



St Mark's C of E Junior School

Growing together, becoming all we are created to be

Internet Filtering and Monitoring Policy (KS2)

1. Purpose

St Mark's Church of England Junior School recognises the importance of the internet and digital technologies as powerful tools for learning and communication. However, the school also acknowledges its statutory duty to safeguard pupils and protect them from exposure to inappropriate, harmful or illegal online content.

This policy outlines how internet access is filtered, monitored and managed to ensure pupils can use digital systems safely, responsibly and effectively.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All school-owned laptops and devices
 - All users accessing the school network
 - All internet use during the school day and for supervised educational activities
 - All pupils in **Key Stage 2 (Years 3–6)**
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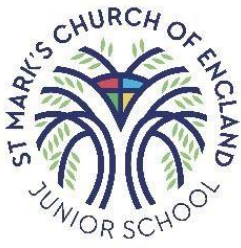
3. Filtering System

St Mark's C of E Junior School uses **SurfProtect** as its web filtering and monitoring solution.

SurfProtect:

- Filters internet content in real time
- Blocks access to age-inappropriate, harmful or unsuitable websites
- Monitors online searches and website access
- Generates alerts when potentially concerning activity occurs

Filtering is designed to be **proportionate**, ensuring pupils are protected while still allowing access to suitable educational content.



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4. Monitoring and Alerts

SurfProtect provides **real-time safeguarding alerts**, which are automatically sent to the **Deputy Headteacher's school email address**.

Alerts may be generated for:

- Access to blocked or high-risk websites
- Inappropriate or concerning search terms
- Persistent attempts to bypass filtering controls

Where devices are logged into using individual pupil accounts, **SurfProtect identifies the named user**, the device used, the search terms entered and the website accessed.

5. User Identification and Logins

- **Year 6 pupils** currently use individual user logins on school laptops.
- From **Summer Term 2026**, individual logins will be extended to **Year 5 pupils**.
- Other year groups continue to have supervised access using shared or class logins where appropriate.

Individual logins improve safeguarding by enabling clear identification of online activity and supporting effective investigation where necessary.

6. Incident Management and Investigation

All SurfProtect alerts are logged within the system and reviewed by the Deputy Headteacher or designated safeguarding lead.

Each alert is:

- **Reviewed promptly**
- **Assigned a status**, either:
 - Closed (no safeguarding concern identified), or
 - Escalated for further investigation

The system provides full contextual information, including:



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- The user involved (where logged in)
- Search terms used
- Websites accessed
- Date and time of activity

Where concerns are identified, actions may include:

- Discussion with the pupil
- Contact with parents or carers
- Sanctions in line with the Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding actions in line with statutory guidance

All actions are recorded in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

7. Responsibilities

Governing Body

- Ensures appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place
- Supports the school in meeting statutory safeguarding duties

Headteacher

- Has overall responsibility for online safety and filtering arrangements

Deputy Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead

- Receives and reviews SurfProtect alerts
- Manages investigations and follow-up actions
- Ensures concerns are recorded and escalated where required

Staff

- Supervise pupils when using the internet
- Report concerns immediately to safeguarding leads
- Model safe and responsible online behaviour



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Pupils

- Use the internet responsibly, following the Acceptable Use Policy
 - Report anything that worries or upsets them online
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8. Staff Training and Awareness

All staff receive regular safeguarding and online safety training, including:

- Understanding filtering and monitoring systems
 - Recognising online risks
 - Knowing how to report concerns
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9. Review and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually or earlier if:

- New safeguarding guidance is issued
- Filtering systems change
- A significant online safety incident occurs

Signed:  (Headteacher)

Date of this Policy: Spring 2026

Next Review: Spring 2027

Responsibly: SLT & Full Governing Board

Applies to: All staff, pupils, governors, volunteers and visitors

Related policies: Safeguarding & Child Protection, Behaviour Policy, Acceptable Use Policy, Online Safety Policy