



# Cole Street Methodist Church

## Internet Access & Acceptable Use Policy

Darby End, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9PA  
part of the Dudley & Netherton Methodist Church Circuit



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[www.colestreetchurch.org.uk](http://www.colestreetchurch.org.uk)



@CSMChurch



Cole Street Church

### Internet Access & Acceptable Use Policy for Cole Street Methodist Church

By connecting to and/or accessing the Church's Local Area Network (LAN) and/or the WiFi connection via a church or personal device, you agree to the following;

#### 1. Rationale

Cole Street Methodist Church ("the Church") recognises the importance of providing internet and device access to its members and visitors for educational, informational, and communication purposes. This Internet Access & Acceptable Use Policy is established to ensure the responsible and safe use of the internet and associated devices whilst within and on the Church's premises.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- a) Comply with all relevant laws and regulations,
- b) Ensure responsible and ethical use of the internet,
- c) Protect users from harmful and inappropriate content, and
- d) Ensure the security and integrity of the Church's network.

#### 2. User Responsibility

All users of the Church's internet service and associated devices are expected to:

- a) Use the internet facility and device in a manner consistent with the Church's values and goals,
- b) Comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including the Online Safety Bill 2024, The Prevent Duty, copyright and intellectual property rights,
- c) Respect the privacy and rights of others,
- d) Exercise caution when sharing personal information online, within a public network and on shared devices,
- e) Refrain from engaging in illegal or illicit content,
- f) Refrain from circumventing, hacking, suspending, or otherwise, any security or protection provided including BitLocker encryption,
- g) Not use the Church's internet for commercial or advertising activities without permission,

- h) Report any suspicious or inappropriate online activities to the Church's designated safeguarding team,
- i) Not bring Cole Street Methodist Church nor its Managing Trustees into disrepute.

### 3. Monitoring and Filtering

The Church may employ content monitoring and filtering tools to ensure compliance with this policy. Such measures are in place to prevent access to inappropriate or harmful content and to protect the Church's network from security threats. Monitoring and filtering systems include, but are not limited to, SOPHOS Cyber Security and Lightspeed.

### 4. Privacy

Whilst the Church takes steps to protect user privacy, users must be aware that internet activities and device usage may be monitored and logged for security and network management purposes. Personal information will not be disclosed to third parties as per GDPR regulation without appropriate consent or unless required to do so by law.

### 5. Access Restrictions

The Church reserves the right to restrict or block access to specific websites, services, or content that are deemed inappropriate, harmful, disruptive, or indeed illegal, to the Church's operations.

### 6. Enforcement

Violation of this policy in any part may result in the suspension or termination of internet access privileges within the Church and to associated church devices. In cases of severe misconduct, severe breach of this policy or illegal activities, law enforcement authorities may be notified.

### 8. Revision of Policy

This Internet Access and Acceptable Use Policy will be reviewed periodically and may be revised, updated, or amended as necessary to adapt to changes in technology, legal requirements, or evolving internet and device usage and sophistication. Users will be informed of any such changes.

### 9. Contact Information

For questions or concerns regarding this policy, please contact: David Moss