

Online Safety Group Terms of Reference

GUST Independent School

Name of Policy	Online Safety Group Terms of Reference
Review Committee	DSL
Last review date	July 2020
Next review date	July 2021

Online Safety Group Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

To provide a consultative group that has wide representation from the [school] community, with responsibility for issues regarding online safety and the monitoring the online safety policy including the impact of initiatives.

2. Membership

2.1. The online safety group will seek to include representation from all stakeholders.

The composition of the group should include:

- SLT member/s
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Teaching staff member
- Support staff member
- Online safety coordinator (DSL)
- Governor
- Parent/Carer
- ICT Technical Support staff (where possible)
- Community users (where appropriate)
- Student representation – for advice and feedback. Student voice is essential in the make-up of the online safety group, but students would only be expected to take part in committee meetings where deemed relevant.

2.2. Other people may be invited to attend the meetings at the request of the Chairperson on behalf of the committee to provide advice and assistance where necessary.

2.3. Committee members must declare a conflict of interest if any incidents being discussed directly involve themselves or members of their families.

2.4. Committee members must be aware that many issues discussed by this group could be of a sensitive or confidential nature

2.5. When individual members feel uncomfortable about what is being discussed they should be allowed to leave the meeting with steps being made by the other members to allow for these sensitivities

3. Chairperson

The Committee should select a suitable Chairperson from within the group. Their responsibilities include:

- Scheduling meetings and notifying committee members;
- Inviting other people to attend meetings when required by the committee;
- Guiding the meeting according to the agenda and time available;
- Ensuring all discussion items end with a decision, action or definite outcome;
- Making sure that notes are taken at the meetings and that these with any action points are distributed as necessary

4. Duration of Meetings

Meetings shall be held annually for a period of no more than one hour. Meetings may be in person or arranged virtually. A special or extraordinary meeting may be called when and if deemed necessary.

5. Functions

These are to assist the Online Safety Lead (or other relevant person) with the following:

- To keep up to date with new developments in the area of online safety

- To (at least) annually review and develop the online safety policy in line with new technologies and incidents
- To monitor the delivery and impact of the online safety policy
- To monitor the log of reported online safety incidents (anonymous) to inform future areas of teaching/learning/training.
- To coordinate consultation with the whole school community to ensure stakeholders are up to date with information, training and/or developments in the area of online safety.

This could be carried out through:

- Staff meetings
- Student/pupil forums (for advice and feedback)
- Governors meetings
- Surveys/questionnaires for students/pupils, parents/carers and staff
- Parents evenings
- Website/VLE/Newsletters
- Online safety events
- Internet Safety Day (annually held on the second Tuesday in February)
- Other methods
- To ensure that monitoring is carried out of Internet sites used across the school
- To monitor filtering/change control logs (e.g. requests for blocking/unblocking sites).
- To monitor the safe use of data across the school
- To monitor incidents involving cyberbullying for staff and pupils

6. Amendments

The terms of reference shall be reviewed annually from the date of approval. They may be altered to meet the current needs of all committee members, by agreement of the majority

The above Terms of Reference for GUST Independent School have been agreed

Signed by: Matthew Milliken

Date: 30th July 2020

Date for review: July 2021