

# **eSafety Label - Action Plan**

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By submitting your completed Assessment Form to the eSafety Label portal you have taken an important step towards analysing the status of eSafety in your school. Congratulations! Please read through your Action Plan carefully to see what you can do to improve eSafety further in your school. The Action Plan offers useful advice and comments, broken down into 3 key areas: infrastructure, policy and practice.

## **Infrastructure**

## **Technical security**

You have differentiated levels of filtering in your school which is an excellent policy. A good policy still needs to be regularly updated - is the system being regularly updated? How often are sites requested to be blocked or unblocked? Periodically evaluate whether it is fit for purpose and involve all stakeholders in this process. In addition, bear in mind that an educational approach and building resilience in pupils of all ages is also key to safe and responsible online use so bring together all teachers to have a discussion on how they will talk to their pupils about being a good and safe digital citizen. See <a href="www.europa.eu/youth/EU\_en">www.europa.eu/youth/EU\_en</a> for examples of discussions that can take place in the classroom on this topic, through role-play and group games.

## Pupil and staff access to technology

There are clear advantages for staff and pupils to bring their personal devices to school and to access internet on them. Besides supplementing the technical equipment available at school, this provides an important link between learning at home and at school and an opportunity to guide young people in responsible use.

However, staff and pupil use of their own equipment on the school network needs to be addressed in an Acceptable Use Policy so that users are clear about which networks they should use and why. The Acceptable Use Policy needs to include clear guidance about which activities are permitted while on the school network, and what is not allowed.

#### **Data protection**

- It is good that your email system is protected and that you have a policy for the transfer of pupil data in place. In this regard, it is important to draw up guidelines so that all staff are clear about what to do if they discover inappropriate or illegal content on school machines. For further information see the fact sheet on Protecting sensitive data (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools).
- > There is a retention plan in place for your school detailing how specific school records are stored, archived and disposed. This is very good. Ensure that the plan is followed and review it regularly to ensure it relates to the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation. Check the according fact sheet for more information.

#### **Software licensing**

- > Ensure that all staff are aware of the procedure for purchasing new software and that all licenses are appropriate for the number of pupils and staff that will be using them. The <a href="End-user license agreement">End-user license agreement</a> section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.
- It is good practise that the member of staff responsible is fully aware of installed software and their license status.
- > It is important to ensure that all new staff are briefed about the effective processes you have for the installation of new software. This will mean that the security of your systems can be maintained and that staff can try out new software applications that will help teaching and learning.

## **IT Management**

- It is good practice to ensure that the person in charge of the ICT network is fully informed of what software is on school-owned hardware and this should be clearly indicated in the School Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy. The person responsible for the network needs to be able to guarantee conformity with licensing requirements and that new software won't interfere with network operation.
- > It is good practise that your are training and/or providing guidance in the use of new software that is installed on school computers. This ensures that school members will take advantage of new features, but also that they are aware of security and data protection issues where relevant.
- > There is a mechanism set up in your school that allows any staff member to make a request for new hard/software a request that leads to an informed decision within a reasonable amount of time. This is great as this way teacher can benefit from new technologies while still staying inline with school policy.

# **Policy**

#### **Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)**

- It is excellent that eSafety is an integral part of several school policies. Do all staff make reference to it when appropriate through their teaching? Look for examples of good practice and share these with staff and pupils. Produce a short case study to highlight this good practice and upload it to your profile on the eSafety Label portal via your My school area as inspiration for other schools.
- > In your school policy issues are regularly discussed. This is good practice as it ensures staff and pupils are aware of them. Do pupils and staff also have to sign related documents to confirm their awareness?
- > It is good that you have an Acceptable Use Policy for all members of the school community. Regularly review the AUP to ensure that it is still fit for purpose; to ensure that your AUP is sufficiently comprehensive, take a look at the fact sheet and check list on Acceptable Use Policy at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-</a>.
- Regularly review the Mobile Phone Policy to ensure that it is fit for purpose and that it is being applied consistently across the school. The fact sheets on Using mobile phones at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools) and School Policy (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy) will provide helpful information.

## **Reporting and Incident-Handling**

- > It is good practice to log cyberbullying incidents that occur in your school centrally, as you are contributing to building a data base of successful incident handling practices from schools across Europe that you and others can use in future. Make sure that pupils sign up to anti-bullying guidelines in your Acceptable Use Policy.
- > Check that your School Policy includes all necessary information for teachers about handling issues when pupils knowingly or even inadvertently access illegal or offensive material online by going to the guidance set out by the <a href="teachtoday.de/en">teachtoday.de/en</a> website (<a href="tinyurl.com/9j86v84">tinyurl.com/9j86v84</a>). If such incidents arise in your school, make sure you anonymously fill out the eSafety Label Incident handling form (<a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling</a>) so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

## **Staff policy**

> You have guidelines in your Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) on teachers' classroom usage of mobile phones.

