



## ONLINE SAFETY POLICY

This Policy applies to all year groups at Thomas's Schools, including the EYFS.

Thomas's London Day Schools operates as a united group of schools with a similar ethos and values and as such is referred to as a singular body.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with Thomas's Anti-bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Communication Policy, ICT Acceptable Use Policy and Agreements, Personal Devices and Photography Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

While new technologies are enhancing communication and creativity some are also challenging the definitions and boundaries of the school environment. As active participants in a digital world our broad curriculum and our pupils' personal goals requires regular use of a variety of IT systems and communication tools. While developments in technology may bring staff and pupils into contact with a wide variety of influences, some of which may be unsuitable, our schools provide a progressive and appropriate education programme for staff, pupils and parents.

This Online Safety Policy relates to all members of the Thomas's community who have access to, and are users of IT systems and resources both in and out of school and applies to all electronic devices and services provided, whether accessed within school or an external location.

## 2. AIMS

The aims of this policy are to ensure that:

- staff and pupils have the knowledge, skills and confidence to become safe and responsible users of the Internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use;
- school ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk;
- staff and pupils are protected from potential risk in their use of ICT in their everyday work;
- pupils, staff and parents are aware of the School's expectations and respect the privacy of all members of the school community.

The main areas of risk for our school community can be summarised as follows:

	<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>	<b>Sexual</b>	<b>Values</b>
<b>Content</b> Child as recipient	Advertising Spam Copyright Sponsorship Hacking	Violent content Hateful Content	Pornographic content Unwelcome sexual comments	Bias Racist and extremist content Misleading info/advice Body Image and self-esteem Distressing or offensive content
<b>Contact</b> Child as participant	Tracking Harvesting data Sharing personal information	Being bullied, harassed or stalked	Meeting strangers Sexualised bullying (including sexting) Grooming Online Child Sexual Exploitation	Self-harm and suicide Unwelcome persuasions Grooming for extremism
<b>Conduct</b> Child as actor	Illegal downloading Hacking Gambling Privacy Copyright	Bullying, harassing or stalking others	Creating and uploading inappropriate or illegal content (including "sexting") Unhealthy/inappropriate sexual relationships Child on child sexualised or harmful behaviour	Providing misleading information and advice Encouraging others to take risks online Sharing extremist views Problematic Internet Use or "Addiction" Plagiarism

## 3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 3.1 All Users

All users are responsible for using the school IT and communication systems in accordance with the relevant Safeguarding, Behaviour and Acceptable Use Policies. All staff and pupils (including Principals) will sign an Acceptable Use Agreement and be trained in online safety.

All users are expected to model safe, responsible and professional behaviours in their own use of technology. Responsibilities include:

- to supervise and guide pupils carefully when engaged in learning activities involving online technology, and use common-sense strategies in learning resource areas where older pupils have more flexible access.
- to report any misuse to the Digital Lead/Safeguarding Team in line with the reporting procedures outlined in the Safeguarding policy. See **Appendix 1** for specific sanctions related to technology use.

- to take professional, reasonable precautions when working with pupils, previewing websites and resources before use; and using age-appropriate (pupil friendly) search engines where more open Internet searching is required with younger pupils.

### **3.2 Safeguarding Team**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for each school has overall responsibility for online safety. They are supported by the Digital Lead acting in a capacity of Online Safety Officer who will ensure that all staff receive suitable training and development to carry out their responsibilities in a safe and supportive environment. An online safety log is kept and reviewed regularly by the Safeguarding team. As part of their induction, new staff are provided with information and guidance regarding the online safety policy.

### **3.3 Digital Lead**

The Digital Lead is regularly updated on current online safety issues and legislation, and is aware of the potential for serious child protection concerns. They take day to day responsibility for online safety issues and a leading role in establishing and reviewing the school's online safety policy/documents.

An awareness and commitment to online safety is promoted across the school community by facilitating training and advice for all staff while ensuring online safety education is embedded within the curriculum. The Digital Lead monitors the impact of online safety training and assesses future training needs.

The Digital Lead communicates regularly with Head teachers, SLT, Principals, DSLs and IT support to discuss current issues, review incident logs, adjust filtering and amend operational procedures. They ensure that online safety incidents are logged as a safeguarding incident and that all staff are aware of the procedures that must be followed in the event of an incident as outlined in our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy.

