

# **Online Safety Policy**

This policy was adopted in August 2023

This policy is due to be reviewed in August 2024

The person responsible for the implementation of this policy is the College Principal

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to ensure that this policy is reviewed and updated annually.

# Online safety policy

Online safety is of paramount importance in today's digital age, especially in educational institutions like Greene's. A comprehensive policy for online safety helps to ensure that students, staff and tutors, and the entire college community can use digital resources and platforms securely, productively and responsibly.

The Greene's online safety policy includes:

**1. Policy statement:** Articulate Greene's commitment to providing a safe online environment for all members of the community. This emphasizes the importance of responsible online behaviour, respect for others, and the consequences of violating this policy.

**2. Roles and responsibilities:** Defines the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, including students, staff and tutors and parents/guardians.

**3.** Acceptable use: Specifies acceptable use and the types of activities that are prohibited, such as cyberbullying, harassment, accessing inappropriate content, hacking, and any other form of online misconduct.

**4. Online conduct:** Details expectations for respectful and responsible online conduct; encourages digital etiquette, proper communication, and the importance of using technology for educational and productive purposes.

**5. Privacy and data protection:** Explains the Greene's approach to handling personal information and data; emphasizing compliance with data protection laws and regulations. Provides guidelines for safeguarding personal information and respecting the privacy of individuals.

**6. Cyberbullying and harassment:** Explicitly addresses cyberbullying and harassment, stating that such behaviour will not be tolerated. Procedures are provided for reporting incidents and outlining the steps Greene's takes to investigate and address reported cases.

**7. Access to Greene's Online:** Details the procedures for granting and revoking access to Greene's Online and emphasizes the importance of strong passwords.

**8. Responsible content:** Students are educated about intellectual property rights, plagiarism, and proper citation when using online resources. Originality is encouraged and guidelines provided for creating and sharing content in compliance with copyright laws.

**9. Education and training:** Ongoing education on online safety is provided to students, tutors and staff, and parents/guardians.

**10. Reporting and response:** An outline of the steps Greene's takes to address reported incidents, including disciplinary actions when necessary.

**11. Review and updates:** This policy is reviewed annually and feedback from the Greene's community is encouraged.

**12. Resources:** Includes a list of online safety resources, websites, and helplines that students, tutors and staff, and parents/guardians can access for additional support and information.

# Online safety policy statement

At Greene's, we are committed to providing a safe and secure online environment for all members of our community, including students, staff and tutors, and parents/guardians. In today's digital age, we recognize the importance of responsible and respectful online behaviour. We are dedicated to fostering a culture of online safety where online resources and tools are used ethically, respectfully and for educational purposes. This policy outlines our principles, guidelines, and expectations to ensure a positive and secure online experience for everyone.

### **Our Commitments:**

- 1. **Respect and inclusivity:** We promote a culture of respect and inclusivity in all online interactions. Discrimination, bullying, harassment, or any form of disrespectful behaviour is not tolerated, any such incidents will be promptly addressed.
- 2. **Privacy and data protection:** We are dedicated to safeguarding all personal information. We adhere to data protection laws and regulations and take measures to ensure the secure handling of personal information.
- 3. **Cyberbullying and harassment:** We condemn cyberbullying and harassment in all forms. Greene's is a safe space, both offline and online, and we have procedures in place to address and mitigate instances of cyberbullying or harassment.
- 4. **Digital etiquette:** We encourage digital etiquette and responsible online communication. All members of the Greene's community are expected to communicate and collaborate online with the same level of courtesy, respect, and professionalism as when face-to-face.
- 5. Access and security: We prioritise the security of our digital infrastructure called Greene's Online. Users are responsible for maintaining the security of their accounts with strong passwords.
- 6. **Intellectual property and copyright:** We educate our community about intellectual property rights, copyright laws, and proper citation when using online resources.
- 7. Education and training: We provide ongoing education and training on online safety. Workshops, seminars, and resources are offered to empower members of the Greene's community with the knowledge and skills to work and participate safely online.
- 8. **Reporting and response:** We provide clear channels for reporting online safety incidents or concerns. All reports are promptly investigated, and appropriate actions taken to address the situation, including disciplinary measures if necessary.
- 9. **Policy review:** This online safety policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its relevance and effectiveness in the ever-evolving digital landscape. We welcome feedback from our community and will make necessary updates as needed.

