

COMPUTING · Y4–Y6

# Cybersecurity & Data Protection

Knowledge Organiser — Y4–Y6

## Key vocabulary

1

### Cybersecurity

The practice of protecting computers, networks, and data from theft, damage, or unauthorised access.

2

### Phishing

A type of scam where an attacker poses as a trusted organisation (bank, school) to trick people into revealing passwords or personal data.

*Example: a fake email from 'Amazon' asking for card details*

3

### Malware

Malicious software designed to damage or access a computer without permission. Includes viruses, ransomware, spyware.

4

### Password strength

A strong password: at least 12 characters, mix of upper/lower case, numbers, symbols. Use different passwords for different accounts.

5

### Two-factor authentication (2FA)

A second verification step beyond a password — usually a code sent to your phone. Makes accounts much harder to hack.



6

**Encryption**

The process of scrambling data so that only authorised users can read it. HTTPS indicates encrypted web connections.

*Example: padlock icon in browser = encrypted*

7

**Personal data**

Any information that can identify a specific person. Protected under GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

*Example: name, address, email, DOB, photo, location*

## Living safe online

Key rules for digital safety

- NEVER share passwords — not even with friends
- Check URLs carefully before clicking — fake sites mimic real ones
- If something seems too good to be true online — it probably is
- Use a different password for every important account
- Don't post information that could identify where you live or go to school
- Think before you share — once posted, data may be permanent
- Report suspicious messages to a trusted adult

