

Budmouth Academy

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for Parents/Carers

Version control	
Acceptable Use Policy – Parents/Carers [2024-09-11]	Reviewed and no changes made
Acceptable Use Policy – Parents/Carers [2023-09-12]	Reviewed and updated. Ref to online learning and lockdowns removed -Sentence added at end about parents calling mobile phones
Acceptable Use Policy – Parents/Carers [2022-09-22]	-New point #4 clarifying to parents which members of staff will interact with their child online and how, as suggested in KCSIE 2022 - Additional references to resources to support parents
Acceptable Use Policy – Parents/Carers [2021-04-19]	Reviewed and updated previous version to align with new DPO appointment.

Date of next review:	September 2026	Owner:	Trust Safeguarding Lead
Type of policy:	Outline template	Approving Body:	EOB

Background

We ask all children, young people and adults involved in the life of Budmouth academy to 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 is available to view on the school website.

We tell your children that **they should not behave any differently when they are out of school or using their own device or 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:

“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 Budmouth Academy's full Online Safety Policy <https://budmouth.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/05/Online-Safety-Policy-2023.pdf> for more detail on our approach to online safety and links to other relevant policies (e.g. Safeguarding Policy, Behaviour Policy, etc). If you have any questions about this AUP or our approach to online safety, please speak to Pete Pring, Vice Principal.

What am I agreeing to?

1. I understand that Budmouth Academy uses technology as part of the daily life of the academy when it is appropriate to support teaching & learning and the smooth running of the academy and to help prepare the children and young people in our care for their future lives.
2. I understand that the academy takes every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials, including behaviour policies and agreements, physical and technical monitoring, education and support and web filtering. However, the academy cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the internet and mobile technologies, which can sometimes be upsetting.
3. I understand that internet and device use in school, and use of academy-owned devices, networks and cloud platforms out of school may be subject to filtering and monitoring. These should be used in the same manner as when in school.
4. I understand that my child might be contacted online on Google Classroom/email and only about their learning, wellbeing or behaviour. If they are contacted by someone else or these staff ask them to use a different app to chat, they will contact their Head of School and/or Pastoral Team.
5. 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 academy staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, pupils or other parents/carers.
6. 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 academy's social media policy and not encourage my child to join any platform where they are below the minimum age.
7. I will follow the academy's digital images and video policy, which outlines when I can capture and/or share images/videos. 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. The academy 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.
8. I understand that for my child to grow up safe online, s/he will need positive input from school and home, so I will talk to my child about online safety and refer to guidance sent by the academy, the NOS platform and parentsafe.lgfl.net for advice and support on safe settings, parental



controls, apps and games, talking to them about life online, screen time and relevant topics from bullying to accessing pornography, extremism and gangs, sharing inappropriate content etc.

- 9. If my child has online tuition I will refer to the Online Tutors – Keeping children Safe poster, I will undertake necessary checks where I have arranged this privately to ensure they are registered/safe and reliable, and for any tuition remain in the room where possible, and ensure my child knows that tutors should not arrange new sessions or online chats directly with them.
- 10. I understand that whilst home networks are much less secure than school ones, I can apply child safety settings to my home internet. Internet Matters provides guides to help parents do this easily for all the main internet service providers in the UK. There are also child-safe search engines e.g. swiggle.org.uk and YouTube Kids is an alternative to YouTube with age appropriate content.
- 11. I understand that it can be hard to stop using technology sometimes, and I will talk about this to my children, and refer to the principles of the Digital 5 A Day: childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day/
- 12. I understand and support the commitments made by my child in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which s/he has signed, and which can be seen here <https://www.budmouth-aspirations.org/about-us/policies/> and I understand that s/he will be subject to sanctions if s/he does not follow these rules.
- 13. I can find out more about online safety at Budmouth Academy by reading the full Online Safety Policy here <https://www.budmouth-aspirations.org/about-us/policies/> and can talk to Pete Pring (Vice Principal) or my child's Head of School 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.

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.

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

**Signature/s:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name/s of parent / guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent / guardian of:** \_\_\_\_\_

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