By adhering to this online safety policy, we aim to create a supportive, secure, and productive online environment where all members of the Greene's community can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Date of Policy Adoption: August 2023

Policy Review Date: August 2024

For any enquiries or to report an online safety concern, please contact the Online Safety Officer, Zak Raja (<u>zakkaria.raja@greenes.org.uk</u>, (+44) (0) 1865 410 566).

# Roles and responsibilities

#### Greene's

- 1. **Education:** Greene's provides a range of educational opportunities and resources about online safety and that address various aspects of digital security and responsible online behaviour. Continuous efforts are made to raise awareness about cyberbullying, harassment, privacy protection, and other relevant topics.
- 2. **Support:** Greene's provides support to those who experience or witness online safety incidents. Reporting mechanisms are established to allow individuals to report concerns confidentially and without fear of retaliation. Guidance is available to those affected by online safety issues addressing their emotional and psychological well-being.
- 3. **Collaboration:** Greene's collaborates with parents/guardians to reinforce safe online practice at home and to foster a united effort in creating a safe online environment for students.
- 4. **Review and improvement:** Greene's regularly reviews this online safety policy to adapt to new challenges and emerging technologies. Feedback from all members of the Greene's community is welcomed.

By fostering a collaborative and informed approach to online safety, Greene's aims to create an environment where all members of the Greene's community can harness the benefits of online interaction while minimizing risks

#### Students

- 1. **Responsible use:** Students are expected to use Greene's Online responsibly, adhering to the acceptable use guidelines outlined in this policy.
- 2. **Behaviour:** Students are expected to engage in positive online behaviour, demonstrating respect for others, and avoiding cyberbullying, harassment, or inappropriate content.
- 3. **Reporting:** Students should promptly report any online safety concerns, incidents of cyberbullying, or inappropriate behaviour to the designated authorities within Greene's.

#### Staff and tutors

- 1. **Educational support:** Staff and tutors play a crucial role in educating students about online safety, digital citizenship, and responsible technology use.
- 2. **Supervision:** Staff and tutors should monitor online interactions in educational contexts, ensuring a safe and respectful digital environment.
- 3. **Reporting and response:** Staff and tutors are responsible for promptly reporting and addressing any online safety incidents they observe or that are reported to them.

### Parents/Guardians:

- 1. **Guidance:** Parents/guardians are encouraged and expected to guide and educate their children about responsible online behaviour, digital etiquette, and the potential risks associated with online activities.
- 2. **Communication:** Parents/guardians should maintain open lines of communication with their children and Greene's, promptly reporting any online safety concerns.
- 3. **Collaboration:** Parents/guardians are invited to collaborate with Greene's in promoting online safety and attending workshops or seminars.

# Acceptable use

Use of Greene's Online is to facilitate educational activities, collaboration and communication. All users are expected to adhere to the following guidelines for acceptable use:

- 1. **Educational and productive activities:** Use Greene's Online for educational purposes, including for administrative support and reviewing progress reports. Use the student log to engage in collaborative discussion and learning-related communication.
- 2. **Respectful communication:** Communicate online with courtesy and respect, maintaining a professional tone in all interactions. Use appropriate language and avoid offensive or disrespectful behaviour.
- 3. **Privacy and data protection:** Respect the privacy of others by not sharing personal information without consent. Safeguard your own personal information and use a strong password to access your Greene's Online account.
- 4. **Copyright:** Adhere to copyright laws when using online resources and/or uploading information, ensuring proper attribution and citation.
- 5. **Online collaboration:** Use the student log on Greene's Online for collaborative purposes, sharing knowledge, resources, and ideas for educational purposes.
- 6. **Reporting concerns:** Report any suspicious or inappropriate online behaviour or content promptly to designated authorities within Greene's.