Upload your AUP to your school profile as it is a model of good practice that can help other eSafety Label schools.

## **Pupil practice/behaviour**

> It is good that pupils have the possibility to shape school activities when discussing eSafety, be it extra-curricular and curricular ones, based on what is going on in their daily lives. This way they will be more engaged and it also allows the teacher to recognise real life issues.

#### **School presence online**

- Regularly check the content of the school's online presence on social media sites to ensure that there are no inappropriate comments. Set up a process for keeping the site/page up to date, and check the fact sheet on Schools on social networks (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/schools-on-social-networks) for further information to make sure that good practice guidelines have been followed. Get feedback from stakeholders about how useful the profile is.
- Check the fact sheet on Taking and publishing photos and videos at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/taking-and-publishing-photos-and-videos-at-school) to see that your School Policy covers all areas, then upload this section of your School Policy to your profile page via your My school area so that other schools can learn from your good practice.

## **Practice**

#### **Management of eSafety**

> It is good that all staff in your school are responsible for eSafety. However, it is good practice to appoint a person who will have overall responsibility for eSafety issues to provide the focus needed. Ideally this should be someone from the senior leadership team. Ensure that this person is involved in the development and regular review of your School Policy. She or he should not only be informed, but should also fill out the Incident handling form whenever an incident arises at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling.

#### eSafety in the curriculum

- > It is good that sexting has been integrated into wider online safety education across the school. Are you able to assess the impact of this education? Does it help pupils to modify their behaviours? How do you know?
- > It is good that you are making a specific reference to sexting within your child protection policy as this is a growing issue that many young people are having to deal with. It is also important to ensure that you are providing appropriate education for pupils about this issue.
- It is good practice that all pupils in all year groups in your school are taught about eSafety. It continues to be important to review regularly the curriculum provision to ensure it meets ever-changing needs. If you have a curriculum review process of this kind, it would be helpful to other schools if you could publish this on your school profile. To upload go to your My school area.
- It is good that eSafety is taught as part of the curriculum in your school. Ensure that all staff are delivering eSafety education where appropriate throughout the curriculum and not just through ICT or Personal Social and Health lessons. You/your staff may find some useful ideas and resources in the fact sheet Embedding eSafety in the curriculum at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/embedding-online-safety-in-curriculum.

#### Extra curricular activities

- How do you organise peer mentoring among pupils on eSafety? Check out the resources of the <u>ENABLE project</u> and share your ideas in the <u>forum</u> of the eSafety Label community so that other schools can benefit from your experience to establish a similar approach.
- > Gather feedback from pupils to see what sort of additional eSafety support they would benefit from outside curriculum time. Could they be involved in delivering some of this to their peers? Check the resource section on the eSafety Label portal to find resources that will help them do this; check out the fact sheet on Pupils' use of online technology outside school at <a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school</a>.

#### **Sources of support**

Ask parents for feedback on the kind of eSafety support which is being provided for them and consider innovative ways to maximise the number of parents who are benefitting from, and accessing it. See the fact sheet Information for parents at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents</a> to find resources that could be circulated to parents and ideas for parent evenings.

#### **Staff training**

- It is good practise that you provide information to teachers on the technology used by pupils in their freetime.

  This is important as this awareness is the first step in addressing the issue of powering down for school. At the same time pupils should not be asked to do their homework using technology not available to them outside of schools. You might want to have a look at the <a href="Essie Survey of ICT">Essie Survey of ICT in schools</a>.
- > It should be a real benefit to your pupils that all staff receive regular training on eSafety issues. Continue to

gather feedback from staff on the medium- and long-term benefits of the training and consult the eSafety Label portal to see suggestions for training courses at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses</a>.

The Assessment Form you submitted is generated from a large pool of questions. It is also useful for us to know if you are improving eSafety in areas not mentioned in the questionnaire. You can upload evidence of such changes via the <u>Upload evidence</u> on the <u>My school area</u> section of the eSafety Portal. Remember, the completion of the Assessment Form is just one part of the Accreditation Process, because the upload of evidence, your exchanges with others via the <u>Forum</u>, and your <u>reporting of incidents</u> on the template provided are all also taken into account.

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