# **Appendix A4 - Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement Template**

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within schools and outside school. These technologies provide powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. They can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

### This acceptable use policy is intended to ensure:

* that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
* that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
* that parents and carers are aware of the importance of online safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people with regard to their on-line behaviour.

The school will try to ensure that learners have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the learners to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the learner acceptable use agreement is attached to this permission form, so that parents/carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.

Parents are requested to sign the permission form below to show their support of the school in this important aspect of the school’s work. (Schools will need to decide whether or not they wish parents to sign the acceptable use agreement on behalf of their child)

### Permission Form

Parent/Carers Name:

Learner Name:

As the parent/carer of the above learners, I give permission for my son/daughter to have access to the digital technologies at school.

**Either: (KS2 and above)**

*I know that my son/daughter has signed an acceptable use agreement and has received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.*

**Or: (KS1)**

*I understand that the school has discussed the acceptable use agreement with my son/daughter and that they have received, or will receive, online safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of technology and the internet – both in and out of school.*

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that my son’s/daughter’s activity on the systems will be monitored and that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the acceptable use agreement.

I will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home and will inform the school if I have concerns over my child’s online safety.

As the schools is collecting personal data by issuing this form, it should inform parents/carers as to:

|  |
| --- |
| This form (electronic or printed) |
| Who will have access to this form. |
| Where this form will be stored. |
| How long this form will be stored for. |
| How this form will be destroyed. |

Signed:

Date:

### Use of Digital/Video Images

The use of digital/video images plays an important part in learning activities. Learners and members of staff may use digital cameras to record evidence of activities in lessons and out of school. These images may then be used in presentations in subsequent lessons.

Images may also be used to celebrate success through their publication in newsletters, on the school website and occasionally in the public media. Where an image is publicly shared by any means, only your child’s *\*delete as relevant\** first name/initials will be used.

The school will comply with the Data Protection Act and request parent’s/carer’s permission before taking images of members of the school. We will also ensure that when images are published that the young people cannot be identified by the use of their names.

In accordance with guidance from the Information Commissioner’s Office, parents/carers are welcome to take videos and digital images of their children at school events for their own personal use (as such use in not covered by the Data Protection Act). To respect everyone’s privacy and in some cases protection, these images should not be published/made publicly available on social networking sites, nor should parents/carers comment on any activities involving other learners in the digital/video images.

Parents/carers are requested to sign the permission form below to allow the school to take and use images of their children and for the parents/carers to agree.

As the schools is collecting personal data by issuing this form, it should inform parents/carers as to:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| This form (electronic or printed) | The images |
| Who will have access to this form. | Where the images may be published. Such as; Twitter, Facebook, the schools website, local press, etc. (see relevant section of form below) |
| Where this form will be stored. | Who will have access to the images. |
| How long this form will be stored for. | Where the images will be stored. |
| How this form will be destroyed. | How long the images will be stored for. |
|  | How the images will be destroyed. |
|  | How a request for deletion of the images can be made. |

### Digital/Video Images Permission Form

Parent/Carers Name: Learner Name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| As the parent/carer of the above learner, I agree to the school taking digital/video images of my child/children. | Yes/No |
| I agree to these images being used: |  |
| * to support learning activities.
 | Yes/No |
| * in publicity that reasonably celebrates success and promotes the work of the school.
 | Yes/No |
| Insert statements here that explicitly detail where images are published by the schools | Yes/No |
| I agree that if I take digital or video images at, or of school events which include images of children, other than my own, I will abide by these guidelines in my use of these images.  | Yes/No |

Signed:

Date:

### Use of Cloud Systems Permission Form

Schools that use cloud hosting services may be required to seek parental permission to set up an account for learners.

Schools will need to review and amend the section below, depending on which cloud hosted services are used.

The school uses *\*insert cloud service provider name\** for learners and staff. This permission form describes the tools and learner responsibilities for using these services.

