



[The Ellis CE \(VA\) Primary School](#)

# E-Safety Policy

**Completed and approved EE/RH/DS. To be reviewed January 2024.**

# The Ellis CE Primary School e-Safety Policy

Protecting young people (and adults) properly means thinking beyond the traditional school environment. Where once the desktop computer was the only way to access the internet, now many mobile phones and games consoles offer broadband connections.

Our pupils may be working online in school, at home or in an internet cafe. They may have personal devices not covered by network protection and therefore the emphasis should be on getting everyone to understand the risks and act accordingly.

This means that designing and implementing e-safety policies demands the involvement of a wide range of interest groups: Headteacher, Governors, senior management, classroom teachers, support staff, young people and parents or carers, Local authority personnel, Internet Service Providers (ISP), Regional broadband consortia, working closely with ISPs on network security measures.

It should already be obvious that e-safety is a child safety, not an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) issue, and indeed it should not be managed primarily by the ICT team. It should be an extension of general safeguarding and led by the same people, so that, for instance, cyber bullying is considered alongside real-world bullying.

Above all, e-safety education should be a continuing feature of both staff development and young people's educational lifelong learning.

At The Ellis, the safety of our children is paramount, the school's appointed e-safety Co-ordinator is currently Mrs Edwards.

## 1. Teaching and Learning

### 1.1 Why the Internet and digital communications are important

- The Internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The school has a duty to provide pupils with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience.
- Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils.

### 1.2 Internet use will enhance learning

- Pupils will be taught how to access appropriate sites
- Pupils will be taught to understand the consequences of inaccurate selection
- Pupils will be taught the procedure to follow should they gain access to an inappropriate site
- The school Internet access will be designed expressly for pupil use and will include filtering appropriate to the age of pupils.
- Pupils will be taught what Internet use is acceptable and what is not and given clear objectives for Internet use.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation
- Pupils will be shown how to publish and present information to a wider audience.

### 1.3 Pupils will be taught how to evaluate Internet content

- The school will ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law.
- Pupils will be taught the importance of cross-checking information before accepting its accuracy.
- Pupils will be taught how to report unpleasant Internet content to the e-Safety co-ordinator and also how to report online when accessing at home. This will be treated in confidence.

## **2. Managing Internet Access**

### **2.1 Information system security**

- School ICT systems security will be reviewed regularly.
- Virus protection will be automatically updated regularly.
- Security strategies will be discussed with Code Green.

### **2.2 Published content and the school web site**

- Staff or pupil personal contact information will not be published. The contact details given online should be the school office.
- The Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher will take overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.

### **2.3 Publishing pupil's images and work**

- Photographs that include pupils will be selected carefully.
- Pupils' full names will not be used anywhere on a school website or other on-line space, particularly in association with photographs.
- Written permission from parents or carers will be obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the school website.
- Work can only be published with the permission of the pupil and parents/carers.
- Pupil image file names will not refer to the pupil by name.
- Parents should be clearly informed of the school policy on image taking and publishing, both on school and independent electronic repositories

### **2.4 Social networking and personal publishing**

- The school will control access to social networking sites, and consider how to educate pupils in their safe use.
- Newsgroups will be blocked unless a specific use is approved.
- Pupils will be advised never to give out personal details of any kind which may identify them, their friends or their location.
- Pupils and parents will be advised that the use of social network spaces outside school brings a range of dangers for primary aged pupils.
- Pupils will be advised to use nicknames and avatars when using social networking sites.

### **2.5 Managing filtering**

- The school will work with Code Green to ensure systems to protect pupils are reviewed and improved.
- If staff or pupils come across unsuitable on-line materials, the site must be reported to the e-Safety Coordinator.
- Senior staff will ensure that regular checks are made to ensure that the filtering methods selected are appropriate, effective and reasonable.

### **2.6 Managing emerging technologies**

- Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and a risk assessment will be carried out before use in school is allowed.
- The senior leadership team should note that technologies such as mobile phones with wireless Internet access can bypass school filtering systems and present a new route to undesirable material and communications.
- Mobile phones will not be used during lessons or formal school time. The sending of abusive or inappropriate text messages or files by Bluetooth or any other means is forbidden.
- The use by pupils of cameras will not be permitted.

- Games machines including the Sony Playstation, Microsoft Xbox and others have Internet access which may not include filtering. Care is required in any use in school or other officially sanctioned location.
- Staff will not use personal mobile phones to communicate with children, or use them to capture images of them.
- The appropriate use of Learning Platforms will be discussed as the technology becomes available within the school.

