



St Olave's Grammar School Online Safety Protocol

Context

St Olave's Grammar School is committed to providing a safe environment for online learning. This commitment remains the same in the difficult circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. During any periods of remote or blended learning our expectations of staff and pupils also remain the same, and the principles and practices of the school's *Child Protection Policy*, the staff Code of Conduct and *Acceptable Use Agreements* for staff and pupils and the pupil *Code of Conduct for Online Learning* will continue to apply, both to existing and any new online and distance learning arrangements introduced. Staff and pupils must be aware of and have regard to these policies and ensure that they adhere to them at all times.

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of children during any period in which pupils are at home and engaging in remote learning, the school will follow the DfE remote learning guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Given the changes in circumstances to everyday teaching and learning practices, the following guidelines will also apply:

Providing a safe system

- Where the site remains open, the school will continue to ensure that appropriate firewalls, filters and monitoring systems are in place to protect children when they are online on the school's IT systems or recommended resources.
- For the purposes of remote learning, the primary platforms used by St Olave's are:
 - Microsoft Teams
 - Microsoft Stream
 - Microsoft Outlook
- The school has central oversight of and can monitor activity and communications through these platforms. The platforms are restricted to St Olave's users only. Other platforms may be used at times for specific purposes. The online safety implications of any platform are carefully considered before use.
- Some live online sessions are recorded for safeguarding purposes (as set out below).
- When a recording is made access is restricted to participants and the IT Administrator. Access may be granted to others in the event of a complaint, formal investigation, or legal request (this

would be carried out under the auspices of other relevant school policies). Further distribution is strictly prohibited. Recordings will be deleted after 12 months.

- The school has on and offsite technical support dedicated to maintaining a safe and operational online environment.
- The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has day to day responsibility for online safety, and will maintain an active oversight of the management of remote learning from a safeguarding perspective. Procedures will be kept under review and action will be taken swiftly if concerns about the use of technologies arise.
- The school will keep in regular contact with parents, updating them as appropriate with information on how the school is providing remote learning, how they can keep their children safe online, and any new developments.

Remote Learning

There is a wide range of formats for remote learning, including:

- Posting activities for pupils via Teams/Teams Notebook at regular intervals, with pupils posting responses
- Providing recorded material in the form of pre-recorded lessons (either using MS Stream or Powerpoint)
- Directing pupils to web-based resources and activities they can engage with on or offline
- Interactive/live teaching in real time

Teachers will select the most appropriate format for a lesson depending on a number of factors, including: anticipated learning outcomes and the best route to them, the age of the pupils, the size of the group, the nature of the activity, and the degree of support required; and taking into account the need to ration screen time and provide a variety of learning experiences within a lesson, across the school day/week and through a scheme of work.

Live online teaching

Live online teaching is an important part of this overall package for pupils of all ages. Interaction with a teacher is an important part of the learning process, and whilst online contact cannot replicate face to face contact, live sessions are particularly helpful as they allow contemporaneous communication, with students able to respond to staff questions – and vice versa. Live contact is an important part of pastoral support, and provides pupils with a direct interface with a familiar trusted figure at a time of significant change and uncertainty. Live classes also give pupils the opportunity to interact with peers and maintain important social connections during a period when they could otherwise become isolated.

However, it should be remembered that live online teaching remains only one of several valid approaches and, for the reasons set out above, it should be balanced alongside learning opportunities in a range of other formats.

In order to safeguard both pupils and staff, live online sessions must be conducted following the protocols set out below.

Protocols for staff in relation to remote learning:

- Only use school approved platforms; do not use social media in communicating with pupils
- Reinforce online safety messages regularly in your teaching
- Bear in mind the current circumstances and how they are affecting children and families when setting expectations of pupils
- Consider online safety when sharing resources – vet websites and videos/apps/software carefully, and bear in mind that the home environment will not have the same content filtering systems as at school. If introducing new apps and resources, ensure these meet GDPR requirements. Contact your Head of Department or a member of SLT for further guidance if you are uncertain.
- If concerned about online safety/resources, check with the DSL or another member of SLT
- Ensure that passwords and secure information – such as log-ins for SIMS/CPOMS – are kept confidential
- Adhere to copyright and GDPR guidelines
- Continue to look out for signs that a child may be at risk – which may differ from typical triggers in a school environment. Report any concerns to the DSL without delay in the usual way
- Do not provide pupils or parents with personal contact details – email, home or mobile numbers, details of web-based identities etc.
- Do not arrange to meet students or ask them to deliver work to your home
- Remain professional and objective in all email and other forms of correspondence
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In relation to live online teaching:

