

# E-Safety

## Protecting Our Children from Exploitation or Harm through the Internet

### Introduction

Stay safe is one of the aims of Every Child Matters. Staff have a duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, and as technology increasingly permeates into every aspect of our lives, staff have a responsibility to deal with potential e-safety issues and to promote safe and responsible behaviour.

E-Safety risks and issues can be roughly classified into three areas:

#### **Content**

e.g. age inappropriate material

#### **Contact**

e.g. meeting inappropriate/grooming adults via the internet

#### **Commerce**

e.g. exposure to inappropriate advertising

### Local Safeguarding Childrens Board (LSCB)

The Loddon School follows the advice from LSCB in taking a three pronged strategy using a combination of effective *policies and practices, training and education, technology infrastructure.*

### Policies

Staff should be careful about their own use of technological equipment, including cameras and computers, ensuring appropriate use, and deleting images that may have been recorded that could be misinterpreted. Staff should only take images, photos or video of the children for educational or information purposes on school cameras. Images should only be downloaded onto school computers, and used for school purposes.

Staff should ensure that the children only have contact with appropriate content of video/dvd/photos/images/text. They may remove age inappropriate materials or materials that could cause fear to our children or cause them to copy inappropriate behaviour. This would also include materials that are not compatible with the student's developmental immaturity. Students are accompanied at all times and are not left alone to access the internet.

Related policies include: Safeguarding, Mobile Phones

### Training and Education

All staff receive regular safeguarding training, which also highlights the risks of inappropriate use of media, cameras, mobile phones and computers. They are also reminded about the procedure for reporting concerns. If inappropriate sites are inadvertently accessed staff are duty bound to report this so that action can be taken to remove these sites.

Staff are reminded of privacy and confidentiality of the Loddon children when using the internet, including social media sites in their own time. Staff may not mention children by name, characteristics, or behaviours either in seriousness or in jest. Staff may not upload, or post any photos relating to the school or the children onto personal or non-school social media sites, apart from authorised staff using the school based Twitter and Facebook accounts. Staff may not discuss children, other staff or the school on such sites. Staff need to be aware that others may contact staff through social media sites in order to groom staff and gain access to the children.

Teachers have access to teaching materials for E-Safety that are ability appropriate. These are encouraged to be used and are followed up with regular keeping safe themed assemblies.

### Technological Infrastructure

Access to the internet on the School Computers, Vtrons, Tablets and children's own internet devices (e.g. iPad) are restricted to certain sites, using recognised safety software and settings to filter inappropriate sites. This access is universal across the Loddon School, so that the restriction is to all staff and students alike. Therefore it is less likely to inadvertently put children at risk. The school runs a monitoring system so all material accessed online is monitored and can be reported to individual users via school based computers and all mobile devices accessing the Wi-Fi.

The School also provides media and educational tools from within its own servers, often negating the need to access the internet for such media.

Online resources:

Educational and Safe Play