#### **Prohibited Activities**

The following activities are strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action:

- 1. **Cyberbullying and harassment:** Engaging in cyberbullying, harassment, or online intimidation or humiliation of others.
- 2. **Inappropriate content:** Accessing, sharing, or creating content that is offensive, discriminatory, sexually explicit, or otherwise inappropriate.
- 3. **Unauthorized access:** Attempting to gain unauthorized access to Greene's Online, including by hacking, cracking, or bypassing security measures.
- 4. **Malicious software:** Introducing or spreading malware, viruses, worms, or any other harmful software.
- 5. **Impersonation:** Falsely representing oneself or others online, including impersonating another individual.
- 6. Illegal activities: Engaging in online conduct that violates applicable law.
- 7. **Plagiarism and copyright infringement:** Engaging in plagiarism, which includes presenting someone else's work as one's own without proper attribution. Violating copyright laws by using copyrighted materials without permission or proper citation.
- 8. **Disruption:** Disrupting the normal operation of Greene's Online.

### Consequences

Violations will result in appropriate disciplinary action, which may include warnings, temporary or permanent loss of access to Greene's Online, and further consequences as determined by college policies and regulations.

# **Online Conduct**

At Greene's, we emphasize the importance of respectful and responsible online conduct to create a positive and inclusive digital environment. All members of the Greene's community are expected to uphold the following expectations when engaging in online activities:

- 1. **Digital etiquette:** Use polite and courteous language in all online interactions, treating others with respect and consideration. Especially, avoid offensive language, hate speech, or any form of discriminatory or derogatory comments.
- 2. Empathy and inclusivity: Show empathy and understanding towards others' opinions, backgrounds, and perspectives. Promote and engage in open-minded discussion.
- 3. **Thoughtful communication:** Engage in thoughtful and meaningful discussion and contribute constructively to online conversations where appropriate. Avoid spamming, excessive capitalization, or the use of excessive emojis.
- 4. **Critical thinking:** Evaluate online information critically and avoid spreading misinformation or rumours. When engaging in debate, focus on facts and well-reasoned argument.
- 5. **Privacy and consent:** Respect the privacy of others by refraining from sharing personal information without explicit consent. Obtain permission before tagging or sharing content that involves other individuals.
- 6. **Positive tone and intent:** Ensure your online communication reflects a constructive, usually positive, tone and intent, promoting a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.
- 7. **Conflict resolution:** Address disagreements or conflicts in a respectful manner, seeking resolution through constructive dialogue. Especially, avoid engaging in public disputes or escalating conflicts online.
- 8. Educational and productive use: Prioritize spending time online for educational and productive purposes. Minimize distractions and avoid engaging in non-educational activities during time allocated for study.
- 9. **Time management:** Responsibly allocate reasonable and appropriate time for online activities while also maintaining a healthy balance with offline activities.
- 10. **Cyberbullying prevention:** Refrain from engaging in any form of cyberbullying, harassment, or online intimidation. Speak out against cyberbullying and support those who may be affected by it.
- 11. **Positive digital footprint:** Understand that online actions leave a digital footprint that can impact future opportunities. Contribute positively to your online footprint by sharing valuable, insightful, and responsible content.
- 12. Accountability: Take responsibility for your online actions and their consequences. Speedily acknowledge and rectify any mistakes or misunderstandings that may arise from online interactions.

By adhering to these expectations, Greene's aims to promote learning, collaboration, and mutual respect when online. Through digital etiquette and responsible conduct, we can create an online environment that mirrors our values and enhances the overall educational experience for everyone.

# Privacy and data protection

At Greene's, we are committed to safeguarding personal information and adhering to data protection laws and regulations. Our approach to handling personal information is guided by the following principles:

- 1. **Compliance with Data Protection Laws:** We fully comply with relevant data protection laws and regulations, including but not limited to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and any applicable local or national laws.
- 2. Lawful and Transparent Processing: Personal information is collected and processed in a lawful and transparent manner, with clear purposes stated at the time of collection.
- 3. **Consent and Privacy Notices:** We obtain informed and explicit consent from individuals before collecting and processing their personal information, and we provide clear and concise privacy notices detailing how their data will be used.
- 4. **Data Minimization:** We collect and process only the minimum amount of personal information necessary for the specified purpose, ensuring that data is relevant and proportionate.
- 5. **Security Measures:** We implement appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure the security of personal information, including encryption, access controls, and regular security assessments.
- 6. **Data Accuracy:** We take steps to ensure that personal information is accurate, up-todate, and relevant, and we provide mechanisms for individuals to update their information.
- 7. **Purpose Limitation:** Personal information is processed only for the specific purposes for which it was collected, and we do not use it for unrelated purposes without obtaining additional consent.
- 8. **Data Retention:** We retain personal information only for as long as necessary to fulfill the purposes for which it was collected or as required by law.