The following services are available to each learner as part of the school’s online presence in *\*insert cloud service provider name\**

Using *\*insert cloud service provider name\** will enable your child to collaboratively create, edit and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other learners and members of staff. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any internet-connected computer.

The school believes that use of the tools significantly adds to your child’s educational experience.

As the school is collecting personal data and sharing this with a third party, it should inform parents/carers about:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| This form (electronic or printed) | The data shared with the service provider |
| Who will have access to this form. | What data will be shared |
| Where this form will be stored. | Who the data will be shared with |
| How long this form will be stored for. | Who will have access to the data. |
| How this form will be destroyed. | Where the data will be stored. |
|  | How long the data will be stored for. |
|  | How the data will be destroyed. |
|  | How a request for deletion of the data can be made. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Do you consent to your child to having access to this service?  | Yes/No |

Learner Name: Parent/Carers Name:

Signed: Date:

### Use of Biometric Systems in England and Wales

If the school uses biometric systems (e.g. fingerprint/palm recognition technologies) to identify children for access, attendance recording, charging, library lending etc it must (under the “Protection of Freedoms” and Data Protection legislation) seek permission from a parent or carer.

The school uses biometric systems for the recognition of individual children in the following ways (the school should describe here how it uses the biometric system).

Biometric technologies have certain advantages over other automatic identification systems as learners do not need to remember to bring anything with them (to the canteen or school library) so nothing can be lost, such as a swipe card.

The school has carried out a data privacy impact assessment and is confident that the use of such technologies is effective and justified in a school context.

No complete images of fingerprints/palms are stored and the original image cannot be reconstructed from the data. Meaning that it is not possible, for example, to recreate a learner's fingerprint or even the image of a fingerprint from what is in effect a string of numbers.

As the school is collecting special category personal data and *\*delete as appropriate\** sharing this with a third party, it should inform parents/carers about:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| This form (electronic or printed) | The data shared with the service provider |
| Who will have access to this form. | What data will be shared |
| Where this form will be stored. | Who the data will be shared with |
| How long this form will be stored for. | Who will have access to the data. |
| How this form will be destroyed. | Where the data will be stored. |
|  | How long the data will be stored for. |
|  | How the data will be destroyed. |
|  | How consent to process the biometric data can be withdrawn. |

Parent/Carers Name:

Learner Name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| As the parent/carer of the above learner, I agree to the school using biometric recognition systems, as described above. | Yes/No |
| I understand that the images cannot be used to create a whole fingerprint/palm print of my child and that these images will not be shared with anyone outside the school. | Yes/No |

Signed:

Further guidance

* Each parent of the child should be notified by the school that they are planning to process their child's biometrics and notified that they are able to object.
* In order for a school to process children's biometrics at least one parent must consent and no parent has withdrawn consent. This needs to be in writing.
* The child can object or refuse to participate in the processing of their biometric data regardless of parents’ consent.
* Schools must provide reasonable alternative means of accessing services for those learners who will not be using an automated biometric recognition system.
* Permission only needs to be collected once during the period that the learner attends the school, but new permission is required if there are changes to the biometric systems in use.

### Learner Acceptable Use Agreement

On the following pages we have copied, for the information of parents and carers, the learner acceptable use agreement.

It is suggested that when the learner AUA is written that a copy should be attached to the parents/carers acceptable use agreement to provide information for parents and carers about the rules and behaviours that learners have committed to by signing the form.

Copyright of these policy templates is held by SWGfL. Schools/colleges and other educational institutions are permitted free use of the policy templates for the purposes of policy review and development. Any person or organisation wishing to use the document for other purposes should seek consent from SWGfL (onlinesafety@swgfl.org.uk) and acknowledge its use.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information included in this document is accurate, as at the date of publication in September 2023. However, SWGfL cannot guarantee its accuracy, nor can it accept liability in respect of the use of the material.

© SWGfL 2023