



**Name of Policy:** Staff (and Volunteer) Acceptable Use Policy Agreement  
**Authors:** Adam Rowland (Adapted from SWGfL)  
**Date of review:** Spring 2026  
**Version:** 3  
**Next Review date:** Spring 2027  
**Links with other policies:** E-safety, Social Media, Behaviour in the Workplace  
**Approval:** Governor Policy Committee 25/2/26 and at FGB: 25/3/26  
**Review:** Annual  
**Woodlands Meed Equalities Statement is available on the website:**  
**[www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk](http://www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk) under policies.**

### **Woodlands Meed's Overall Aims: Building Unique Futures Together**

This includes:

- Providing a safe, secure environment
- Recognising the individual needs and strengths of each child
- Planning and facilitating unique, enjoyable opportunities to maximise learning and potential
- Working with parents/carers and outside agencies to achieve the best for each child
- Ensuring opportunities from the wider community are utilised.

#### **School Policy**

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools/academies and in their lives outside school. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. They also bring opportunities for staff to be more creative and productive in their work. All users should have an entitlement to safe access to the internet and digital technologies at all times.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

- that staff and volunteers will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.

- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that staff are protected from potential risk in their use of technology in their everyday work.

The school will try to ensure that staff and volunteers will have good access to digital technology to enhance their work, to enhance learning opportunities for students / pupils learning and will, in return, expect staff and volunteers to agree to be responsible users.

### **Acceptable Use Policy Agreement**

I understand that I must use school systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the systems and other users. I recognise the value of the use of digital technology for enhancing learning and will ensure that students/pupils receive opportunities to gain from the use of digital technology. I will, where possible, educate the young people in my care in the safe use of digital technology and embed online safety in my work with young people.

#### **For my professional and personal safety:**

- I understand that the school will monitor my use of the school digital technology and communications systems.
- I understand that the rules set out in this agreement also apply to use of these technologies (e.g. laptops, email) out of school, and to the transfer of personal data (digital or paper based) out of school. I have read and understand the Data Protection Policy
- I understand that the school digital technology systems are solely intended for educational use and within the policies and rules set down by the school. I have read and understand the E (Online) safety policy
- I will not disclose my username or password to anyone else, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.
- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident, I become aware of, to a member of the leadership team.

#### **I will be professional in my communications and actions when using Woodlands Meed ICT systems:**

- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without their express permission or written authorisation from the Head Teacher or Chair of Governors.
- I will communicate with others in a professional manner, I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will ensure that when I take and/or publish images of others I will do so with their permission and in accordance with the school's policy on the use of digital / video images. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images, unless I have permission to do so. Where these images are published (eg on the school website it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured).
- I will only use Woodlands Meed social networking sites in school in accordance with the school's Social Media Policy.
- I will only communicate with students/pupils and parents/carers using official school systems.

I WILL ONLY – Use the Woodlands Meed email system and landline phones

I WILL NOT – Use my own personal email, social media accounts

I WILL NOT – Share my mobile phone number.

Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner. I will not engage in any on-line activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.

**The school and the local authority have the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the school:**

- When I use my mobile devices (laptops/tablets/mobile phones/USB devices etc) at Woodlands Meed, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using Woodlands Meed equipment. I will also follow any additional rules set by Woodlands Meed about such use. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date anti-virus software and are free from viruses.
- I will not use personal email addresses on the school ICT systems.
- I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted. If I have any concerns about the validity of the email. I will contact the Woodlands Meed helpdesk ([itsupport@woodlandsmeed.co.uk](mailto:itsupport@woodlandsmeed.co.uk)) to request support. This is due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering / security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings, unless this is allowed in Woodlands Meed policies.
- I will not disable or cause any damage to school equipment, or the equipment belonging to others.
- I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the Woodlands Meed Data Protection Policy (or other relevant policy). Where digital personal data is transferred outside the secure local network, it must be encrypted. Paper based Protected and Restricted data must be held in lockable storage.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or student/pupil data to which I have access, will be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by Woodlands Meed policy to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.
- I will not breach school copyright or any other copyright holders' intellectual property.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened. This should be report to the Woodlands Meed helpdesk ([itsupport@woodlandsmeed.co.uk](mailto:itsupport@woodlandsmeed.co.uk))

**When using the internet in my professional capacity or for school sanctioned personal use:**

- I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).

**I understand that I am responsible for my actions in and out of the school:**

- I understand that this Acceptable Use Policy applies not only to my work and use of Woodlands Meed digital technology equipment in school, but also applies to my use of Woodlands Meed systems and equipment off the premises and my use of personal equipment on the premises or in situations related to my employment by Woodlands Meed

- I understand that the school can retain all information stored by a user for back up purposes which may be used for monitoring purposes.
- I understand that information may be passed to third parties in the case of an investigation eg police, WSCC or legal representatives.
- I understand the use of social media groups not using school systems are the responsibility of the owner and not the school eg: whatsapp. No group should purport to be from the school without written permission of the head teacher or chair of governors.
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Policy Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action, a warning, a suspension, referral to Governors and in the event of illegal activities the involvement of the police. I have read and understand the Behaviour in the Workplace policy.
- I will indemnify the school for any breach of the above undertakings.

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the school digital technology systems (both in and out of school) and my own devices (in school and when carrying out communications related to the school) within these guidelines.

Staff / Volunteer Name: .....

Signed: .....

Date: .....

Date logged in Bromcom \_\_\_\_\_

Date Filed in Personnel file \_\_\_\_\_