



# West Thornton Primary Academy

**West Thornton Primary Academy regularly reviews and updates all Acceptable Use documents to ensure that they are consistent with the school Online Safety and Safeguarding Policies, which can be found [here](#). We attempt to ensure that all students have good access to digital technologies to support their teaching and learning and we expect all our students to agree to be responsible users to help keep everyone safe and to be fair to others.**

Your child/young person will be asked to read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy tailored to his/her age. Please read this carefully – it is available to view here [KS1 Acceptable Use Policy](#) and [KS2 Acceptable Use Policy](#)

## Parents Acceptable Use Policy

**Internet and IT:** As the parent or legal guardian of the pupil(s) named below, I grant permission for the school to give my daughter / son access to:

- the internet at school
- the school's chosen email system
- Google Classroom and Google Drive
- IT facilities and equipment at the school

I accept that ultimately the school cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the internet and mobile technologies, but I understand that the school takes every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials.

I understand that all internet and device use in school is subject to filtering and monitoring; I understand that all school-owned devices used outside of school may also be subject to filtering and monitoring, and should be used in the same manner as when in school.

**Use of digital images, photography and video:** I understand the school has a clear policy on "The use of digital images and video" and I support this.

I understand that the school will necessarily use photographs of my child or including them in video material to support learning activities.

I accept that the school may use photographs / video that includes my child in publicity that reasonably promotes the work of the school, and for no other purpose.

**Social networking and media sites:** I understand that the school has a clear policy on "The use of social networking and media sites" and I support this. The impact of social media use is often felt in schools, and this is why we expect certain behaviours from pupils when using social media at all times.

I will not take and then share online, photographs, videos etc., about other children (or staff) at school events, without permission.

I understand that the school takes any inappropriate behaviour seriously and will respond to observed or reported inappropriate or unsafe behaviour.

I understand that my son/daughter has agreed in the pupil acceptable-use policy not to search for or share any material that could be considered offensive, harmful or illegal. This might include bullying or extremist/hate/discriminatory content.

I will support the school by promoting safe and responsible use of the internet, online services and digital technology at home. I will inform the school if I have any concerns.

**Name(s) of pupil/student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent / guardian signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

## The use of digital images and video

To comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (which supersedes the 1998 Data Protection Act), we need your permission before we can photograph or make recordings of your daughter / son.

**West Thornton Primary Academy** rules for any external use of digital images are:

**If the pupil is named, we avoid using their photograph.  
If their photograph is used, we avoid naming the pupil.**

Where showcasing examples of pupils' work we only use their first names, rather than their full names.

If showcasing digital video work to an external audience, we take care to ensure that pupils aren't referred to by name on the video, and that pupils' full names aren't given in credits at the end of the film.

Only images of pupils in suitable dress are used.

Staff are not allowed to take photographs or videos on their personal equipment.

Examples of how digital photography and video may be used at school include:

- Your child being photographed (by the class teacher or teaching assistant) as part of a learning activity, e.g. taking photos or a video of progress made by a nursery child, as part of the learning record, and then sharing with their parent / guardian.
- Your child's image being used for presentation purposes around the school, e.g. in class or wider school wall displays or PowerPoint® presentations.
- Your child's image being used in a presentation about the school and its work in order to share its good practice and celebrate its achievements, which is shown to other parents, schools or educators, e.g. in our school prospectus or on our school website. On rare occasions, your child's picture could appear in the media if a newspaper photographer or television film crew attends an event.

Note: If we, or you, actually wanted your child's image linked to their name we would contact you separately for permission, e.g. if they won a national competition and wanted to be named in local or government literature.

## The use of social networking and online media

This school asks its whole community to promote the 'three commons' approach to online behaviour:

- **Common courtesy**
- **Common decency**
- **Common sense**

*How do we show common courtesy online?*

- We ask someone's permission before uploading photographs, videos or any other information about them online.
- We do not write or upload 'off-hand', hurtful, rude or derogatory comments and materials. To do so is disrespectful and may upset, distress, bully or harass.

*How do we show common decency online?*

- We do not post comments that can be considered as being **intimidating, racist, sexist, homophobic or defamatory, or encourage extremist views. This is online bullying** and may be harassment or libel.
- When such comments exist online, we do not forward such emails, tweets, videos, etc. Creating or forwarding such materials can make us liable for prosecution.

*How do we show common sense online?*

- We think before we click.
- We think before we upload comments, photographs and videos.
- We think before we download or forward any materials.
- We think carefully about what information we share with others online, and we check where it is saved and check our privacy settings.
- We make sure we understand changes in use of any websites we use.
- We block harassing communications and report any abuse.

Any actions online that impact on the school and can potentially lower the school's (or someone in the school) reputation in some way or are deemed as being inappropriate will be responded to.

If any member of staff, student or parent/carer is found to be posting libellous or inflammatory comments on the internet or any social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site (all social media have clear rules about content which can be posted and have robust mechanisms to report breaches). Pupils and staff would be disciplined appropriately, and we expect parents to support us in this and behave appropriately themselves.

In serious cases, we will also consider legal options to deal with any such misuse.

The whole school community is reminded of the CEOP process for reporting inappropriate sexual approaches towards children at [thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)