- Keep a record/log of live online lessons – date and time, attendance (via Teams attendance report), what was covered, any incidents. Any serious incidents should be reported in the usual manner depending on the nature of the issue
- Maintain professional conduct during live streaming – if you are teaching from school, teach from your timetabled classroom. If you are teaching from home, dress appropriately, consider your surroundings (background, other household members who may come into view etc.) and blur if necessary, and remember that your microphone may be on
- Maintain the same boundaries and insist on the same standard of behaviour as in a school setting. Make specific protocols clear at the outset, e.g. muting of microphones at appropriate times, use of the chat function etc
- Distribution of the recording beyond participants who have automatic access is strictly prohibited.

Reporting an issue for staff:

- Any child protection or safeguarding concern must be reported to the DSL without delay
- Concerns about the safety of procedures, behaviours or use of technology should be referred to the DSL
- Routine queries about the use of apps or online materials should be addressed to your Head of Department or IT support depending on the nature of the issue
- UKSIC's Professionals Online Safety Helpline is a good source of external advice

Protocols for pupils in relation to remote learning:

- Always log on through your school account and use your school email for school business
- Do not make recordings, take screenshots/screengrabs or photographs, or store or distribute footage of teachers or other pupils

- Be aware that some live online sessions may be recorded by the teacher
- Whilst pupils should not have their cameras on for classroom lessons, where parental permission has been given for broadcast of image in respect of instrumental lessons, dress appropriately for online lessons (i.e. full school uniform). Ensure that you have a safe and appropriate place to participate from. Blur your background if necessary
- Follow the school rules for conduct during online lessons as if you were in school
- Do not undermine in any way the technology used to offer video lessons
- If you have concerns about online safety, or if you feel you are being bullied, talk to someone you trust and notify the school

Reporting an issue for pupils:

- Speak to a trusted adult
- Email the school at rmaxwe@saintolaves.net
- Contact Childline 0800 1111 or click CEOP <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

The role of parents

- It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that pupils are monitored in their use of technology for remote learning as they would ordinarily do when their children are using technology at home. Monitoring screen time is particularly important in the current circumstances
- While students are working from home they are connected to their home broadband so their traffic doesn't go through the school's firewall – parents will therefore need to ensure that age-appropriate filtering or safe search is enabled at home. Information on setting this up can be found at: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advicecentre/parents-and-carers/parental-controls-offered-your-home-internet-provider> and here: <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>
- Communication during online learning is exclusively between students and their teacher. Parents should communicate with school/staff in the usual manner, via school email or telephone during a period of remote learning
- Any parent wishing to supplement the school's remote learning with support from online companies or individual tutors should be mindful of the importance of using reputable organisations or individuals who can provide evidence that they are safe and can be trusted to have access to children – further information can be found in the sources of support below
- Social media, networking apps and gaming platforms are particularly popular at the moment. Parents are advised to be mindful of age restrictions and to oversee their child's social media activity
- The school will update parents regularly on online safety matters. Parents are requested to heed the school's advice and contact the school if they have concerns or encounter risk online

Reporting an issue for parents:

- Contact the DSL for any safeguarding, child protection or online safety concern
- Email the school at rmaxwe@saintolaves.net
- You can also report an incident to CEOP
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/> or Report Harmful Content <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>
- Contact your child's subject teacher or Form Tutor for routine queries about remote learning

- See the sources of support and advice below

Sources of support and advice

UK Safer Internet Centre <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/> - includes a range of activities for children of different ages

CEOP / Thinkuknow <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> - includes a range of home activity packs

National Online Safety <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> - Good guides for parents and staff

Parent Info <https://parentinfo.org/> - specifically aimed at parents

Internet Matters <https://www.internetmatters.org/> - specifically aimed at parents

Net Aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> - NSPCC's advice on online matters