procedures
- Any illegal conduct, or statements which are deemed to be advocating illegal activity
- Accessing, creating, storing, linking to or sending material that is pornographic, offensive, obscene or otherwise inappropriate
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos and/or livestreams (also known as sexting or youth produced sexual imagery)
- Activity which defames or disparages the school, or risks bringing the school into disrepute

- Sharing confidential information about the school, other pupils, or other members of the school community
- Gaining or attempting to gain access to restricted areas of the network, or to any password protected information, without approval from authorised personnel
- Allowing, encouraging, or enabling others to gain (or attempt to gain) unauthorised access to the school's ICT facilities
- Causing intentional damage to ICT facilities or materials
- Causing a data breach by accessing, modifying, or sharing data (including personal data) to which a user is not supposed to have access, or without authorisation
- Using inappropriate or offensive language

7. Parents

7.1 Access to ICT facilities and materials

Parents do not have access to the school's ICT facilities as a matter of course.

However, parents working for, or with the school in an official capacity (for instance, as a volunteer or as a member of the PTA) may be granted an appropriate level of access or be permitted to use the school's facilities at the headteacher's discretion.

Where parents are granted access in this way, they must abide by this policy as it applies to staff.

8. Data security

The school is responsible for making sure it has the appropriate level of security protection and procedures in place. It therefore takes steps to protect the security of its computing resources, data and user accounts. However, the school cannot guarantee security. Staff, pupils, parents, and others who use the school's ICT facilities should use safe computing practices at all times.

8.1 Passwords

All users of the school's ICT facilities should set strong passwords for their accounts and keep these passwords secure.

Users are responsible for the security of their passwords and accounts, and for setting permissions for accounts and files they control.

Members of staff or pupils who disclose account or password information may face disciplinary action. Parents or volunteers who disclose account or password information may have their access rights revoked.

8.2 Software updates, firewalls, and anti-virus software

All the school's ICT devices that support software updates, security updates and anti-virus products will be configured to perform such updates regularly or automatically.

Users must not circumvent or make any attempt to circumvent the administrative, physical and technical safeguards we implement and maintain to protect personal data and the school's ICT facilities.

Any personal devices using the school's network must all be configured in this way.

8.3 Data protection

All personal data must be processed and stored in line with data protection regulations and the school's data protection policy.

8.4 Access to facilities and materials

All users of the school's ICT facilities will have clearly defined access rights to school systems, files, and devices.

These access rights are managed by the Head of IT and Deputy Headteacher

Users should not access, or attempt to access, systems, files, or devices to which they have not been granted access. If access is provided in error, or if something a user should not have access to is shared with them, they should alert the IT Technician immediately.

Users should always log out of systems and lock their equipment when they are not in use to avoid any unauthorised access. Equipment and systems should always be logged out of and closed down completely at the end of each working day.

8.5 Encryption

The school ensures that its devices and systems have an appropriate level of encryption. School staff may only use personal devices (including computers and USB drives) to access school data from defined locations and following approval from the Deputy Headteacher or Head of IT

Use of such personal devices will only be authorised if the devices have appropriate levels of security and encryption, as defined by the Head of IT

9. Protection from cyber-attacks or data loss

The school will:

- Work with governors and the IT department to make sure cyber security is given the time and resources it needs to make the school secure
- Provide training for staff (and include this training in any induction for new starters, if they join outside of the school's annual training window) on the basics of cyber security, including how to:
 - Check the sender address in an email

- Respond to a request for bank details, personal information, or login details
- Verify requests for payments or changes to information
- Make sure staff are aware of its procedures for reporting and responding to cyber security incidents
- Investigate whether our IT software needs updating or replacing to be more secure
- Not engage in ransom requests from ransomware attacks, as this would not guarantee recovery of data
- Put controls in place that are:
- **Multi-layered:** everyone will be clear on what to look out for to keep our systems safe
- **Up-to-date:** with a system in place to monitor when the school needs to update its software
- **Regularly reviewed and tested:** to make sure the systems are as up to scratch and secure as they can be
- Back up critical data multiple times daily and store these backups on cloud based backup systems/external hard drives that aren't connected to the school network and which can be stored off the main school premises. **Please note data stored locally on student or staff iPad is NOT backed up.** Staff and students should ensure iCloud back-up is switched on and documents are routinely saved to OneDrive accounts.
- Make sure staff:
 - Use complex passwords and do not share accounts under any circumstances
 - Enable multi-factor authentication where they can, on things like school email accounts
 - Ensure personal devices used to access school data/systems are fully up to date with software patches and are password protected
 - Have a firewall in place that is switched on
 - (ICT Staff only) Conduct regular access reviews to make sure each user in the school has the right level of permissions and admin rights.

