

KATHERINE WARINGTON SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have received questions regarding how parents and carers can best support their child's Chromebook use at home. We hope the following information is helpful.

Under our **Keeping Children Safe in Education** (KCSIE) requirements, we take safeguarding and the appropriate use of Chromebooks very seriously. All student Chromebooks are enrolled in our central management system. As a part of this management, devices may only be logged into using an "@kwschool.co.uk" address during school hours. This ensures that filtering, monitoring, and safeguarding systems (including Smoothwall Filter and Senso) are fully in place.

You will notice a message on the login screen stating that the Chromebook is "*Managed by Katherine Warington School*", confirming that these protections are active.

Use of Chromebooks at Home

Outside of school hours, Chromebooks allow additional flexibility and students may log in using personal Google accounts if they choose. While this enables wider use of the device, it also means that the school's restrictions and safeguards (such as filtering, monitoring, and activity reporting) do not apply in the same way.

When a personal account is used at home, the device is no longer operating within the school-managed environment, and supervision becomes the responsibility of parents and carers. For this reason, parental supervision and guidance at home are essential. A school device should be treated in the same way as any other internet-enabled device in your home.

We encourage all parents and carers to:

- Be aware of how and when their child is using their device.
- Keep devices in shared family spaces where possible.
- Talk regularly with their child about online safety and responsible use.
- Set clear expectations around screen time and appropriate content.

Parental Controls and Support

You can put additional controls in place on Chromebooks used at home. One of the most effective ways to do this is by setting up [Google Family Link](#) to manage your child's **personal** Google account.

This allows you to:

- Set screen time limits
- Approve or restrict apps and websites
- Monitor activity where appropriate

If your child is not using Family Link, any restrictions (such as time limits or content filtering) would need to be set through your home broadband or Wi-Fi settings.

We recommend trusted guidance from [Internet Matters](#), which provides straightforward, step-by-step advice for families. This includes guides for setting up Google Family Link and applying controls across most major internet providers. You can find their sections on parental controls, screen time, and online safety by visiting the Internet Matters platform online.

Please note that Google Family Link is not available for your child's school Google account.

Restricting Profiles on the Chromebooks

We can restrict your child's device to exclusively allow school email logins. This ensures that school-managed restrictions remain active regardless of where or when the device is used. While off-site restrictions differ slightly from those on-site (for example, YouTube may be accessible at home), all core categories of dangerous or inappropriate content will remain blocked.

If you would like us to enable this for your child's device, please complete our [Chromebook Profile Restriction Request Form](#).

Working Together

Keeping children safe online is a shared responsibility between school and home. While we provide safeguards and education during the school day, it is essential that parents and carers take an active role in supervising and managing their child's device use at home.

You can find this information and more on our school '[Systems for Parents](#)' webpage.

Thank you for your continued support.

Liam Goodman
Network Manager
Katherine Warrington School