



Dear Parent/Carer

All pupils at Thurnham C E Infant School use computer facilities and internet access, as an essential part of learning as required by the National Curriculum. Your child will have the opportunity to access a wide range of information and communication technology (ICT) resources (in some cases obviously at home). This includes access to:

- Computers, laptops and other digital devices
- Internet which may include search engines and educational websites
- Digital cameras, web cams and video cameras
- Email (at home)
- Games consoles and other games based technologies (at home)
- Mobile Phones (at home)

Thurnham C E Infant School recognises the essential and important contribution that technology plays in promoting children's learning and development, believe it and offers a fantastic range of positive activities and experiences. We do recognise however that this can bring risks. We take your child's online safety seriously and, as such, will take all reasonable precautions, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that pupils are safe when they use our internet and systems.

We recognise however that no technical system can replace online safety education and believe that children themselves have an important role to play in developing responsible behaviour. In order to support the school in developing your child's knowledge and understanding about online safety, we request that you read the attached Acceptable Use Policy with your child, discuss the content with them and return the attached slip.

We understand that your child is too young to give informed consent on his/ her own; however, we feel it is good practice to involve them as much as possible in the decision making process, and believe a shared commitment is the most successful way to achieve this.

Hopefully, you will also find this Acceptable Use Policy provides you with an opportunity to have initial conversations between you and your child about safe and appropriate use of the technology, both at school and at home.

We request that all parents support our approach to online safety by role modelling safe and positive online behaviour and by discussing online safety whenever children access technology at home. Parents can visit the school website (www.thurnham-infant.kent.sch.uk) for more information about our approach to online safety. Full details of the school's online safety policy are available on the school website or on request. Parents/carers may also like to visit the following links for more information about keeping children safe online:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- www.childnet.com
- www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety
- www.saferinternet.org.uk
- www.internetmatters.org

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact the school Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mrs Pateman, Miss Chastney or myself.

Yours sincerely,
Mr C K James
Headteacher



Parent/Carers Acceptable Use Policy

1. I know that my child will receive online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet, both in and out of school.
2. I am aware that any internet and computer use using school equipment may be monitored for safety and security reasons, in order to safeguard both my child and the schools systems. This monitoring will take place in accordance with data protection and human rights legislation.
3. I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.
4. I understand that if the school has any concerns about my child's safety online, either at school or at home, then I will be contacted.
5. I understand that if my child does not abide by the school Acceptable Use Policy then sanctions will be applied in line with the school policies including behaviour, online safety and anti-bullying policy. If the school believes that my child has committed a criminal offence then the Police will be contacted.
6. I, together with my child, will support the school's approach to online safety and will not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset, threaten the safety of or offend any member of the school community.
7. I know that I can speak to the school Designated Safeguarding Leads (Mrs Pateman, Miss Chastney or Mr James), or my child's teacher if I have any concerns about online safety.
8. I will visit the school website www.thurnham-infant.kent.sch.uk for more information about the school's approach to online safety as well as to access useful links to support both myself and my child in keeping safe online at home.
9. I will visit the following websites for more information about keeping my child(ren) safe online:
 - www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents
 - www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety
 - www.internetmatters.org
 - www.saferinternet.org.uk
 - www.childnet.com
10. I will support the school and my child by role modelling safe and positive online behaviour (such as sharing images, text and video responsibly) and by discussing online safety with them when they access technology at home.
11. I have read and discussed Thurnham C E Infant School Acceptable Use Policy with my child.

I have read, understood and agree to comply with the Thurnham C E Infant School Acceptable Use Policy.

Child's Name..... Date.....

Parents Name..... Parent Signature.....