Greene's follows the following guidelines for safeguarding personal information and respecting privacy:

- 1. **Confidentiality:** Treat personal information as confidential and only share it with authorized individuals who have a legitimate need to access it.
- 2. Access control: Use strong and unique passwords to protect accounts and ensure that personal information is accessible only to authorized users.
- 3. **Encryption:** Whenever possible, use encryption to protect sensitive personal information during transmission and storage.
- 4. **Physical security:** Ensure that physical documents containing personal information are stored securely and access is restricted.
- 5. **Third parties:** When sharing personal information with third parties, ensure that the data can be protected and that the third party complies with data protection regulations.
- 6. **Consent:** Obtain explicit and informed consent from individuals before collecting and processing their personal information and allow them to withdraw consent at any time.

- 7. **Data subject rights:** Respect individuals' rights, including the right to access, correct, and delete their personal information, as well as the right to data portability.
- 8. **Incident reporting:** Promptly report any data breaches or incidents involving personal information to the appropriate authorities and affected individuals, as required by law.
- 9. **Regular review:** Periodically review and assess data protection measures to ensure compliance with changing laws and emerging risks.

### Cyberbullying and harassment

Greene's is committed to maintaining a safe and respectful online environment for all members of the Greene's community. Cyberbullying and harassment, including online intimidation, humiliation, or any harmful conduct in any form is not tolerated. Such behaviour undermines our values to provide an inclusive and supportive educational experience. We take this matter extremely seriously and have established the process outlined below to address cyberbullying and harassment.

**Reporting Incidents:** Any member of Greene's community who experiences or witnesses cyberbullying or harassment is encouraged to report the incident promptly.

Individuals can submit a formal complaint to the designated authority, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Jane Hajny (jane.hajny@greenes.org.uk, (+44) (0) 1865 664 443). A formal report should include specific details of the incident, names of involved parties (if known), and any supporting evidence.

#### **Investigation and Response:**

- 1. **Initial Assessment:** Upon receiving a report, Greene's will conduct an initial assessment to determine the nature and severity of the incident. The designated authority will promptly initiate the investigation process.
- 2. **Support:** If the individuals involved require support, counselling, or any form of assistance, Greene's will ensure that appropriate resources are made available to them.
- 3. **Evidence Collection:** The investigation will include gathering relevant evidence, which may include screenshots, messages, or any other documentation related to the incident.
- 4. **Confidentiality:** Greene's will maintain the confidentiality of all parties involved to the extent permitted by law during the investigation process.
- 5. **Disciplinary actions:** Upon completing the investigation, if cyberbullying or harassment is substantiated, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken in accordance with college policies. Consequences may include counselling, education, and, when necessary, disciplinary measures.
- 6. **Prevention and education:** Greene's is committed to pro-active measures to prevent cyberbullying and harassment. This includes ongoing education, workshops, and awareness campaigns aimed at promoting responsible online behaviour and fostering a culture of respect.

**Non-Retaliation:** Greene's strictly prohibits any form of retaliation against individuals who report cyberbullying or harassment. Any such retaliation will be treated as a serious violation of this policy.

By enforcing a strict policy against cyberbullying and harassment and providing clear reporting and investigative procedures, Greene's aims to create a safe and nurturing online environment where all community members can thrive without fear of online misconduct.

# Access to Greene's Online

Greene's Online is software that enables students, staff and tutors and parents/guardians to manage their academic programmes and to collaborate. Stringent procedures are in place to grant and revoke access, ensuring the highest level of personal online security.

