MINECRAFT SERVER MODERATION

V2 SEPTEMBER 2026

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Review Date	August 2027

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Version 2 Sep 26	Policy restructured and updated in line with current safeguarding guidance.

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1. PURPOSE

To create a safe, fair, and enjoyable environment for all players participating in the Overworld AMP Minecraft Server, by establishing clear behavioural expectations, consistent moderation procedures, and safeguarding aligned community standards.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all young people, staff, volunteers and authorised visitors who access or moderate the Overworld AMP Minecraft Server as part of the Provision's educational, enrichment or community activities.

It applies to all interactions that take place within the Overworld AMP Minecraft Server, including chat, gameplay, organised events and other server-based activities. Where concerns arise that indicate a safeguarding risk beyond the server, these will be managed in accordance with the Provision's Safeguarding (Young Person Protection) Policy and other relevant procedures.

3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has been developed with regard to the following legislation and guidance:

- Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR);
- Children Act 1989;
- Children Act 2004;
- Equality Act 2010;
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) (2026);
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2026);
- Department for Education guidance on Teaching Online Safety in Schools; and
- Department for Education guidance on Searching, Screening and Confiscation (where relevant to online behaviour and safeguarding).

The policy should also be read alongside the Provision's:

- Safeguarding Policy;
- Young Person Protection Policy;
- Online Safety Policy;
- Positive Interactions Policy;
- Tackling Bullying Policy;
- Staff Code of Conduct (Employee Handbook);
- Data Protection and GDPR Policy; and
- Acceptable Use Agreement.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is responsible for:

- approving and reviewing this policy;
- ensuring appropriate safeguarding and moderation arrangements are in place; and
- supporting staff in responding to serious incidents or safeguarding concerns.

4.2 Moderators and Staff responsible for moderating the Minecraft Server will:

- apply the Minecraft Community Agreement fairly and consistently;
- promote a safe, respectful and inclusive online environment;
- respond appropriately to inappropriate behaviour or safeguarding concerns; and
- record and report concerns in accordance with the Provision's safeguarding procedures.

4.3 Young People are expected to:

- follow the Minecraft Community Agreement;
- treat others with respect;
- report concerns to a member of staff; and
- help maintain a safe and welcoming community.

5. COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS AND MODERATION

5.1 Minecraft Community Agreement

All players are expected to follow the Minecraft Community Agreement (Appendix 1). The agreement sets out the standards of behaviour expected whilst using the Overworld AMP Minecraft Server and forms part of the consent process before access is granted.

5.2 Moderation Responses

Where a player does not follow the Community Agreement, moderators will respond in a fair, consistent and proportionate manner. Wherever possible, staff will seek to educate and support the young person before applying sanctions. However, where behaviour presents a safeguarding risk or significantly affects the safety or enjoyment of others, immediate action may be taken.

The normal moderation responses are:

Level	Examples	Typical Response
1	Minor misunderstanding, accidental breach of the Community Agreement	Reminder and explanation
2	Repeated minor breaches or behaviour affecting others	Formal warning and discussion
3	Continued disruption, harassment, griefing or refusal to follow staff guidance	Removal from the current session (kick) and incident record
4	Serious misconduct, repeated harassment, cheating or behaviour placing others at risk	Temporary suspension from the server
5	Serious safeguarding concerns, predatory behaviour, hate speech, extremist content or other behaviour posing a significant risk	Permanent removal from the server and referral through the Provision's safeguarding procedures where appropriate

Moderators may move directly to a higher level response where the seriousness of the behaviour makes this necessary. Where appropriate, moderators will take account of the young person's age, developmental stage, communication needs and any identified special educational needs or disabilities when determining the most appropriate response.

5.3 Appeals

Where appropriate, young people or parents/carers may ask for a moderation decision to be reviewed. Reviews will normally be undertaken by a senior member of staff who was not directly involved in the original decision.

5.4 Consent

Before joining the Overworld AMP Minecraft Server, the young person (or their parent/carer where appropriate) must read the Minecraft Community Agreement and complete the consent form (Appendix 1).

6. EVENT-SPECIFIC MODERATION

6.1 During Games

- Staff should remain calm, impartial and supportive throughout organised events.
- PVP rules must be clearly stated before each round.

- If a mechanic is broken (e.g., spectators affecting gameplay), the round is paused and corrected.

