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# **The King's Summer School Online Safety Policy**



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## Introduction

The King's Summer School embraces advances in technology, especially when used to support learning. While the internet and social media are exciting, there is a need to address the dangers and raise awareness of potential abuses of that technology. In the light of recent high-profile cases in the media, such as instances of sexual grooming via social media, and strong evidence of online strategies being employed to radicalise young people, parents might understandably be concerned about a number of internet-related threats to the welfare of their children.

This policy is designed primarily to safeguard students, but also to provide guidance for adults in positions of responsibility. It applies to all members of the summer school community, including students, teachers, activity leaders, house staff, support staff and visitors. It is not limited to the summer school network; it is designed to cover all aspects of online safety that may impact on the summer school community. It should be read in conjunction with the 'Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy' and the 'Staff Handbook'.

We recognise that, due to the quickly evolving nature of this subject, terminology is likely to change frequently. This policy will, therefore, be subject to a thorough review on a yearly basis to address the fast-changing nature of the subject.

As with all aspects of safeguarding and our strong focus on pastoral care, all members of staff have a responsibility to promote awareness and compliance with the terms of this policy.

## Education and Awareness

### Students

During their induction, students are introduced to technical and behavioural aspects of online safety, are made aware of internet protocol whilst at the school and are informed who to speak to if they have any issues or concerns.

### Staff

As part of mandatory Safeguarding training, existing King's staff have received formal online safety training. All staff receive training as part of their induction.



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## Parents

There may be a gap between some parents' awareness of safety issues, and the technical proficiency of their children. Should parents have any concerns or wish to seek guidance on any aspect of online safety, they are encouraged to contact the Director of Holiday Programmes.

Should parents have concerns that their child has been subjected to attempts at sexual grooming, radicalisation, or other inappropriate online contact, they should contact the Summer School and Commercial Director as a matter of high importance. The Summer School and Commercial Director is the Safeguarding Lead and will, where appropriate, liaise with outside agencies, such as social services, the police and in particular the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) service, (details of which can be found at [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)).

Should parents wish to discuss any other aspect of online behaviour, such as possible online gaming addiction, or concerns about the amount of time spent online, they should contact the Summer School and Commercial Director as a matter of importance.

## The school network, social media and related issues

The King's Summer School is responsible for ensuring the school network is as safe and secure as possible, and undertakes to filter content, denying access to material that might prove offensive, inappropriate, or harmful. These filters are reviewed regularly, but we cannot guarantee that such material is always inaccessible. Students are expected to adhere to the 'Student behaviour & Rules Policy'. Filtering is such that it does not 'over block' or restrict access.

We will monitor the use of communications and online behaviour for all users of the system in order to best ensure that the online environment remains both safe and secure.

## Staff

It is the responsibility of all staff to adhere to our Safeguarding policies, and these apply just as much to the use of ICT systems, either those in the school network, or outside of it. The three principles of prevention, protection and support should determine any action taken by a member of staff.



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If members of staff wish to seek guidance on any aspect of online safety, they should consult the Summer School and Commercial Director.

### Communication between staff and students

All staff should maintain an appropriate relationship between themselves and students in accordance with the summer school 'Communications Policy', 'Mobile Phone & Smartwatch Policy', and 'Staff Handbook'. They must also be aware of the potential for this relationship to become blurred if they use social media that are not visible to the summer school. As a result, for communication with students they should only use media that are under the regulation of the school network.

Similarly, all staff should be aware of their use of private mobile telephones, for written or oral communication, with students.

### Professional Standards

Staff should be aware of the potential audience of any social media services that they use in their professional or private capacity and maintain standards of professionalism in keeping with their position in the summer school. They should be especially mindful of those services that allow content to be broadcast without discrimination, and of the potential impact on themselves and the summer school.

### Students

It is a guiding principle of this 'Online Safety Policy' that the safeguarding of all members of the community should be led by awareness of the issues, and a sense of responsibility from the students about how to behave in any given situation.

Whilst the King's Summer School has control of its own network, the wide availability of the internet means that technological restrictions on behaviour can only go so far. The summer school's focus is very much on creating awareness, education and a sense of responsibility.

### Online Bullying

Bullying by text, e-mail, phone call, or social media often leaves no physical scars but can be highly intrusive and hurtful. The summer school strictly enforces its policies with regard to the use of mobile phones and the internet and monitors closely all online communications used on the summer school site. We reserve the right to review electronic material held or accessed by any students in school including their email



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accounts and their mobile phones. Should parents feel that their child is involved in online bullying, they should report it as soon as possible by contacting the Summer School and Commercial Director.

