IMPERIUM FEDERATION

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Imperium, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our highest priority, both in the classroom and online. In line with the Department for Education's (DfE) updated Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) guidance and the Filtering and Monitoring Standards, we wish to share how we protect your child while they use school technology.

Our Filtering System: LGfL SchoolProtect

To ensure our pupils are safe from harmful content, we use **SchoolProtect**, a service provided by the charity **LGfL**. This system is designed specifically for schools and is independently accredited by the UK Safer Internet Centre.

Key principles of how we use this system include:

- **Blocking Harmful Content:** The system is configured to block access to illegal and harmful material, including content related to extremism, self-harm, pornography, and violence.

- **Differentiated Access**: We recognise that pupils may need different protections based on their age or individual requirements. SchoolProtect allows us to have different filtering policies for our children. (Please note this is only true if you have user policy groups set up)

- **Safe Learning, without "Over-Blocking"**: While safety will always be paramount, "over-blocking" should not lead to unreasonable restrictions on teaching. Our system is regularly reviewed to ensure pupils can still access high-quality educational resources while remaining safe. (Please make sure you are completing regular filtering checks – we have free templates on safefiltering.lgfl.net)

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) Mrs Smith at King's Oak, Mr Collard at Waterside and Mr Griffiths - Deputy DSL to both and leadership team have oversight of

the filtering system, accessing reports on attempted access to blocked content. This allows us to identify and support any pupil who may be at risk or in need of further guidance.

Our Monitoring System: LGfL Senso

As well as filtering, we are also required to have a way of monitoring pupil behaviour on devices. For this, we use LGfL Senso and Cloud Monitor. These systems monitor online activity across devices and platforms, and alerts our DSL to any behaviour that may be a safeguarding or welfare concern. Upon receiving an alert, our DSL will then assess this and offer any necessary support.

Staff are also able to monitor 'live' when pupils are using a device and take over their screen if necessary.

Devices at home

If your child brings a school device home, this will have LGfL's HomeProtect filtering, which is active on the device itself, and also LGfL Senso monitoring or Cloud Monitor. We hope this gives you peace of mind that the device is being filtered and monitored to the same level as when your child is at school.

How You Can Support at Home

No filtering system can be 100% effective, and children often access the internet on personal devices which are outside of the school's control and environment. To support your child at home, we recommend:

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1. **Talking Regularly**: Ask your child about what they are doing online (phone/gaming console/laptop/tablet/TV etc) and which apps they are using. Explore these together so you understand any associated risks.

2. **Setting Boundaries:** Consider using parental controls on home Wi-Fi, personal devices and individual apps/games/platforms. Consider putting in place a digital agreement with shared family rules such as no digital devices in bedrooms. See parentsafe.lgfl.net for help with this.

3. **Let us know:** if you have any concerns relating to your child's access to technology.

By working together, we can ensure that our children grow up with the skills and protections they need to navigate the digital world safely.