



Fulford School

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December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Fulford School have always worked with software providers to indicate when a computer account may be being used in an unsafe manner such as by conducting inappropriate internet searches or document creation.

It is now an Ofsted requirement for Schools to operate “appropriate” monitoring of computer use as a key part of our safeguarding duty. Following a year of research and consultation with our Data Protection Officer - Veritau, we are now able to announce that we are further developing this important protective layer for our students.

From January 2020 all student school accounts and equipment will be monitored by Smoothwall Monitor (formally VISIGO). We will contact all parents once this has been confirmed and implemented. Students will also be informed in school.

Smoothwall Monitor is a real-time, digital monitoring solution that flags incidents as they happen. Monitoring both keystrokes and screen views, safeguarding staff are informed, through a variety of means, when users try to view or type harmful content. This is a safeguarding led remote monitoring arrangement aimed at protecting students from risks of online bullying, and students who may be at risk of wellbeing or safeguarding concerns.

Data from student accounts is never seen in its entirety but identified risk words and phrases are reviewed and risk assessed by VISIGO and will be passed onto the school safeguarding team if they meet, school set, thresholds of concern or risk.

This is an important strengthening of our safeguarding arrangements to protect students as we increasingly operate in electronic forums.

Warnings and reminders regarding the installation of this monitoring software and where to seek help within school will be shared on computer screens as students log on, in addition to reminders of where to seek help if a student needs this.

We have a duty to advise you of how your son/daughter’s data will be processed by us and any other third party. I can confirm that an appropriate data processing agreement has been entered into with Smoothwall Monitor to protect their data. Further information on how your son/daughter’s data is used and protected can be found in the following places:

<https://smoothwall.com/online-data-processing-agreement/>

<https://www.fulford.york.sch.uk/data-protection/>

If you do not have access to the internet please let me know and I will arrange for copies of these documents to be sent to you

Thank you in advance for your support of this new arrangement.

Best Wishes

Paul Walker

Assistant Head



The South York Multi-Academy Trust.

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(company number:11082297)