Francis Barber Pupil Referral Unit Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for PARENTS

Background

The use of technology is an essential part of all of our lives. At Francis Barber we take our responsibilities for supporting your child to develop skills in using technology very seriously, and their safety and wellbeing are of the utmost priority to us.

We ask all children, young people and adults involved in the life of Francis Barber to read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to outline how we expect them to behave when they are online, and/or using school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices, cloud platforms and social media (both when on school site and outside of school).

Your child has also signed an AUP which will be in their school file.

We tell your children that **they should not behave any differently when they are out of school or using their own device or on a home network.** What we tell pupils about behaviour and respect applies to all members of the school community, whether they are at home or school. We seek the support of parents and carers to reinforce this message and help children to behave in a safe way when online:

"Treat yourself and others with respect at all times; treat people in the same way when you are online or on a device as you would face to face."

Where can I find out more?

You can read Francis Barber's full Online Safety Policy on the website for more detail on our approach to online safety and links to other relevant policies (e.g. Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Policy, etc). If you have any questions about this AUP or our approach to online safety, please speak to your child's Keyworker.

What am I agreeing to?

1. I understand that Francis Barber uses technology as part of the daily life of the school when it is appropriate to support teaching & learning and the smooth running of the school, and to help prepare the children and young people in our care for their future lives.
2. I understand that the school takes every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials, including through behaviour policies and agreements, physical and technical monitoring, education and support and web filtering.

3. School network protections will be superior to most home filtering. However, please note that accessing the internet always involves an element of risk and the school cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the internet and mobile technologies. Schools are asked not to overblock or provide an experience which is so locked down as to block educational content or not train pupils for life in an online world.

4. I understand that internet and device use in school, and use of school-owned devices, networks and cloud platforms out of school is subject to filtering and monitoring. More detail of this can be found in our Online Safety policy, which is available on the school website and a paper copy will be provided on request.

5. I understand and will help my child to use any devices at home in the same manner as when in school, including during any remote learning periods.

6. I will support my child to follow the school's policy regarding bringing devices to school, which includes all personal devices mobile phones etc, which will be stored in the office when the student arrives and will be returned to them when they leave.

7. I understand that my child might be contacted online on Google Classroom, school device texts and school emails by a member of staff, and only about their learning, wellbeing or behaviour. If they are contacted by someone else or staff ask them to use a different app to chat, they will tell another teacher or member of the safeguarding team.

8. I will promote positive online safety and model safe, responsible and positive behaviours in my own use of technology, including on social media: not sharing other's images or details without permission and refraining from posting negative, threatening or violent comments about others, including the school staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, pupils or other parents/carers.

9. Parents are kindly asked not to call pupils on their mobile phones during the school day; urgent messages can be passed via the school office.

10. The impact of social media use is often felt strongly in schools, which is why we expect certain behaviours from pupils when using social media. I will support the school's social media policy and not encourage my child to join any platform where they are below the minimum age.

11. When I visit the school premises, I will keep any online technology in my pocket wherever possible.

12. I will follow the school's online safety policy, which outlines when I can capture and/or share images/videos and WhatsApp groups. I will **not** share images of other people's

children on social media and understand that there may be cultural or legal reasons why this would be inappropriate or even dangerous (see nofilming.lgfl.net). The school sometimes uses images/video of my child for internal purposes such as recording attainment, but it will only do so publicly if I have given my consent on the relevant form, via the parental consent form for use of images/ videos.

13. I will not covertly film or make recordings of any interactions with pupils or adults in the school. If I wish to make any recording, I must make a request to *the Head Teacher/my child's keyworker.*

14. I understand that for my child to grow up safe online, they will need positive input from school and home. I will talk to my child about online safety and refer to parentsafe.lgfl.net for advice and support on safe settings, parental controls, apps and games, talking to them about life online, screentime and relevant topics from bullying to accessing pornography, extremism and gangs, sharing inappropriate content etc...

15. Research tells us that the majority of children are now accessing artificial intelligence (AI) in some form, which is available for free on most mainstream apps and social media platforms. There are some significant risks involved with this, including talking to chatbots, and the use of nudifying apps and image creators to create inappropriate and illegal images/videos. I will talk to my child about these risks. Find out more at parentsafe.lgfl.net

16. I understand that my child needs a safe and appropriate place to do home learning, whether for homework or during times of school closure. When on any video calls with school, my child will be fully dressed and not in bed, and the camera angle will point away from beds/bedding/personal information etc. Where it is possible to blur or change the background, I will help my child to do so.

17. If my child has online tuition, I will refer to the Online Tutors - Keeping Children Safe Poster and undertake necessary checks where I have arranged this privately, ensuring they are registered/safe and reliable, and for any tuition to remain supervised in the room where possible, ensuring my child knows that tutors should not arrange new sessions or online chats directly with them.

18. I understand that whilst home networks are much less secure than school ones, I can apply child safety settings to my home internet and to various devices, operating systems, consoles, apps and games. There are also child-safe search engines e.g. swiggle.org.uk, and YouTube Kids is an alternative to YouTube with age appropriate content. I can also set up SafeSearch to filter explicit content from searches. Find out more at parentsafe.lgfl.net

19. I understand that it can be hard to stop using technology sometimes, and I will talk about this to my child. I will role model healthy behaviours and refer to the principles of the Digital 5 A Day: childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day/
20. I will not attempt to track my child during the school day or on school trips, e.g. with Apple AirTags or similar devices. Not only is this against the terms and conditions of these products, it is unhelpful to the operation of the school, it can broadcast the location of children to passing users and can lead to unnecessary distress amongst parents, e.g. if a school trip has an unannounced change of route or schedule.
21. I understand and support the commitments made by my child in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which they have signed, and I understand that they will be subject to sanctions if they do not follow these rules.
22. I can find out more about online safety at Francis Barber by reading the full Online Safety Policy on the school website. I can talk to my child's keyworker or the DSL if I have any concerns about my child/ren's use of technology, or about that of others in the community, or if I have questions about online safety or technology use in school.

I/we have read, understood and agree to this policy.

Signature/s: _____

Name/s of parent / guardian: _____

Parent / guardian of: _____

Date: _____

Please note that parents may also be interested in the school's approach to the online safety, which are all covered as sections within the overall school Online Safety Policy: School website.