

## BULLYING, SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET USE POLICY

We aim to provide a safe environment for students and staff alike, to promote this we aim to provide an environment in which students are protected from exposure to illegal, offensive and inappropriate material online, whilst not adversely affecting the learning experience.

### **E-Safety**

This policy aims to:

- Prevent students from being exposed to harmful material online
- Prevent students being subject to harmful online interaction with other users e.g., grooming, radicalization, indoctrination, etc.
- Prevent students from using the internet in a way which could be deemed harmful to themselves or others.

There will most likely be Wi-Fi available on school premises, where classes are being taken. Each venue may have different rules on access and availability. But as a clear overview, the internet must only be used to access websites to assist them in their studies, either with or without the guidance of a teacher. Students may also be allowed to use set computers if they are available, or their own devices, to access other websites. However, staff and students are strictly forbidden to access, either on the school system or their own 3G or 4G networks, any site which is deemed inappropriate, in line with the government's Prevent policy. Such sites include, but are not limited to, those which are racist, sexist, pornographic, homophobic, or are deemed to promote violence or extremist views which contradict core British values.

Firewalls may be in place on the schools/centre's own networks, all staff must be aware that students will have their own 4G networks which may not have the same protection. While we accept that it is impossible to control what a device with a 4G network accesses, it is nonetheless the responsibility of all staff to be alert and ensure, as far as humanly possible, that students do not access any websites which may be prohibited by this policy. The firewalls prevent the user accessing websites in the following categories, on the grounds that they are illegal, potentially illegal, inappropriate, offensive, or potentially threatening to the security of the school's systems:

- Violence/hate/racism
- Nudity
- Pornography
- Weapons
- Adult/mature content
- Cult/occult
- Drugs/illegal drugs
- Illegal skills/questionable skills
- Gambling
- Games
- Military
- Political/advocacy groups
- Hacking/proxy avoidance systems
- Personals and dating

- Usenet news groups
- Freeware/software downloads
- Pay to surf sites
- Advertisement
- Web hosting
- Malware
- Any other potentially illegal / inappropriate website not covered by the above

## Bullying

We promote a zero tolerance to bullying and cyber bullying.

- **Bullying:** Bullying is abusive and will not be tolerated by us, bullying can include any of the following, and more:
  - Offensive remarks, jokes, emails or gestures
  - Unwanted physical contact or advances
  - Offensive remarks about a person's dress or appearance
  - Offensive remarks about a person's race, gender, marital status, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or age
  - Shouting, abusive or intimidating language
  - Spreading malicious rumours, allegations or gossip
  - Excluding, marginalising or ignoring someone
  - Intrusion by pestering, spying or stalking
  - Copying memos that are critical about someone to others who do not need to know

For this reason, bullying in all its forms has been included in our EHUK Safeguarding Handbook. If any such behavior arises, this should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Designated Safeguarding Person.

- **Cyberbullying:** Bullying can happen anywhere, including online. It can be repeated over a long period of time, or a single instance, and can hurt a child both physically and emotionally. Bullying online can happen in various ways and through many platforms, including social media networks, games and mobile phones, and is often referred to as cyberbullying. It can often be intense and overwhelming for a child, as they can feel there is no escape as it can happen wherever they are, day or night, and can often be unseen by anybody else.

In a case of harassment or bullying, the person affected should raise the matter immediately with the director, or a senior member of staff they feel comfortable talking to. This member of staff will investigate the matter and take appropriate action.

If an incident has occurred, and it is considered advisable to inform other members of staff, provided the person who reported the incident agrees, they will be informed, and the incident will be documented and filed in their student or staff file. The director will ensure that the information is communicated to the appropriate people.

*Bullying and harassment are both forms of abuse we take very seriously, more information on safeguarding and these issues can be found in our Safeguarding Policy, which can be found on our website*