"A small school with a huge heart."

Buildwas Academy

Acceptable Use Policy - Parents

Reviewed: March 2025

Review: March 2026

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) Parents & Carers

Dear Parents / Carers

We ask all children, young people and adults at Buildwas Academy to sign an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) outlining 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). Children also sign an AUP when they start school with us.

Children are reminded that they should not behave any differently when they are out of school or using their own device or home network. Respectful, legal and appropriate behaviour applies to all members of the school community, when at home or in the building.

"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."

You can read our school'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).

What am I agreeing to?

1. I understand that Buildwas Academy 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 behaviour policies and agreements, physical and technical monitoring, education and support and web filtering.

However, the school 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, device use in school and cloud platforms both in and out of school, may be subject to filtering and monitoring.

4. I understand that my child might be contacted online in regard to their Purple Mash, Times Table Rockstars / Numbots, Spelling shed or Nessy accounts via their school email.

They may also be contacted by their class teacher, or another member of staff at school, this will only ever be about their learning, wellbeing or behaviour.

No-one from school will ever ask children or parents to use a different app to chat, if this were to happen, it must be reported.

5. I will promote positive online safety and model safe, responsible and positive behaviours in my own use of technology, including on social media. This includes 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.

6. I will support the school and not encourage my child to join any platform where they are below the minimum age.

7. 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.

8. I understand that the school may sometime use 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.

9. 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 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.

10. I understand that my child needs a safe and appropriate place to do remote learning if school is closed (similar to regular online homework).

11. 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.

12. I am aware that it is not healthy for my child to spend too long on screens or technology. 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/

13. know that I can talk to a member of the Designated Safeguarding Leadership team 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

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I/we have read, understood and agreed to the Acceptable Use Policy.

Name/s of parent /guardian:_____

Signature/s:_____

Parent / guardian of: _____

Date:_____