

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.

Pupil and staff access to technology

- > Since staff and pupils can use their own equipment on your school network, it is important to make sure that the Acceptable Use Policy is reviewed regularly by all members of the school and adapted as necessary. It must be discussed with pupils at the start of each academic year so that they understand what is in place to protect them and their privacy, and why. Base the policy around behaviour rather than technology. Visitors must also read and sign the Acceptable Use Policy before they use the school's network.
- All staff and pupils are allowed to use USB memory sticks in your school. This is good practice, and your Acceptable Use Policy should stipulate that all removable media is checked before use in the school systems. Check the fact sheet on Use of removable devices at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/use-of-removable-devices to make sure you cover all security aspects.

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.

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 End-user license agreement section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.
- > Review the budget for software needs. You might also want to look into alternatives, e.g. Cloud services or open

software.

- You need to make sure that all the software in your school is legally licensed and that copies of the licences are held centrally. You also need to check with whoever supports your IT systems that the software will not compromise system security. Your school should develop a clear policy for software acquisition and it is good practice to centralise this process wherever possible.
- It is good practise that the member of staff responsible is fully aware of installed software and their license status.

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.
- > 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 good practise that whenever changes are put into place in your school, the school policies are revised if needed. Note though, that also changes outside the school can affect policies such as new legislations or changing technologies. Therefore please review your policies at least annually.
- 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

- Are all staff familiar with the procedure for dealing with material that could potentially be illegal? Is there a named person from the school senior leadership team who takes overall responsibility in this type of case? The procedure needs to be clearly communicated to all staff in the School Policy, and to staff and pupils in the Acceptable Use Policy. Remember to report and suspected illegal content to your national INHOPE hotline (www.inhope.org).
- > 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.
- > 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

- > Ensure that all staff, including new members of staff, are aware of the policy concerning online conduct. This should be a topic that is regularly discussed at staff meetings and clearly communicated in the School Policy, and to staff and pupils in the Acceptable Use Policy. Regularly review and update both documents as necessary.
- > It is good practice that the school policy includes information about risks with potentially non-secured devices, such as smartphones and that reference is made to it. Consider sharing your school policy via the uploading evidence tool, also accessible through the My school area.

Pupil practice/behaviour

- Your school partly has a school wide approach of positive and negative consequences for pupil behaviour. This is a good start, make sure that the policy and associated hierarchy applies to all on- and offline issues and is shared widely and re-visited by all staff and pupils at least annually.
- You have defined electronic communication guidelines in your Acceptable Use Policy and this would be a useful example of good practice for other schools. Can you create a tutorial about electronic communication guidelines for pupils and upload it to your school profile via your <u>My school area</u> so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

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.

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 Better Internet for Kids portal to stay up to date with the latest trends in the online world.
- It is good that you have a designated member of staff responsible for eSafety. Consider whether it would be helpful to have an eSafety committee comprising members from all groups of stakeholders. 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 these issues have been included in the eSafety curriculum. It is a good idea to regularly review the issues which are being covered by your eSafety education in order to ensure that new and emerging issues are covered.
- > Sexting is an issue which affects many young people. Sharing possible consequences and risks with them is important, as is the opportunity for some discussion around the issue. Sexting should be part of a broad and balanced eSafety 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 very good that, in your school, pupils are taught from an early age on about responsibilities and consequences when using social media. Please share any resources through the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the Myschool area.
- 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 Myschool area.

Extra curricular activities

- It is good that you provide eSafety support for your pupils outside curriculum time when asked. Consider offering all pupils support to deal with online safety issues. It may be helpful to provide a "surgery" to help pupils to set their Facebook privacy etc. The eSafety Label portal provides resources that will be useful for this; check out the fact sheet on Pupils' use of online technology outside school at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school.
- > Try to engage pupils in peer mentoring and provide them with opportunities to share their thoughts and understanding with their peers. Also check out the resource section of the eSafety Label portal to get further ideas and resources.

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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents to find resources that could be circulated to parents and ideas for parent evenings.

Staff training

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 Forum, and your reporting of incidents on the template provided are all also taken into account.

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