#### **Granting Access:**

- 1. **User authentication:** All users are required to authenticate themselves using their unique credentials (username and password) to gain access Greene's Online.
- 2. **Strong passwords:** Users should create strong, unique passwords that include a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters. Passwords should be confidential and not shared with others.
- 3. **Role-based access:** Access privileges are assigned based on specific roles and responsibilities within Greene's. Users are granted access only to the resources necessary for their respective roles.
- 4. **Approval process:** Requests for access to specific roles go through an approval process to review and authorize access based on legitimate educational or administrative needs.

#### **Revoking Access:**

- 1. **Change in role or departure:** Access is promptly revoked when a user's role changes or when they leave Greene's. This includes graduating students, departing staff, and any other change that affects their eligibility for access.
- 2. **Timely removal:** Access is revoked in a timely manner to prevent unauthorized access by former users. All accounts associated with departed individuals are deactivated.
- 3. Access Review: Regular access reviews are conducted to ensure that users have access only to the resources necessary for their current roles. Any unnecessary or outdated access is promptly removed.

#### **Regular Security Measures:**

- 1. **Software updates:** The software used by Greene's Online is regularly updated with the latest security patches to address vulnerabilities and ensure its integrity.
- 2. Network security: We employ advanced firewall systems, intrusion detection and prevention mechanisms and encryption protocols to safeguard Greene's Online against unauthorized access and cyber threats.
- 3. **User training:** Ongoing user training is provided to raise awareness about the importance of strong passwords, secure authentication, and good security practice.
- 4. **Monitoring and incident response:** We actively monitor use of Greene's Online for suspicious activity with incident response protocols to address security breaches.

By adhering to these access management and security procedures, Greene's can maintain a resilient Greene's Online software infrastructure that supports its educational mission.

The active involvement of users in reporting suspicious activities is encouraged to help maintain the security of Greene's Online helping Greene's to promptly respond to threats and uphold the highest standards of network security.

# **Responsible content**

In fostering a culture of academic integrity and responsibility students at Greene's should understand and respect intellectual property rights, avoid plagiarism, and practice proper citation when using online resources. Students should create original work, engage in ethical research practices, and contribute to a respectful online community.

**Intellectual property and copyright:** Intellectual property refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions, literary and artistic works, designs, symbols, names, and images. Copyright is protection granted to original creative works, granting the creator exclusive rights to their work.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's work, ideas, or intellectual property without proper attribution or permission and presenting it as one's own. Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and creative innovation.

**Proper citation:** Proper citation involves giving credit to the original creators of ideas, concepts, and content used in your own work. It allows you to acknowledge and respect the intellectual contributions of others while demonstrating the authenticity of your own work.

#### Guidelines for creating and sharing content:

- 1. **Originality:** Strive for originality in your work. Develop your own ideas, arguments, and perspectives rather than relying solely on the ideas of others.
- 2. **Research integrity:** When conducting research, attribute sources accurately. Keep detailed notes on sources you use, including authors, titles, publication dates, and URLs.
- 3. **Citation styles:** Familiarize yourself with different citation styles, such as APA, MLA, or Chicago, and use them consistently to format your citations accurately.
- 4. **Direct quotes and paraphrasing:** When using direct quotes, enclose the text in quotation marks and provide proper attribution. When paraphrasing, rephrase the content in your own words and still cite the source.
- 5. **Images and multimedia:** Obtain proper permissions when using images, videos, or other multimedia in your work. Always credit the original creators.
- 6. **Online resources:** Be cautious when using online sources. Verify the credibility of the source and provide clear references to any online content you include in your work.
- 7. **Public domain and fair use:** Understand the concepts of public domain and fair use. Some works may not be protected by copyright, while others may be used under certain conditions without permission.
- 8. Academic integrity: Respect the rules and guidelines set by your tutors for using external sources in assignments. Always adhere to academic honesty policies.
- 9. **Self-plagiarism:** Avoid submitting the same work for different assignments without proper authorization from your tutor.
- 10. **Online integrity:** Extend your ethical behaviour to online interactions. Respect the intellectual property of others in online forums, discussions, and social media.

By following these guidelines and understanding the principles of intellectual property, plagiarism, and proper citation, you contribute to a community that values originality, respects the creative contributions of others, and upholds the integrity of academic and digital pursuits.

### Education and training

To achieve online safety for the Greene's we have established a programme of ongoing training that equips students, staff and tutors, and parents/guardians with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the online world responsibly and securely.