## **2.7 Protecting personal data**

- Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998.

# **3. Policy Decisions**

## **3.1 Authorising Internet access**

- The school will maintain a current record of all staff and pupils who are granted access to school ICT systems.
- At Key Stage 1, access to the Internet will be by adult demonstration with directly supervised access to specific, approved on-line materials.
- Parents will be asked to sign and return a consent form.
- Any person wishing to access the Internet will be required to agree to the LA 'Acceptable Usage' policy before access is allowed. (Displayed on screen)

## **3.2 Assessing risks**

- The school will take all reasonable precautions to prevent access to inappropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a computer connected to the school network. Neither the school or Code Green can accept liability for any material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access.
- The school should audit ICT use to establish if the e-safety policy is adequate and that the implementation of the e-safety policy is appropriate and effective.

## **3.3 Handling e-safety complaints**

- Complaints of Internet misuse will be dealt with by a senior member of staff.
- Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher.
- Complaints of a safeguarding nature must be dealt with in accordance with school safeguarding procedures. (See Appendix 2)
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure (see schools complaints policy)
- Pupils and parents will be informed of consequences for pupils misusing the Internet.
- Discussions will be held with the Police Youth Crime Reduction Officer to establish procedures for handling potentially illegal issues.

## **3.4 Community use of the Internet**

- The school will liaise with local organisations to establish a common approach to e-safety.

# **4. Communications Policy**

## **4.1 Introducing the e-safety policy to pupils**

- e-Safety rules will be posted in all rooms where computers are used and discussed with pupils regularly.
- Pupils will be informed that network and Internet use will be monitored and appropriately followed up.

- A programme of training in e-Safety will be developed, possibly based on the materials from CEOP.
- Safety training will be embedded within the ICT scheme of work or the Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

#### **4.2 Staff and the e-Safety policy**

- All staff will be given the School e-Safety Policy and its importance explained.
- Staff must be informed that network and Internet traffic can be monitored and traced to the individual user.
- Staff that manage filtering systems or monitor ICT use will be supervised by senior management and work to clear procedures for reporting issues.
- Staff will always use a child friendly safe search engine when accessing the web with pupils.

#### **4.3 Enlisting parents' and carers' support**

- Parents' and carers' attention will be drawn to the School e-Safety Policy in newsletters and on the school Web site.
- The school will maintain a list of e-safety resources for parents/carers.
- The school will ask all new parents to sign the parent /pupil agreement when they register their child with the school.

#### **4.4 Advice for parents**

- Use internet filtering software such as CyberSentinel, walled gardens and child friendly search engines. Browser controls often offer differing degrees of security for each family member.
- Check out what safeguarding services your Internet Service Provider (ISP) offers.
- Keep the computer in a communal area of the house.
- Tell your children not to give out any personal details. If they want to subscribe to a service (after gaining your permission) make up a family name.
- Make sure your children only use moderated chat rooms, and ask them to introduce you to their online friends.
- Encourage your children to tell you if they feel upset or threatened by what they see online.
- Write a family 'acceptable use policy' for working on the computer.
- Surf together, and be a part of their online life.

[www.cybersentinel.co.uk](http://www.cybersentinel.co.uk)

**Completed and approved EE/RH/DS. To be reviewed January 2024.**

## **Appendix 1 Useful resources for teachers**

Chat Danger

[www.chatdanger.com/](http://www.chatdanger.com/)

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

[www.ceop.gov.uk/](http://www.ceop.gov.uk/)

Childnet

[www.childnet-int.org/](http://www.childnet-int.org/)

Cyber Café

[http://thinkuknow.co.uk/8\\_10/cybercafe/cafe/base.aspx](http://thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/cybercafe/cafe/base.aspx)

Digizen

[www.digizen.org/](http://www.digizen.org/)

Kidsmart

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

Think U Know

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

Safer Children in the Digital World [www.dfes.gov.uk/byronreview/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/byronreview/)

## **Useful resources for parents**

Family Online Safe Institute

[www.fosi.org](http://www.fosi.org)

Internet Watch Foundation

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

Internet Safety Zone

[www.internetsafetyzone.com](http://www.internetsafetyzone.com)

# Response to an Incident of Concern

The screening tool is available on the Children's Safeguards Service website.