### **3.4 Parents, carers and extended family**

To support families in helping their children use technology safely our schools will seek to provide information and awareness to parents and carers through;

- Reference to relevant resources and websites on the TLP
- Recommended guidance on technology use in letters and bulletins
- Parents evenings
- External speakers
- High profile national events e.g. Safer Internet Day

## **4. PROCEDURES**

As a response to changing attitudes to technology in the classroom, all teachers share collective responsibility for promoting and enhancing digital literacy. All teachers use cloud based software to communicate and set digital tasks for pupils. They use iPad and Netbook technology in the classroom to further embed digital literacy into the wider curriculum, reaching beyond the Computing classroom.

Our schools:

- have a clear, progressive online safety education programme as part of the Computing curriculum and PSHCE curriculum. This aims to build resilience, critical thinking skills and behaviours appropriate to their age and experience;

- plan online use carefully to ensure that it is age-appropriate and supports the learning objectives for specific curriculum areas;
- will regularly remind pupils about their responsibilities through the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy and reinforce messages as part of pastoral activities such as creating digital manifestos
- ensure staff are aware of their responsibility to model safe and responsible behaviour in their own use of technology both in and out of school, e.g. use of passwords, logging-off, use of content, research skills, copyright;
- ensure that staff and pupils understand issues around plagiarism; how to check copyright and also know that they must respect and acknowledge copyright/intellectual property rights;
- ensure pupils only use school-approved systems and publish within appropriately secure / age-appropriate environments.

Pupils in certain age groups are provided with iPads on a 1:1 basis to support their learning and in some year groups the pupils are allowed to take the iPads home with them. The content on these iPads is strictly controlled by the school as is the time that pupils are able to use them, with accessibility being switched off in the evening at different times depending on the age of the pupil. The pupils (and their parents) are also required to sign an online agreement with regards to their use of the 1:1 iPads both at school and at home.

Thomas's London Day Schools are committed to providing staff with regular training and development opportunities. Regular CPD content is provided that reflects current educational research and advances in technology. Staff have regular opportunities to discuss and reflect on current issues as part of structured safeguarding provision.

Requests for information or help with equipment and software should always be directed to IT Support via the helpdesk. Requests for teaching support and guidance with online safety issues should be directed to the Digital Lead.

#### **4.1 Passwords**

All staff and pupils are told to keep their passwords and pin numbers private. If a password is compromised the school should be notified immediately.

#### **4.2 Digital Images**

Expectations with regards to the use of personal devices to take any form of digital images (still or moving) by any pupil or adult can be found in the Personal Devices and Photography Policy.

If the use of technology humiliates, embarrasses or causes offence it is unacceptable regardless of whether 'consent' was given. This includes uploading digital images to a website or using mobile devices to photograph or film any pupil, parent or member of staff without their consent.

Pupils are taught about how images can be manipulated in their online safety education programme and also taught to consider how to publish for a wide range of audiences which might include Principals, parents or younger children as part of their Computing and PSHCE schemes of work. They are advised to be very careful about placing any personal photos on any online network space. They are taught to understand the need to maintain privacy settings so as not to make public, personal information

When using social media, for the privacy and protection of all pupils and adults it is vital to be vigilant and follow the agreed procedures outlined in the ICT (Acceptable Use) Policy.

#### **4.3 School Website**

The Head, supported by the Principals, takes overall responsibility to ensure that the website content is accurate and the quality of presentation is maintained. The school website complies with statutory DfE requirements. Where other's work is published or linked to, we credit the sources used and state clearly the author's identity or status.

#### **4.4 Cloud Based Software**

Thomas's London Day Schools provides staff and pupils from Year 3 upwards with cloud based software for their professional and educational use both in school and at home. Pupils and staff are expected to follow the signed ICT (Acceptable Use) Policy both on and offsite.

Photographs and videos uploaded to the school's online environment will only be accessible by members of the school community. On school devices, pupils are only allowed to upload and publish within school approved 'Cloud' systems.

