



## **Internet & Online Communication Policy**

This policy was adopted on 19th August 2022  
This policy is due for review on 19th August 2023

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### POLICY STATEMENT

Art Inc are committed to ensuring online communication and Internet usage is appropriate and safe. Our values underpin our policies.

#### Art Inc's Values

- Empathy (Recognising the impact of web and online media use and the needs of young people)
- Nurture (Establishing healthy & positive relationships)
- Clear Boundaries (Establishing safe and appropriate online usage and communication)
- Dreams

Our bespoke approach and planning of exciting tasks and projects support engagement, which in turn support attendance and behaviour. There is no dress code and students may bring their own electronic devices. We may have supportive discussions about both. We encourage morning sessions to have devices away, where music is played and conversation is encouraged. Our experienced staff support and promote healthy relationships and positive behaviours.

### AIMS & OBJECTIVES

Art Inc will build strong healthy relationships that support and promote healthy online and email usage. Young people will use the internet in a safe and appropriate manner.

## COMMUNICATING ONLINE & EMAILS

Art Inc are aware that there are a variety of ways in which young people may communicate online

- Gaming
- Lifestyle sharing apps, for example, Tiktok, instagram etc
- Messaging apps, for example, Whatsapp, snapchat, Wink etc

## POSITIVE ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Art Inc staff will highlight and praise positive online behaviours. These include:

- Staying connected with family
- Staying connected with real life friends
- Learning new skills from tutorials such as cooking/gardening etc
- Creating own appropriate content
- Positive online role modelling
- Being kind
- Maintaining boundaries
- Using strategies to stay safe online
- Using strategies to avoid scams, fraud & crime
- Identifying falsehood, misrepresentation and unhealthy online behaviours
- Taking breaks from social media

## UNHEALTHY/UNSAFE ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Art Inc staff will highlight and give strategies for unhealthy/unsafe online behaviours. These include:

- Over Sharing
- Sharing their location
- Talking to people they don't know
- Sending or receiving inappropriate content
- Unrealistic sense of body image/reality
- Cyberbullying/trolling
- Obsessive behaviours related to online use/monitoring
- Extremist or Radical viewing/sharing/communication

If Art Inc staff are concerned about a young person's unhealthy/unsafe behaviours we will contact and share this information with the referring establishment/partner school, their family and potentially the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub; MASH or Prevent. If the behaviour is criminal we will inform the police.

Criminal online behaviours will result in the young person forfeiting their right to attend Art Inc. Their place will be non-refundable but maybe utilised by the referring establishment/partner school for another child.

## STAFF

Staff will use the internet and emails in a safe, appropriate and healthy way. Staff will not use names in the subject of an email. Any email/communication containing sensitive information will be encrypted. Please see GDPR policy.

Unsafe, inappropriate, criminal online behaviours will result in dismissal and be reported to the police.

## FINAL STATEMENT

Art Inc is fully committed to the positive use of the internet and online communication.

Please see the link to stay current with trending apps

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

Please see useful websites below for families of SEND to access.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send/>

Please see useful websites below for parents to access.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Please see useful websites below for young people to access.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#children>

[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11\\_18/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_18/)

Please see useful websites below for Staff to access.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#pros>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals/>