Where any form of online bullying involves another student, whether the bullying or that student is in the summer school or another location or may bring the reputation of the summer school into disrepute, we reserve the right to be involved, whether the electronic material was produced within the summer school or outside.

Students must be aware that some forms and levels of online bullying are illegal and the summer school will inform the police when necessary.

### Radicalisation

Radicalisation is the process by which individuals or groups come to adopt extreme views on political, religious and social matters, notably with the result of violent extremism.

The summer school has a responsibility to protect children from extremist views, and to equip them with the ability to recognise, question and resist any attempts to radicalise during their formative years. It is expected that anyone in the summer school community will bring to the school's attention any attempts to promote violent extremism.

### Reporting Breaches of Online Safety Policy

If any student suspects that a breach of this policy has been made by a member of the summer school community, it is their duty to report it as soon as possible to the Summer School and Commercial Director.

Glossary of Terms used in this Policy:

- Social media – Web-based services that allow individuals to create personal profiles, and communicate with others, either selectively (e.g. Facebook or Instagram) or universally (e.g. Twitter).
- The School Network – The ICT infrastructure, including the Local Area Network and Wireless Local Area Network that allows access to the internet and Local Network.



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## Mobile Devices – Acceptable Use Policy

The King's Summer School embraces the use of technology for educational purposes and staff have available to them a variety of mobile devices to enhance teaching and learning as well as administration in a controlled and meaningful way. We also recognise that students' own mobile devices, especially mobile phones, are a central part of their lives and can be, if used responsibly, a valuable tool for communication and information gathering.

The summer school also has to be aware of the potential misuse of mobile devices and we only allow students to use their own device in particular and in tightly controlled circumstances as outlined in this policy. Reasons for this include:

- Unregulated use of mobile devices during the day disrupts teaching and learning
- Texting and other electronic communication can be used for online bullying
- Use of audio or video capabilities can be malicious and used for offensive purposes
- Mobile devices are often valuable items which can go missing
- They also constitute an attractive target for thieves
- The use of mobile phones overnight leads to unhealthy levels of tiredness
- There is often a link between high mobile phone use and homesickness
- We want to encourage face-to-face communication throughout the summer school

## Procedure

Mobile devices, including mobile phones, tablets and laptops, are brought to The King's Summer School entirely at the owner's risk. The summer school does not accept responsibility for mobile devices.

All students using mobile phones at the summer school are reminded of the necessity to use their phones in a mature and responsible manner.

The following are strictly forbidden:

- Use of mobile devices for the access, storage, and/or distribution of offensive (including pornographic) material
- Taking photos or video or audio recordings of fellow members of the summer school community without express permission for a specific purpose
- Use of mobile devices in any way that may cause embarrassment or discomfort to fellow members of the summer school community



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- Use of 3G, 4G or 5G to access inappropriate material

Any mobile phone which is used inappropriately during the summer school will be confiscated by staff and will be handed to the Summer School and Commercial Director, who will retain the phone for a period of time.

Serious or repeated offences may result in the privilege of using a mobile phone at the summer school being withdrawn completely, or other sanctions being used as set out in the 'Student Behaviour & Rules Policy'.

Students are reminded that if they need to make a phone call in an emergency at any time they can do so by speaking to any member of the summer school team.

## Security and Damages

The student is responsible for the safety and security of any device that they bring to the school and we recommend that skins or cases are used to physically identify your device from others. We also encourage the use of protective cases.

## General Guidelines

- All network access is filtered and students must not attempt to bypass these systems.
- Computers should not be left unattended whilst connected to the internet.
- Any attempts to bypass security to access systems, hardware or data will be a disciplinary matter.
- The student is fully responsible at all times for their own devices. The King's Summer School is not responsible for any loss/damage/theft of a personally owned device.
- The student is responsible for ensuring that the device remains free from viruses and malware, where appropriate installing anti-virus and anti-malware software and security updates.
- All communications sent using King's network will benefit the image of the summer school and use appropriate language.
- Users will never seek to harass or abuse fellow students or members of staff through the use of obscene or offensive language or images, either on the school network itself or via The King's Summer School systems and will report any cases of inappropriate use
- Be aware of the copyright status of any items downloaded or viewed on the internet – if unsure, check with a member of staff.



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- Any downloaded material used in summer school work is to be identified with a credit to the original author.
- If we have reasonable suspicion that the student has violated the terms of this agreement, or other summer school policy, the student's device may be inspected and/or confiscated.

## Additional Information

Should you have any questions, or require additional information about this subject, please contact us direct via email at [summerschool@kings-school.co.uk](mailto:summerschool@kings-school.co.uk).

<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Mike Pengelly (Summer School and Commercial Director)
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