

South Cave Kids Club

Safe Internet Use

South Cave Kids Club recognises that the internet is a useful resource for both staff and children, for purposes of research, homework and entertainment. However it must be used with care to ensure that children are kept safe from exposure to harmful material, in accordance with the EYFS safeguarding and welfare requirements and the Prevent Duty.

Parental permission

Children will only be allowed to access the internet at the Club if their parent or carer has given written permission or by accepting on the registration forms.

Guidelines for children

A printed copy of the **SMART** guidelines will be kept next to the computer. The guidelines are explained to any children wishing to access the internet:

- **Safe:** Keep safe by not giving out personal information – such as name, email, phone number, address, or school name – to people who you don't trust online.
- **Meeting:** Never agree to meet anyone you have only met online unless your parent or carer is with you.
- **Accepting:** Do not accept emails or instant messages, or open files, images or texts from people you don't know. They can contain viruses or nasty messages.
- **Reliable:** Not all the information found on the Internet is reliable and people you meet online won't always be telling the truth.
- **Tell:** Tell a member of staff or your parents if someone or something you encounter online makes you feel uncomfortable.

Protecting children

We have put in place the following safeguards to keep children safe whilst accessing the internet on the Club's computers:

- A risk assessment has been undertaken.
- Parental controls have been activated on all computers accessible to children:
 - Google SafeSearch Filtering is turned on
 - Software is installed on computers children use that filters access to website content such as adult content, gambling, social media, and other specific sites.
 - Games that have online play with chat functionality are not allowed on the games consoles.

- The computers are located so that the screens can easily be seen from the rest of the room.
- Staff will keep a close eye on children and the sites that they are accessing when they use the internet.
- The computers have an up to date virus checker and firewall installed.
- The computers' browser histories are regularly checked to monitor which sites are being accessed. All staff and children are informed of this fact.

If, despite the safeguards the Club has put in place, a child encounters harmful material on the internet, or receives inappropriate messages, or experiences online bullying, whilst using the Club's computers, the manager will be informed and the incident will be noted on an **Incident Log** in the child's file. The child's parent will be asked to sign the **Incident Log**. The manager will investigate how to prevent a reoccurrence of the incident.

If staff at the Club become aware that a child is deliberately attempting to access sites containing sexual, extremist or otherwise inappropriate material, or has been shown such material by a third party, they will complete a **Logging a concern** form and refer the matter to the Club's designated Child Protection Officer in accordance with our **Safeguarding Children Policy**.

Related policies

See also: **Safeguarding Children Policy, Social Media Policy, Mobile Phone, Tablet Computers and Wearable Technology Policy**.

This policy was adopted by South Cave Kids Club	Date: 15/09/2025
To be reviewed:	Signed:

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2025): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Safeguarding [3.4 - 3.6]*.