#### **4.5 Internet access, virus protection and filtering**

The school network has educational filtered secure broadband connectivity and ensures network health through use of anti-malware software. A progressive filtering system blocks sites that fall into sensitive categories (e.g. adult content, race hate, gambling) and ensures age appropriate access to resources based on educational needs. The Director of IT keeps a log of all changes to filtering systems. Any amendments are made in consultation with the Digital Lead.

Internet Usage Restrictions are listed in **Appendix 2** of this Policy. Alerts are set up to flag any suspicious language used or inappropriate searches, on the internet as well as for Google documents and email.

The Thomas's network has been secured to appropriate standards suitable for educational use. The network has a shared work area for pupils and one for staff. Staff and pupils are shown how to save work and access work from these areas.

#### **4.6 Network management (user access, backup)**

All IT and communications systems are installed professionally and regularly reviewed to ensure they meet health and safety standards. Our IT Support team:

- uses individual, audited log-ins for all users;
- uses guest accounts occasionally for external or short term visitors for temporary access to appropriate services;
- uses teacher 'remote' management control tools for controlling workstations/viewing users/setting-up applications and Internet web sites, where useful;
- is required to be up-to-date with services and policies;
- has daily back-up of school data (admin and curriculum);
- ensures storage of all data within the school will conform to the EU and UK data protection requirements; Storage of data online, will conform to the EU data protection directive where storage is hosted within the EU;
- does not allow any outside agencies to access our network remotely except where there is a clear professional need and then access is restricted and is only through approved systems.

Senior Leaders at each school work in partnership with the IT Support team and the Head to ensure any concerns about the system are communicated so that systems remain robust and protect pupils. There is a clear disaster recovery system in place that includes a secure, remote, off site back up of data.

#### **4.7 Thomas's London Day Schools Equipment**

Staff are responsible for ensuring that any equipment loaned to them by the school, is used primarily to support their professional responsibilities. The IT team keep a list of all members of staff who have use of a work device and share this with the Designated Safeguarding Lead of each school.

School devices will only be used by pupils during lessons and with permission from the teacher. Mobile devices are not permitted to be used in certain areas within the school site, e.g. changing rooms and loos. All users are required to log off or lock the computer/device when they have finished working or are leaving the computer unattended.

This school maintains equipment to ensure Health and Safety is followed. All device use is open to monitoring scrutiny and the Head/ SLT are able to withdraw or restrict authorisation for use at any time, if it is deemed necessary. The School reserves the right to search the content of any mobile devices on the school premises where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain illegal or undesirable material, including pornography, violence or bullying.

### **5. ONLINE COMMUNICATION**

References to online communications and social media include software, applications (including those running on mobile devices), email and websites, which enable users to interact, create and exchange information online. Examples include, but are not limited to, sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Wikipedia and Instagram and, more recently TikTok, momo and Sarahah (NB the latter has now been removed from the Apple and Android App stores but will still work if downloaded before the removal). Also included is the use of SMS and instant messaging clients, such as, WhatsApp, Kik, iMessage and Snapchat. Internet/email use is monitored. Details of the types of communication technologies that are acceptable by different users in school are listed in **Appendix 3**.

Electronic messages are not anonymous and can be tracked and live forever on the Internet. Social Media sites archive content posted, even when deleted from online profiles. Once information is placed online, the author relinquishes control of it. A teacher should never share information with pupils or parents in ANY environment that they would not willingly or appropriately share in a school or school-related setting or in the community.

Instagram Groups may be set up for any residential trip lasting 5 or more nights. This is designed to give an overview of the trip, not a detailed account. These groups are private and access only given to people known to the school community. The feeds are monitored closely to ensure that any identifying comments are removed and the groups are deleted at the end of the trip or series of trips (for Daheim)

Extreme care should be taken when transferring sensitive personal information online, in particular regarding SEND or safeguarding issues. If there is no secure file transfer solution available for the situation, then the data / file must be protected with security

encryption. Staff use encrypted devices or secure remote access where staff need to access sensitive data off-site.

### **5.1 Staff Communication**

Staff are instructed to always keep professional and private communication separate. Use of email and internet for personal purposes is permitted but any such use must be limited and must not disrupt staff duties.

