

# Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

## for PARENTS/CARERS

### What is an AUP?

We ask all children, young people and adults involved in the life of Watling Park to sign an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), which outlines 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 will be asked to sign an AUP upon joining the school and at the start of each academic year.

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:

**“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 Watling Park's full **Online Safety Policy** 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 the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Headteacher.

### What am I agreeing to?

1. I understand that Watling Park uses technology as part of the daily life of the school when it is appropriate to support teaching & learning and the smooth running of the school, and to help prepare the children and young people in our care for their future lives.
2. I understand that the school takes every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials, including through behaviour policies and agreements, physical and technical monitoring, education and support and web filtering.
3. The school network is subject to filtering and monitoring provided through London Grid for Learning (LGfL). This means anything viewed on a school device or using school networks may be viewed by one of the staff members who are here to keep your children safe. However, accessing the internet always involves an element of risk and the school cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the internet and mobile technologies. Schools are asked not to overblock or provide an experience which is so locked down as to block educational content or not train pupils for life in an online world.
4. I understand that internet and device use in school, and use of school-owned devices, networks and cloud platforms out of school is subject to filtering and monitoring.
5. I understand and will help my child to use any devices at home in the same manner as when in school, including during any remote learning periods.

6. I will support my child to follow the school's policy regarding bringing devices to school – Only agreed independent travellers within Year's 5 and 6 are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school. These are then hand to the teacher upon arrival and then handed back at the end of the school day.
7. 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.
8. I understand that my child might be contacted online on ClassDojo and/or Purple Mash by a member of staff but only about their learning, wellbeing or behaviour. If they are contacted by someone else or staff ask them to use a different app to chat, I will inform the school.
9. 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 school staff, volunteers, governors, contractors, pupils or other parents/carers.
10. 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 this by not encouraging my child to join any platform where they are below the minimum age.
11. I will follow the school's policies on digital images and video policy by capturing or sharing 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 school 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.
12. 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 [parentsafe.lgfl.net](https://parentsafe.lgfl.net) for advice and support on safe settings, parental controls, apps and games, talking to them about life online, screentime and relevant topics from bullying to accessing pornography, extremism and gangs, sharing inappropriate content etc...
13. I understand that my child needs a safe and appropriate place to do home learning, whether for homework or during times of school closure. When on any video calls with school, my child will be fully dressed and not in bed, and the camera angle will point away from beds/bedding/personal information etc. Where it is possible to blur or change the background, I will help my child to do so.
14. If my child has online tuition, I will refer to the [Online Tutors – Keeping children Safe Poster](#) and undertake necessary checks where I have arranged this privately, ensuring they are registered/safe and reliable, and for any tuition to remain in the room where possible, ensuring my child knows that tutors should not arrange new sessions or online chats directly with them.
15. I understand that whilst home networks are much less secure than school ones, I can apply child safety settings to my home internet and to various devices, operating systems, consoles, apps and games. There are also child-safe search engines (e.g. [swiggle.org.uk](https://www.swiggle.org.uk) and YouTube Kids which is an alternative to YouTube) with age appropriate content. Find out more at [parentsafe.lgfl.net](https://parentsafe.lgfl.net)
16. I understand that it can be hard to stop using technology sometimes, and I will talk about this to my child, and refer to the principles of the Digital 5 A Day: [childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day/](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/our-work/digital/5-a-day/)
17. I understand and support the commitments made by my child in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which s/he has signed, and I understand that s/he will be subject to sanctions if s/he does not follow these rules.



18. I can find out more about online safety at Watling Park by reading the Online Safety Policy and can talk to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Headteacher 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.

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

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

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

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

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