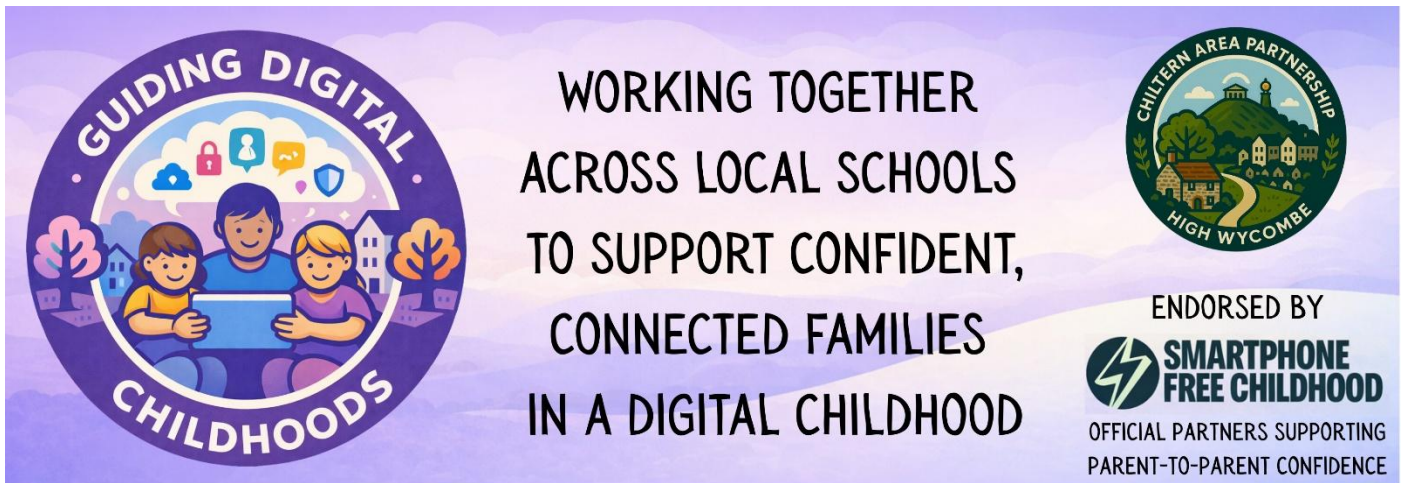


Guiding Digital Childhoods (GDC) Working Group
A Subcommittee of the Chiltern Area Partnership (CAP)



Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

To collaboratively develop, promote, and implement strategies across CAP schools that support children and families in navigating digital life with confidence, safety, and balance, based on shared principles and research on healthy childhood development.

2. Objectives

- To allow parents to take responsibility for setting boundaries and nurturing digital resilience.
- Use survey data and ongoing feedback to shape practical strategies for families and schools.
- Promote the four core principles of GDC through aligned policies, resources, and communications.
- Coordinate collective actions and campaigns to delay smartphone and social media use.
- Offer tools, training and forums to support parents.
- Work with pupils to build awareness, voice, and ownership over healthy tech use.
- Evaluate and report on the impact across the partnership.

3. Membership

- Chair: Nominated headteacher from CAP
 - Appointed chair responsible for organising meetings, agendas, communications and actions
- Community Engagement Lead
 - Responsible for maintaining and increasing partnerships with local businesses and organisations in support of GDC; the annual voluntary register item; parent talks and workshops
- 6-8 further school-based reps (across primary and secondary), including school leads/experts in safeguarding, mental health, ICT/Computing
- Parent representative (optional term-based)
- Pupils (advisory voice, invited as needed)

Observers/Contributors (non-members, by invitation):

- Public Health rep, Youth Services, community police, educational psychologists, etc.

4. Meetings

- At least one meeting per term
- Additional sub-groups may meet for specific campaigns or resource development
- Summaries to CAP Heads termly

5. Responsibilities

- Coordinate a shared annual action plan

- Identify resources and training needs
- Oversee communication strategy (including to parents)
- Plan at least one joint campaign or event per academic year
- Share good practice across schools
- Seek feedback from parents and pupils at regular intervals, including an annual parent survey to inform impact and future direction

6. Decision-Making

- This subcommittee has delegated powers from the CAP Headteachers' Group.
- Decisions made by consensus; if not possible, by majority vote
- Quorum: 5 school representatives, including the Chair or designated lead

7. Review

- ToRs reviewed annually at the first meeting of the academic year
- Progress against objectives reported to CAP in end-of-year summary