Staff members who wish to communicate with pupils online may do so only with the approval of Thomas's, using official Thomas's sites and accounts created specifically for this purpose. These sites are managed and controlled by Thomas's administrators. There should be no connection made between any personal accounts and school accounts used for educational purposes. Use of any school approved social networking will adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy.

Teachers are advised that they should use a separate email address just for social networking so that any other contact details are not given away. They should also be aware that they can be vulnerable to unintended misuses for electronic communication. Email, texting and social media encourage casual dialogue and often innocent actions can easily be misconstrued or manipulated. Social networking sites blur the line between work and personal lives and discretion should be used at all times with both parents and colleagues.

Staff are expected to regularly review their privacy settings to ensure that profiles and photographs are not viewable to the general public. The Digital Leads or any members of the IT Support team will help staff to check that their privacy settings are robust.

### **5.2 Pupil Communication**

Pupils are taught about social networking, email, acceptable behaviour and protocols, and how to report misuse, intimidation or abuse through our online safety curriculum. All pupils have their own unique username and password which gives them access to the Internet and other services and are frequently reminded not to divulge these to anyone. Pupils are required to sign and follow our age appropriate Pupil Acceptable Use Policies both at in school and at home.

### **5.3 Parent Communication**

The School will endeavour to assist parents with their awareness of developing technologies and give advice on how to support children towards safe, responsible and appropriate use of the internet and social media. This may be covered through bulletin articles, talks or a range of other activities.

It is recommended parents and children develop their own Online agreement to use at home that is respected and followed by all members of the family.

### **5.4 Remote Learning**

On occasions, most recently in response to the COVID-19 pandemic when groups or whole schools have worked from school, there is a requirement for pupils to access their learning remotely. Guidance is in place to enable pupils to access their online learning safely and protocols and expectations for staff, pupils and parents are set out in **Appendix 5** of this Policy.

## 6. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

All members of the Thomas's community are encouraged to be vigilant and report issues, in the confidence that they will be dealt with quickly and sensitively, following guidance in the Behaviour and Safeguarding policies.

If any concerning content or images are found on an electronic device the device should be locked and the DSL contacted immediately. Members of staff should not view images, look for further images, copy or print any images or forward images by email or any other electronic means. **Appendix 4** sets out the Thomas's Online Safety Incident Flowchart.

Support may be sought from other agencies as needed (i.e. the local authority, LGfL, UK Safer Internet Centre helpline, CEOP, Prevent Officer, Police, IWF) in dealing with online safety issues. The Police will be contacted if one of our staff or pupils receives online communication that we consider is particularly disturbing or breaks the law.

## 7. REVIEW AND MONITORING

An annual audit of online behaviour and risks provides a record for monitoring and measuring the impact of our online safety education. This enables us to actively use pupil, staff and parent voice to inform school development and review the impact of online safety and *prevent* training.

**Thomas's London Day Schools reserves the right to monitor staff communications in order to:**

- establish the existence of facts;
- ascertain compliance with regulatory or self-regulatory procedures;
- monitor standards, which are achieved by persons using the system in the course of their duties and for staff training purposes;
- prevent or detect crime;
- investigate or detect unauthorised use of the school's telecommunications systems;
- ensure the effective operation of the system such as protection against malware, backing up and making routine interceptions, such as forwarding emails to correct destinations;
- gain access to routine business communications, for instance checking voicemail and email when staff are on holiday or sick leave.

There is widespread ownership and strict monitoring of the policy and it has been agreed by the SLT and approved by Principals. All amendments will be disseminated to members of staff and parents.

## 8. LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

This Policy bears due regard to the following statutory guidance and other advice.

HM Gov Data Protection Act (1998 and 2018)

DfE statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (January 2021)

HM Gov Investigatory Powers Act (2016)

DfE advice 'The Prevent Duty' (June 2015) from The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)

NSPCC: 'Younger children and social networking sites: a blind spot' (2013)

HM Gov The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations (2012)  
 HM Gov The Education and Inspections Act (2006 and 2011)  
 UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) ( est 2010)  
 HM Gov Racial and Religious Hatred Act (2006)  
 HM Gov Communications Act (2003)  
 HM Gov Sexual Offences Act (2003)  
 HM Gov The Education Act (2002, Sections 157 and 175)  
 HM Gov Criminal Justice & Public Order Act (1994)  
 HM Gov Malicious Communications Act (1988)  
 HM Gov Public Order Act (1986)  
 HM Gov Telecommunications Act (1984)  
 HM Gov Computer Misuse Act (1990)  
 HM Gov Obscene Publications Act (1959 and 1964)

