

# **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**

- > Your school system is protected by a firewall. Ensure that the provision and management of the firewall are regularly reviewed and updated, as and when required.
- 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.
- > It is very good that all your school devices are virus protected. Make sure you also have included a paragraph on virus protection in both your school policy and your Acceptable Use Policy, and ensure that staff and pupils rigorously apply school guidelines. If you need further information, check out the fact sheet on Protecting your devices against malware at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-your-devices-against-malware">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-your-devices-against-malware</a>.

## Pupil and staff access to technology Data protection

- It is good that all users are attributed a different password by the system in your school. Remind all school members never to write their given password down anywhere, certainly not on a sticker on a computer! Also, ensure that the Acceptable Use Policy reminds staff and pupils to keep their passwords secure and not share them with others.
- > You have a good policy of keeping your learning and administration environments separate. It is good to ensure that staff training on managing these environments is up to date as you continue to review your policies. Share your policy with other eSafety Label users by uploading it to your school profile.

## **Software licensing**

> Your school has set a realistic budget for software needs. This is good. Ensure that it remains this way. You

might also want to look into alternatives, e.g. Cloud services or open software.

- > 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**

- > 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.
- It is good that staff members with questions about software issues can contact a school helpdesk. Consider whether you need to provide training and/or guidance to new software that is installed on school computers. This is important to ensure that school members will take advantage of new features, but also that they are aware of relevant security and data protection issues.

# **Policy**

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

- > 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>.
- 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.

## **Reporting and Incident-Handling**

- > It's good that you have a clear School Policy on handling out-of-school eSafety incidents; is the number of these declining? Start a discussion thread in the community on what other preventative measures or awareness raising activities could be used in order to reduce the number of issues further. Don't forget to anonymously document incidents on the Incident handling form (<a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling</a>), as this enables schools to share and learn from each other's strategies.
- 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.

> Ensure that all staff, including new members of staff, are aware of the guidelines concerning what to do if inappropriate or illegal material is discovered on a school machine. Ensure, too, that the policy is rigorously enforced. A member of the school's senior leadership team should monitor this.

## Staff policy 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

- > You have a dedicated person to monitor your school's online reputation, and this is good practice. Always be aware of any new sites that may not be immediately apparent through a regular search. Keep up to date with the latest sites and monitor these periodically, as they can be particularly damaging for schools and their pupils and staff if they present a negative viewpoint.
- 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.
- > It is good that pupils can give feedback on the school's online presence. Think about creating a space that is entirely managed by pupils. It's a great opportunity to learn about media literacy and related issues. It also can help to establish a peer network of support. Find out more about in the eSafety Label fact sheet.

# **Practice**

#### Management of eSafety

- > Technology develops rapidly. It is good practice that the member of staff responsible for ICT is regularly sent to trainings and/or conferences to be aware of new features and risks. Check out the <a href="Better Internet for Kids portal">Better Internet for Kids portal</a> to stay up to date with the latest trends in the online world.
- In addition to a clear designation of responsibility to ensure that all necessary network security and user privacy checks are in place, it is essential that schools also have audit and procedural checks at regular intervals.
  Without this, a school will be leaving itself vulnerable. See our fact sheet on School Policy at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy</a>.
  - Although there should always be an overall lead person on eSafety just as you have in your school, everybody in the school has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties. Even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise problems. Use our fact sheet Acceptable Use Policy
  - (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-) to ensure that everyone plays their part in ensuring they are all the best and safest digital citizens they can be.

#### eSafety in the curriculum

- > 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 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 commendable that you are able to provide an eSafety curriculum that keeps up with emerging issues.

  Continue to make use of new resources as they are made available. Can you upload to your school profile an outline of how you design the curriculum and links to some of the resources you use this would be most helpful for other schools.
- 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.

#### Extra curricular activities

Consider sharing the information you have about your pupils' online habits with other schools through the eSafety Label community. You could, for example, upload your latest survey findings on pupils' online habits to your school profile via your Myschool area.

#### **Sources of support**

- > It is good to know that other school services are involved in eSafety issues (e.g. counsellors, psychologists, school nurse). Are they also invited to contribute to developing and regular review of your School Policy? Publish a case study about how this is managed in your school on your school profile page on the eSafety Label project website, so that others can learn from your experience.
- > It is great that in your school pupils are actively encouraged to become eSafety mentors. You might want to share your approach to strengthening this network with other teachers on the eSafety Label website via the forum or your school's profile page, so that others can replicate it.

#### **Staff training**

In your school knowledge exchange between staff members is encouraged. This is beneficiary to the whole school. Upload PowerPoints, documents or similar of knowledge exchanges on eSafety topics via the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the <a href="My school area">My school area</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 <a href="Forum">Forum</a>, and your reporting of incidents on the template provided are all also taken into account.

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