The Cherwell School

e-Safety Statement

Online safety

In our setting our students increasingly work online via school computers and other resources. We recognise the many positives for learning that come from the opportunity for students to access a wide variety of internet based content; however, it is also crucial to safeguard our students from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. As such we ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. The filters are constantly updated with community and slang words as they emerge. The system is monitored to assess student activity online. We teach students about safe internet use in Social Wellbeing and ICT lessons as well as having assemblies and tutorials. We offer advice and guidance to parents and carers through our annual information evening and termly wellbeing letters. All staff are given updated training at least once a year as part of safeguarding. Topics covered include:

• Digital footprints
• Social media
• Data Security
• Cyberbullying
• Grooming

Mobile Data

Many students have their own Smart phones and other devices enabling them to access content through their own data. There is a risk that these can be used to avoid the filtering systems in place and gain access to inappropriate material. To safeguard students, the use of mobile phones and other devices which are Internet enabled is banned in KS3 and KS4 at any time during the school day. In Key Stage 5 students are trusted to use their phones during break and lunchtimes in designated areas (Sixth form Common Room) we continue to advise about safe and responsible internet use including use of social media and this is a key part of their induction into sixth form

This statement is supported by our Acceptable Use Policies for staff, governors, visitors and students in order to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It has been approved by the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board and is linked to the following school policies: Behaviour for Learning Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Handheld device policy and Data Protection Policy.

Key staff with oversight of e-Safety are the Deputy Head teacher (student experience and wellbeing), Faculty leader for ICT and Computing and the Network Manager.