

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Filtering and Monitoring in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education

KCSiE (Keeping Children Safe in Education) 2023, which is the document all schools adhere to with regard to children's safety, has updated its guidance for schools to now include Filtering and Monitoring services on their IT Systems (KCSiE Paragraphs 141 – 143).

We are required to report to you about the systems we have in place to filter and monitor online. The DfE has released Filtering and Monitoring Standards for Schools and Colleges that schools should follow in order to meet the requirements of the KCSiE Filtering and Monitoring.

We have a company called Concero who look after our IT systems; they have checked us against the required standards.

Filtering and Monitoring Technical Analysis

Broadband

We **ARE** compliant with the Broadband internet standards.

- Our bandwidth is 1Gbps.
- The DfE standard is a minimum of 100Mb for Primary and include the capacity to deliver 1000Mbps (1Gbps) for secondary.

Filtering

We **ARE** compliant with the Filtering Standards and therefore the KCSiE Filtering.

- We are using a Cloud based filtering system.
- We have had our filtered connection tested against the toll recommended by the DfE which checks the system is correctly blocking:
 - Illegal child sexual abuse material
 - Unlawful terrorist content
 - Adult content.
- Our filtering provider is a member of the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and signed up to Counter Terrorism Referral Lists. As noted here by the UK Safer Internet Centre.
- The filtering HAS got the latest updates and firmware
- All devices have filtering applied, before being released to staff and pupils.

The filtering applies to all:

- Users (Including guest accounts).
- School owned devices.
- Devices using the school broadband connection.

The filtering system is configured to provide filtering on:

- The school's main broadband connection on any device.
- The school's back up line, on any device.

The filtering system sends alerts and logs to the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mrs Laura Haines and to Mrs Lisa Montandon, Head Teacher. The filtering and monitoring system are tested regularly to ensure that they are up to date.

Monitoring

We **ARE** compliant with the Monitoring standards and therefore the KCSIE Monitoring:

- We use safeguard monitoring software.
- The monitoring system we use is operational and installed to all devices.
- All school devices have monitoring applied before being released to staff and pupils.
- The monitoring, whether on site or off site, covers:
 - All users (including guest accounts) when using a school device, whether on site or off site.
 - Teaching staff DO have access to the monitoring console to monitor pupil devices where required.
 - The monitoring system DOES send alerts and logs to the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead), named above.
 - The filtering and monitoring logs are kept online for a minimum of a year in case an investigation is needed at any point.

In addition to this staff and governors have yearly update training on Online Safety, with regard to keeping children safe. Children have a child specific search engine which they use in school.

I hope that this provides you with the assurance you need about how we look after your children during their use of technology.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Montandon