## 9. POLICY REVIEW RECORD

<b>This policy will be reviewed every two years unless there is a change in legislation</b>		
Created: January 2020	By:	Joanna Copland, Vice Principal
Latest Review: April 2021	By:	Joanna Copland, Vice Principal Michael Swart, Director of IT Aarti Malani, Digital Lead, Thomas's Battersea Anne Davidson, Digital Lead, Thomas's Clapham Catherine Mangan, Digital Lead, Thomas's Fulham Stuart Hammersley, Digital Lead, Thomas's Kensington Dianne Barratt, Consultant
Approved: April 2021	By:	Tobyn Thomas, Ben Thomas, Principals Simon O'Malley, Head, Thomas's Battersea Prep School Ben Thomas, Head, Thomas's Battersea Senior School Nathan Boller, Head, Thomas's Clapham Annette Dobson, Head, Thomas's Fulham Jo Ebner, Head, Thomas's Kensington
Next Review: January 2022	By:	Joanna Copland, Vice Principal Cross-School Leads

## 10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Sanctions for misuse of ICT equipment and technology  
 Appendix 2: Guidance on internet restrictions  
 Appendix 3: Guidance on usage of communication devices  
 Appendix 4: Online Safety Incident Flowchart  
 Appendix 5: Expectations and Protocols for Remote Learning and Online "Zoom"  
 meetings and teaching

## ONLINE SAFETY POLICY APPENDIX 1



## PREP AND SENIOR SCHOOL SANCTIONS FOR THE MISUSE OF ICT DEVICES AND TECHNOLOGY

**Please note:** All incidents must be recorded on the ICT incident log. These sanctions apply to the misuse of both school equipment and all types of personal devices brought into school (mobile telephones/tablets/interactive watches etc)

**A**

- Unauthorised access to a website
- Unauthorised use of devices
- Disrespect of school and/or others' ICT resources
- Unauthorised use of email
- Unauthorised use of social networking sites/instant messaging
- Bringing in of any personal electronic device to a classroom without a teacher's permission

**Sanction:** Referred to Form tutor for school specific school sanctions.

**B**

- Continued use of devices during lessons after being warned.
- Continued use of non-educational sites during lessons after being warned
- Unauthorised use of staff logins
- Careless use of school and/or others' ICT resources
- Unauthorised use of any personal electronic device to photograph, film or send messages
- Continued unauthorised use of email after being warned
- Continued unauthorised use of social networking sites/instant messaging after being warned
- Continued unauthorised use of any technology to photograph, film or send messages after being warned
- Unauthorised use of filesharing software or downloading files from the Internet
- Sending of any message that is not polite or sensible
- Accidentally corrupting or destroying others' files without notifying a member of staff of it
- Accidentally accessing offensive material and not notifying a member of staff of it
- Editing or deleting computers Internet history files

**Sanctions:** Referred to Form Tutor and Digital Lead. Removal of Internet access rights and/or device for fixed period.

**C**

- Deliberate damage to school and/or others' ICT resources
- Deliberately corrupting or destroying someone else's files
- Using any ICT device, either in or out of school, to deliberately hurt, upset, bully or harass anyone in the school community
- Deliberately trying to access offensive material
- Deliberately attempting to bypass the school's network security systems
- Using any device to purchase or order items over the Internet

**Sanctions:** Referred to Digital Lead and Head. Parents contacted. Probable removal of ICT access and or personal device for fixed period.