#### Workshops and Seminars:

- 1. **Student workshops:** Regular workshops are conducted for students, covering a range of online safety topics, including cyberbullying prevention, social media etiquette, privacy protection, and responsible content sharing. Interactive sessions engage students in discussions, case studies, and hands-on activities that empower them to make informed decisions online.
- 2. **Staff and tutor training:** Staff members and tutors receive training on online safety best practices, including recognizing signs of cyberbullying, responding to online incidents, and promoting online best practice. Specialized workshops focus on integrating online safety education into the curriculum and fostering a secure online tutorial environment.
- 3. **Parent/guardian seminars:** We host seminars and informational sessions for parents/guardians that address concerns related to their children's online safety. These sessions cover topics such as monitoring online activities and fostering healthy online habits.

#### **Resources and Support:**

- 1. **Online Safety Resource Hub:** We maintain an online safety resource centre on Greene's Online, providing a wealth of information, articles, videos, and guides on various online safety topics. Users can access this resource centre to stay informed about the latest online trends, risks, and protective measures.
- 2. Educational Materials: Students, staff and tutors, and parents/guardians have access to educational materials, brochures, and pamphlets that offer practical tips, guidelines, and resources for staying safe online.
- 3. **One-on-One Consultations:** Individuals seeking personalized guidance or support on online safety matters can schedule one-on-one consultations with our designated online safety officer.
- 4. **Online safety challenges and simulations:** Periodic online safety challenges encourage students to test their knowledge, share best practices, and engage with their peers to create a culture of online safety awareness. Immersive simulations and role-playing scenarios allow students to explore real-life online safety situations and practice effective responses.

By offering workshops, seminars, resources, and interactive activities, Greene' is aiming to create a well-informed community that can navigate the online landscape safely, promote positive online interactions, and contribute to a secure and responsible online environment for all.

# Reporting and response

All students, staff and tutors, and parents/guardians should promptly report any online safety incidents or concerns. Vigilance and a willingness to speak up play a crucial role in maintaining a secure and respectful online environment.

**Reporting Incidents:** Any member of Greene's community who experiences or witnesses any form of online safety incident or concern, such as cyberbullying, harassment, inappropriate content, or suspicious activities is encouraged to report the incident promptly.

Individuals can submit a formal complaint to the designated authority, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Jane Hajny (jane.hajny@greenes.org.uk, (+44) (0) 1865 664 443). A formal report should include specific details of the incident, names of involved parties (if known), and any supporting evidence (such as screenshots and messages).

#### **Investigation and Response:**

- 1. **Initial Assessment:** Upon receiving a report, Greene's will conduct an initial assessment to determine the nature and severity of the incident. The designated authority will promptly initiate the investigation process.
- 2. **Support:** If the individuals involved require support, counselling, or any form of assistance, Greene's will ensure that appropriate resources are made available to them.
- 3. **Evidence Collection:** The investigation will include gathering relevant evidence, which may include screenshots, messages, or any other documentation related to the incident.
- 4. **Confidentiality:** Greene's will maintain the confidentiality of all parties involved to the extent permitted by law during the investigation process.
- 5. **Resolution:** Based on the investigation's findings, appropriate actions will be taken. These actions may include:
  - **Educational intervention:** Providing guidance and education to those involved in the incident to raise awareness and promote responsible online behaviour.
  - **Mediation:** Facilitating discussions between parties involved to reach a resolution and prevent further incidents.
  - **Disciplinary measures:** If the incident involves a violation of college policies, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken, which may include counselling, warning, suspension, or other consequences as determined by our policies.
- 6. **Prevention and education:** Greene's is committed to pro-active measures to prevent unacceptable online behaviour. This includes ongoing education, workshops, and awareness campaigns aimed at promoting responsible online behaviour and fostering a culture of respect.

**Non-Retaliation:** Greene's strictly prohibits any form of retaliation against individuals who report online safety incidents or concerns. Any such retaliation will be treated as a serious violation of this policy.

By enforcing a strict policy against online safety incidents or concerns and providing clear reporting and investigative procedures, Greene's aims to create a safe and nurturing online environment where all community members can thrive without fear of online misconduct.