6.2 After Games

- Staff debrief players, reinforce positive behaviour, and address concerns.
- Any safeguarding concerns are logged immediately.

6.3 Staff Conduct

- Staff model calm, respectful communication.
- Staff avoid arguments with players.
- Staff never retaliate, mock, or escalate conflict.
- Staff maintain transparency in bans and rule enforcement.

7. MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy is monitored by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to ensure that moderation practices remain effective, consistent and aligned with the Provision's safeguarding responsibilities.

The policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner where there are changes to legislation, statutory guidance, online safety requirements or the operational needs of the Provision.

Moderation procedures, incident records and safeguarding concerns arising from use of the Minecraft Server will be reviewed periodically to identify trends, inform staff training and ensure the ongoing safety and wellbeing of all players.

Staff responsible for moderating the server will receive appropriate training and guidance to ensure the policy and Community Agreement are applied fairly, consistently and in accordance with the Provision's safeguarding procedures.

APPENDIX 1 – OUR MINECRAFT COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

The Overworld AMP Minecraft Server is a supervised online community for young people aged 9–24 years, with adult moderators helping to keep everyone safe. Our aim is to provide a welcoming, inclusive and enjoyable space where young people can socialise, learn and play together. To help everyone have a positive experience, we ask all players to follow these community agreements. They are based on respect, kindness and keeping everyone safe.

Please read these agreements together before signing the consent form.

1. Chat and Communication

The server includes younger players as well as older young people, so we ask everyone to help keep conversations welcoming and age appropriate. Please:

- keep public chat suitable for players of all ages, this means avoiding swearing and offensive language;
- keep conversations age appropriate so avoid adult topics such as alcohol or politics;
- if you're feeling angry or frustrated, take a break before sending a message;
- remember that sarcasm and humour can be difficult to understand in text, if you're unsure, speak to a member of staff;
- treat everyone with respect, this includes avoiding trolling, baiting, insults or deliberately upsetting other players.
- do not make jokes about race, disability, religion, gender, sexuality or other protected characteristics;
- do not use threats, manipulation or guilt to influence other players, even if you mean it as a joke;
- if you need support with something personal, please speak to a member of staff rather than posting it in the global chat;
- everyone communicates differently, please be patient and assume positive intentions where possible;
- help new players feel welcome.

2. Privacy and Personal Boundaries

Helping everyone stay safe online is one of our priorities. Please:

- keep your personal information private (such as your address, phone number or school);
- respect other people's privacy and avoid asking for their personal information;
- understand that everyone chooses how they communicate and respect if someone prefers not to use voice chat or direct messages; and
- respect other people's boundaries. If someone asks you to stop, please do so.

3. Staff, Safety and Moderation

Our staff are there to help keep the community safe and enjoyable for everyone. Please:

- understand that server communications are always monitored for safeguarding purposes;
- remember that Overworld AMP can only moderate activity that takes place on this Minecraft server;
- follow staff guidance and requests;
- avoid pretending to be another player or a member of staff; and
- report genuine concerns if something doesn't feel right.

If you disagree with a moderation decision, please speak with a member of staff privately rather than continuing the discussion in public chat.

4. Gameplay, Land Claims and Server Mechanics

Everyone should be able to enjoy building and exploring the world. Please:

- respect other players' claimed land and builds;
- only enter or use another player's area with their permission;
- avoid using modded items or game mechanics to bypass claims or damage builds;
- only collect items from another player's grave if they have asked you to do so;
- build and use farms responsibly to help keep the server running smoothly; and
- avoid creating machines or contraptions that may cause unnecessary server lag.

5. Player Interaction

Minecraft is more enjoyable when everyone feels safe. Please:

- only engage in PvP where everyone involved has agreed beforehand or as part of an organised event;
- respect other players' choices if they do not wish to join a team or activity; and
- explore and play fairly so everyone has opportunities to discover resources and structures.

6. Community Events

Community events are organised so everyone can have fun together. Please:

- take part respectfully;
- play fairly;
- celebrate other people's achievements; and
- help others where you can.

7. External Servers and Social Media

To help safeguard everyone in our community:

- please do not share invitations to personal Discord servers, WhatsApp groups, social media accounts or other online communities through the server; and
- if you wish to stay in touch with another player outside the server, please discuss this with your parent or carer first.

Name of Young Person	
Parent/Carer Name	
Signed By Parent/Carer	
Counter Signed by Young Person Aged 16 or Over	
Date	