**D**

- Continued use of any ICT equipment or devices, either in or out of school, to deliberately hurt, upset, bully or harass anyone in the school community
- Deliberately accessing, downloading and disseminating any material deemed offensive, obscene, defamatory, racist, homophobic terrorist related or violent
- Using ICT resources to bring the school into disrepute

**Sanctions:** Referred to Digital Lead and Head. Parents contacted. Probable exclusion for fixed period.

## ONLINE SAFETY POLICY APPENDIX 2

### INTERNET USAGE RESTRICTIONS

The school believes that the activities referred to in the following section would be inappropriate in a school context and that users, as defined below, should not engage in these activities in school or outside school when using school equipment or systems. The school policy restricts certain Internet usage as follows:

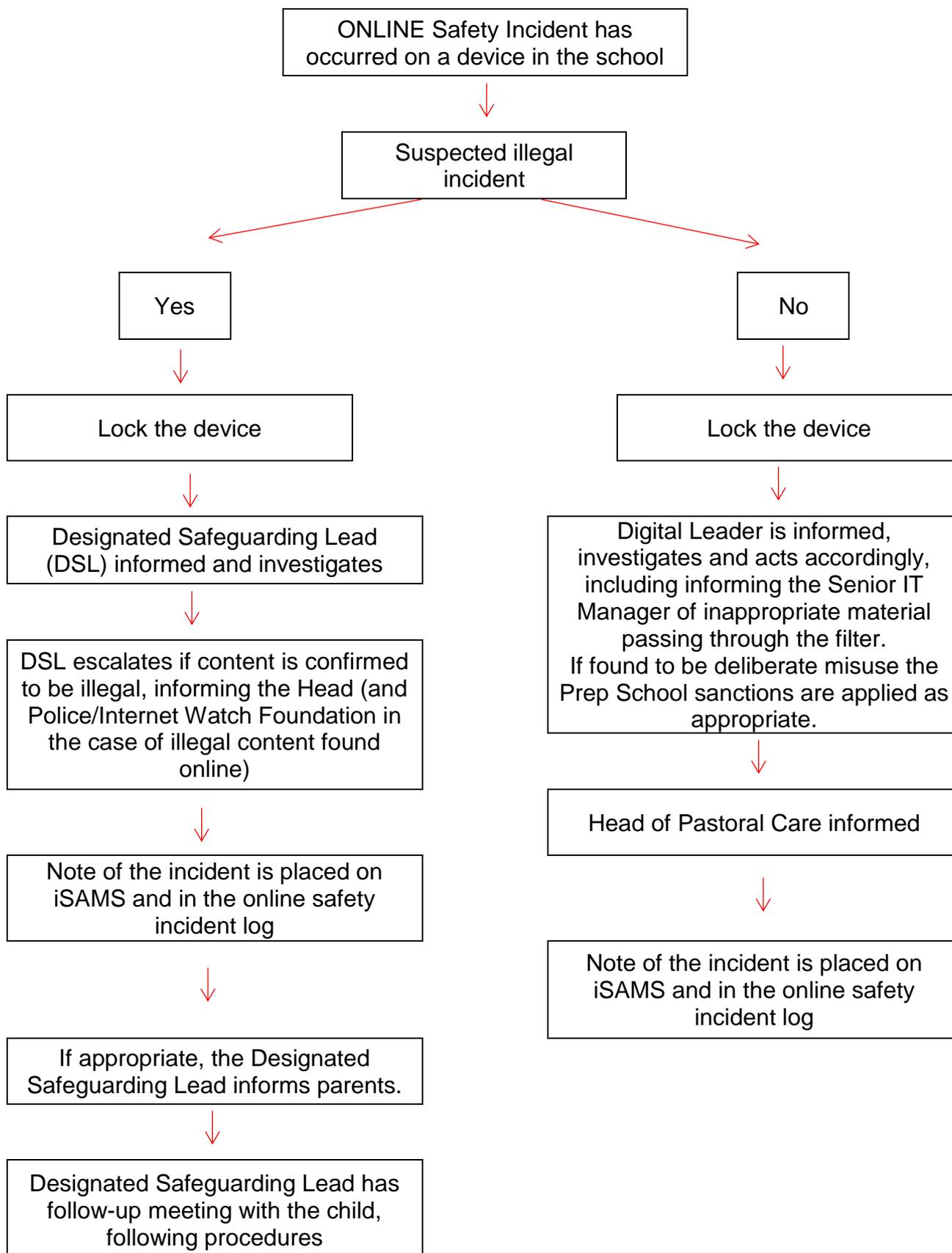
User Actions		Acceptable	Acceptable at certain times	Unacceptable	Unacceptable and illegal
Users shall not visit Internet sites, make, post, download, upload, data transfer, communicate or pass on, material, remarks, proposals or comments that contain or relate to:	child sexual abuse images				✓
	promotion or conduct of illegal acts, eg under the child protection, obscenity, computer misuse and fraud legislation				✓
	adult material that potentially breaches the Obscene Publications Act in the UK				✓
	criminally racist material in UK				✓
	pornography			✓	
	promotion of any kind of discrimination			✓	
	promotion of racial or religious hatred			✓	
	threatening behaviour, including promotion of physical violence or mental harm			✓	
any other information which may be offensive to colleagues or breaches the integrity of the ethos of the school or brings the school into disrepute			✓		
Using school systems to run a private business			✓		
Use systems, applications, websites or other mechanisms that bypass the filtering or other safeguards employed by SWGfL and / or the school			✓		
Uploading, downloading or transmitting commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to third parties, without the necessary licensing permissions			✓		
Revealing or publicising confidential or proprietary information (eg financial / personal information, databases, computer / network access codes and passwords)			✓		
Creating or propagating computer viruses or other harmful files			✓		
Carrying out sustained or instantaneous high volume network traffic (downloading / uploading files) that causes network congestion and hinders others in their use of the Internet			✓		
Online gaming (educational)		✓			
Online gaming (non-educational)			✓		
Online gambling			✓		
Online shopping / commerce		✓			
File sharing		✓			
Use of social networking sites		✓			
Use of video broadcasting eg Youtube		✓			