# Review and improvement

Greene's is committed to upholding the highest standards of online safety. To achieve this end our online safety policy cannot be a static document. It is a living framework that evolves to meet the ever-changing online landscape. For this reason, we emphasize the importance of regular review and continuous improvement to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of our online safety measures.

### **Key Points:**

- 1. **Periodic review:** Our online safety policy will undergo regular and systematic reviews to assess its alignment with emerging technologies, evolving risks, and changing regulatory requirements.
- 2. **Community engagement:** We value the input and feedback of our students, staff and tutors, parents/guardians, and other stakeholders. We encourage open communication and invite members of the Greene's community to share their insights, concerns, and suggestions related to online safety.
- 3. Adaptive approach: As the online environment evolves, so will our policy. We are committed to adapting our strategies, protocols, and resources to effectively address new online challenges.
- 4. **Incorporating best practice:** Our review process includes an evaluation of industry best practices and advancements in online safety. This ensures that our policy remains at the forefront of online safety.

### Your Role in the Process:

We invite all members of the Greene's community to actively participate in the review and improvement of our Online Safety Policy:

- 1. **Provide feedback:** Share your thoughts, experiences, and suggestions related to online safety with us. Your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our policy.
- 2. **Stay informed:** Stay informed about updates to the policy and any new guidelines that may be introduced. Our goal is to create a transparent and well-informed online environment.
- 3. **Engage in workshops and seminars:** Attend workshops, seminars, and educational sessions on online safety. These events provide opportunities to deepen your understanding and contribute to ongoing discussions.
- 4. **Report concerns:** Continue reporting any online safety incidents, concerns, or emerging threats you encounter. Your proactive reporting aids in the identification and mitigation of potential risks.

By collectively engaging in the review and improvement of our online safety policy, we demonstrate our dedication to maintaining a secure, respectful, and responsible online community. Through collaboration, we can ensure that our online safety measures remain current, effective and supportive of our shared values.

# Resources

Here is a list of online safety resources, websites, and helplines that students, staff and tutors, and parents/guardians can access for additional support, guidance, and information:

### Websites and Resources:

- 1. National Online Safety (NOS): An organization dedicated to promoting online safety education, NOS provides a wide range of resources, guides, and training materials for individuals of all ages.
  - Website: <u>www.nationalonlinesafety.com</u>
- 2. **ThinkUKnow:** An initiative by the National Crime Agency (UK) that offers resources, advice, and educational materials to help individuals stay safe online.
  - Website: <u>www.thinkuknow.co.uk</u>
- 3. **UK Safer Internet Centre:** Provides resources, helplines, and information to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, particularly among children and young people.
  - Website: <u>www.saferinternet.org.uk</u>
- 4. Childnet International: Offers educational resources, videos, and interactive tools to help young people and their families navigate the online world safely.
  Website: www.childnet.com
- 5. **Internet Matters:** A resource hub for parents, offering practical advice, guides, and tips to keep children safe online.
  - Website: <u>www.internetmatters.org</u>

### Helplines and Hotlines:

- 1. **Childline:** Provides support and guidance for young people on a variety of issues, including online safety and cyberbullying.
  - Helpline: 0800 1111 (UK)
  - Website: <u>www.childline.org.uk</u>
- 2. **NSPCC Online Safety Helpline:** Offers advice and support to parents and guardians on online safety concerns.
  - Helpline: 0808 800 5002 (UK)
  - Website: <u>www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety</u>
- 3. **UK Safer Internet Centre Helpline:** Provides guidance and support on online safety issues, including reporting harmful content and seeking advice.
  - Helpline: 0344 381 4772 (UK)
  - Email: <u>helpline@saferinternet.org.uk</u>
- 4. **Samaritans:** Offers confidential emotional support to anyone in distress, including those dealing with online safety concerns.
  - Helpline: 116 123 (UK)
  - Website: <u>www.samaritans.org</u>
- 5. **Cyberbullying Research Center:** Provides resources and information on cyberbullying prevention and intervention.
  - Website: <u>www.cyberbullying.org</u>

These resources and helplines are valuable sources of information, guidance, and support for navigating the online world safely. We encourage you to explore these options and to seek assistance when needed.