

# **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**

- 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.
- > 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

> Consider whether banning mobile devices is a rule that is fit for purpose and if your school might want to allow digital devices for some class activities. You could develop as part of your Acceptable Use Policy a section on how digital technologies can and cannot be used in the classroom; see the fact sheet on Using Mobile Phones at School (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools).

#### **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 (<a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools</a>).
- > 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.
- > 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**

- Compliance with licensing agreements is important. Someone needs to have overall responsibility to ensure that this is happening and that all licenses are valid for purpose. Staff should be briefed on who is the person responsible.
  - The <u>End-user license agreement</u> section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.
- > 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.
- > 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)**

When other school policies are reviewed, consider whether it would be appropriate to make references to eSafety, bearing in mind the wide range of issues that eSafety covers.

## **Reporting and Incident-Handling**

- It is important to have a school-wide policy on handling issues when pupils knowingly or even inadvertently access illegal or offensive material online, since standards and practices can vary considerably from one teacher to the next. Guidance on this topic is provided on 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="twww.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">twww.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.
- Please share the materials in which you tackle these issues especially with pupils and parents in the of the eSafety Label portal.

#### Staff policy

- > 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 <a href="My school area">My school area</a>.
- There are dangers associated with the use of personal mobile devices in class. Consider why staff would need to use their device and, if appropriate, consider providing a school device. Advise staff to read the fact sheet on Using mobile phones at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools) and ensure that the guidelines to staff are clearly communicated in the School 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.

## **Pupil practice/behaviour**

Your school has a school wide approach of positive and negative consequences for pupil behaviour. This is good practice, please share your policy via the <u>My school area</u> of the eSafety portal so that other schools can learn from it.

#### **School presence online**

- Having an official school page on some of the more widely used/popular social networking sites can be useful for parents, pupils and the broader public if you use it to publicise your actions and events. However, exercise care when setting this up to ensure that someone from the school has control over posts etc. Check the fact sheet on Schools on social networks (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/schools-on-social-networks) for further information.
- We recommend that you specifically nominate a web-experienced staff member to periodically check the school's online reputation. Monitoring such an important aspect on an ad hoc basis only is insufficient.
  Remember that this is the image that prospective parents will receive when they search for your school online.

## **Practice**

#### Management of eSafety

> Ensure that the governor or board member appointed for eSafety has the opportunity to receive regular training and also to ensure that colleagues are aware of eSafety issues. Involve your governing body in the development and regular review of your School Policy. See our fact sheet on School Policy <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy</a>.

#### eSafety in the curriculum

> Ensure that the eSafety curriculum keeps up with emerging issues by making full use of all available resources and ensure that it builds on prior learning, bearing in mind that pupils will need different messages depending on how they are using the technology.

- You may want to consider including sexting in your child protection policy to help to ensure a consistent wholeschool approach to dealing with any incidents.
- > It is good practise that in your school Cyberbullying is discussed in the curriculum with pupils from a young age.

#### **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 My school area.
- > Try to develop further the engagement of pupils in peer mentoring and provide them with more 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**

- > It is great that you have a staff member which is knowledgable in eSafety issues who acts as a teacher of confidence to pupils.
- All staff should have some responsibility for eSafety. School counsellors, nurses, etc. are all well placed to provide advice and guidance on these issues and should be invited to contribute to developing and regularly reviewing your School Policy. Make the maximum use of their knowledge and skills and consider whether it is appropriate to provide training for them.

## Staff training

- 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>.
- 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 <u>Forum</u>, and your <u>reporting of incidents</u> on the template provided are all also taken into account.