**ONLINE SAFETY POLICY APPENDIX 3****COMMUNICATIONS**

Communication Technologies that are accepted in school	Staff and other adults			Pupils		
	Allowed	Allowed at certain times	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed with staff permission	Not allowed
Mobile phones may be brought to school	✓				✓	
Use of mobile phones in lessons			✓			✓
Use of mobile phones in social time		✓				✓
Taking photos on mobile phones		✓				✓
Taking photos on camera devices	✓				✓	
Use of hand held devices eg PDAs, PSPs		✓			✓	
Use of personal email addresses in school, or on school network		✓			✓	
Use of school email for personal emails			✓		✓	
Use of chat rooms / facilities		✓				✓
Use of instant messaging		✓				✓
Use of social networking sites		✓			✓	
Use of blogs		✓			✓	
Use of forums	✓			✓		

## ONLINE SAFETY POLICY APPENDIX 4

### ONLINE SAFETY INCIDENT FLOWCHART



**ONLINE SAFETY POLICY APPENDIX 5**

## **EXPECTATIONS AND PROTOCOLS FOR REMOTE SCHOOLING AND ONLINE “ZOOM” MEETINGS AND TEACHING**

Remote Schooling and Online Learning will be implemented if a whole class/year/bubble/school is required to isolate. Zoom sessions will not be provided for single cases of self-isolation as the teachers will be occupied teaching the pupils still in school. However, work will still be put on Seesaw/Google classroom platforms for pupils at home to access if they are well enough.

If parents do not consent to their child accessing Face to Face (Zoom) learning sessions, they should let their child's form teacher and the Digital Lead of their school know in writing. Digital Leads for each school are:

Battersea:	Aarti Malani	<a href="mailto:amalani@thomas-s.co.uk">amalani@thomas-s.co.uk</a>
Clapham:	Anne Davidson	<a href="mailto:adavidson@thomas-s.co.uk">adavidson@thomas-s.co.uk</a>
Fulham:	Catherine Mangan	<a href="mailto:cmangan@thomas-s.co.uk">cmangan@thomas-s.co.uk</a>
Kensington:	Stuart Hammersley	<a href="mailto:shammersley@thomas-s.co.uk">shammersley@thomas-s.co.uk</a>

By agreeing to the Zoom sessions, it is understood that the following protocols will be adopted.