10. Internet access

- The school internet connection is secured, filtered, and monitored. Nevertheless, no system is every completely failproof. If you receive any communication or can access websites that may be deemed not appropriate to educational use, please inform the Head of IT immediately.

10.1 Pupils

- The same filtering and monitoring are applied to student accounts whilst in school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure network traffic is being monitored when ICT Facilities (including iPads) are being used at home.

10.2 Parents and visitors

- Parents are working with the school in an official capacity (e.g., as a volunteer or as a member of the PTA)
- Visitors need to access the school's Wi-Fi to fulfil the purpose of their visit (for instance, to access materials stored on personal devices as part of a presentation or lesson plan)

Staff must not give the Wi-Fi password to anyone who is not authorised to have it. Doing so could result in disciplinary action.

11. Monitoring and review

The Deputy Headteacher and Head of IT monitor the implementation of this policy, including ensuring it is updated to reflect the needs and circumstances of the school.

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

12. Related policies

This policy should be read alongside the school's policies on:

- EST Online Safety Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Disciplinary and Capability Policies (including Early Years)

Appendix 1: Social media cheat sheet for staff

Don't accept friend requests from pupils on social media

10 rules for school staff on social media accounts

1. Change your display name – use your first and middle name, use a maiden name, or put your surname backwards instead
2. Change your profile picture to something unidentifiable, or if not, ensure that the image is professional
3. Check your privacy settings regularly
4. Be careful about tagging other staff members in images or posts
5. Don't share anything publicly that you wouldn't be just as happy showing your pupils
6. Don't use social media sites during school hours
7. Don't make comments about your job, your colleagues, our school, or your pupils online – once it's out there, it's out there
8. Don't associate yourself with the school on your profile (e.g., by setting it as your workplace, or by 'checking in' at a school event)
9. Don't link your work email address to your social media accounts. Anyone who has this address (or your personal email address/mobile number) can find you using this information
10. Consider uninstalling the Facebook app from your phone. The app recognises Wi-Fi connections and makes friend suggestions based on who else uses the same Wi-Fi connection (such as parents or pupils)

Check your privacy settings

- Change the visibility of your posts and photos to '**Friends only**', rather than 'Friends of friends'. Otherwise, pupils and their families may still be able to read your posts, see things you've shared and look at your pictures if they're friends with anybody on your contacts list
- Don't forget to check your **old posts and photos** – go to bit.ly/2MdQXMN to find out how to limit the visibility of previous posts
- The public may still be able to see posts you've '**liked**', even if your profile settings are private, because this depends on the privacy settings of the original poster
- **Google your name** to see what information about you is visible to the public
- Prevent search engines from indexing your profile so that people can't **search for you by name** – go to bit.ly/2zMdVht to find out how to do this
- Remember that **some information is always public**; your display name, profile picture, cover photo, user ID (in the URL for your profile), country, age range and gender

What to do if...

A pupil adds you on social media

- In the first instance, ignore and delete the request. Block the pupil from viewing your profile
- Check your privacy settings again, and consider changing your display name or profile picture
- If the pupil asks you about the friend request in person, tell them that you're not allowed to accept friend requests from pupils and that if they persist, you'll have to notify senior leadership and/or their parents. If the pupil persists, take a screenshot of their request and any accompanying messages
- Notify the senior leadership team or the headteacher about what's happening

A parent adds you on social media

It is at your discretion whether to respond. Bear in mind that:

- Responding to one parent's friend request or message might set an unwelcome precedent for both you and other teachers at the school
- Pupils may then have indirect access through their parent's account to anything you post, share, comment on or are tagged in
- If you wish to decline the offer or ignore the message, consider drafting a stock response to let the parent know that you're doing so

You're being harassed on social media, or somebody is spreading something offensive about you

- **Do not** retaliate or respond in any way
- Save evidence of any abuse by taking screenshots and recording the time and date it occurred
- Report the material to Facebook or the relevant social network and ask them to remove it
- If the perpetrator is a current pupil or staff member, our mediation and disciplinary procedures are usually sufficient to deal with online incidents
- If the perpetrator is a parent or other external adult, a senior member of staff should invite them to a meeting to address any reasonable concerns or complaints and/or request they remove the offending comments or material

If the comments are racist, sexist, of a sexual nature or constitute a hate crime, you or a senior.