### **Protocols for pupils (with parental support if necessary)**

- It is very important that your workspace is in a neutral space. You must not be in a bedroom and the area should be quiet and without distractions.
- If you have headphones with a microphone these could be helpful
- Ensure you are dressed appropriately for the session.
- Your teacher will send you a link to a Zoom session through your Seesaw or Google Classroom platform.
- This link must be kept private and not shared. Do not put any meeting links on social media or outside the invited group
- Make sure you are ready for the session and click on the link at the appropriate time (with help if needed)
- Wait in the “waiting room” until your teacher invites you to join the session
- You must not record or photograph any aspect of the session
- All your interactions between your teachers and peers must respect the School's Code of Conduct

### **Protocols for parents**

- Please note that Zoom ID names will be that of the pupil, not the parent, for easy identification by teachers
- Parents should be nearby and able to support their child as needed during the Zoom session

- Parents should refrain from including themselves in the Zoom session and must not share or comment on public forums about the sessions, teachers or departments.
- Devices should be linked to a WiFi network to avoid incurring unexpected mobile data costs
- If your child is unwell and unable to access the Zoom sessions, please inform the school office as normal, to enable us to keep a record of attendance.

### **Protocols for teachers**

- Zoom meetings should only be held during the school day (8.30 - 15.30 for Lower School, 8.30 - 16.00 for Prep School)
- Only use the school device that you have been given. Personal devices should not be used
- Set up your working environment that is neutral, quiet, safe and free from distractions
- Ensure you have a consistent and appropriate background. It should be one of the following:
  - the standardised background sent to all staff
  - a background that is relevant to your lesson
  - a background that is neutral and non-specific (if your computer doesn't support uploading the standardised image)
- Post the meeting link securely in Seesaw or Google Classrooms. Do not display it publicly or send by email.
- Be mindful of pupils' access to devices when scheduling meetings
- Ensure you are always in professional dress or kit that is appropriate to the task (eg PE kit for games session)
- Use a new meeting room each time (ie don't use the personal meeting ID)
- Do not add parents and pupils to your contacts list
- Do not start instant new meetings with your personal ID
- Ensure you are on time for the meeting to let pupils out of the "waiting room"
- Ensure that there is always more than just one pupil in any Zoom session (except for Individual Music lessons, Learning Specialist lessons and the occasional drop in sessions or when letting the first pupil out of the waiting room).
- Ensure that the attendees are set to "mute" on joining the session
- Consider the age of the pupils, both in terms of age requirements of the service you are using together with their ability to participate
- Be aware that larger groups may be more challenging during an interactive session so more passive or broadcast approaches may be more suitable
- Establish ground rules in the first session that focus on the protocols and parameters of Zoom learning, using the guidance poster below, and after that, start every session with a brief reminder of the expectations, rules and regulations that keep pupils and teachers safe online and show courtesy to others, eg
  - Put your hand up if you wish to ask a question, just as in class
  - Do not record any part of the lesson
  - How to ask permission to leave a session if needed
- Tell pupils what Plan B is (ie if you do have to abort the meeting, where will the meeting move to and how can pupils rejoin)
- Turn screen sharing off
- Do not share a screen shot of everyone,
- Do not record any lessons
- Turn off your microphone unless it is needed
- Remember that the Thomas's ICT (Acceptable Use) Policy continues to apply
- Ensure you are the last person to leave the meeting or end the meeting so that pupils cannot continue unsupervised.

- Follow up any non-attendance in sessions promptly
- Report any safeguarding concerns to your DSL immediately

### Other guidance

- Work set will aim to be a balance of new content and repetition of key skills
- The work will attempt to replicate the classroom situation as much as possible so will be a balance of written and practical activities
- Pupils should be able to tackle the tasks as independently as possible. However, this will be age dependent as younger pupils will clearly require some support to access the lessons
- All printable activities needed for lessons should be available on the TLP the night before the lesson takes place to allow parents to print what is needed in advance.
- Teachers will respond and give feedback to pupils' work, generally within 72 hours of the post being submitted.

# zoom expectations

<p><b>Be on time</b></p>  <p><b>Use your name when logging into Zoom</b></p> 	<p><b>Be Respectful</b></p>  <p><b>Use the chat feature when given permission by your teacher</b></p> 	<p><b>Use Mute when not speaking</b></p>  <p><b>Use reactions to show your understanding</b></p> 	<p><b>Raise your hand to speak</b></p>  <p><b>Demonstrate Thomas's Values</b></p>  <p><b>Be Kind</b></p>	<p><b>Find a quiet, appropriate work space</b></p>  <p><b>Would your parents be proud of the choices you are making?</b></p> 
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