

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

Although asking users to define their own filtering is a good way to encourage responsible use, most schoolaged pupils are not mature enough to make an informed decision about the level of filtering they should be using. The school, or at the very least the teacher, needs to decide on what level of filtering is used. This can be done after discussion with the class to make them aware of the reasons for any filter that is installed. Pupils' parents would typically prefer that filtering is set by the school or teacher as young people are often not aware of what they could come across by accident, whether potentially harmful or illegal. However, 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 www.europa.eu/youth/EU_en 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.
- > It is good that in your school computer labs can easily be booked. Consider the option of integrating other digital devices into the lessons as using them provides best practise for pupils in dealing with new media. Ensure that safety issues are also discussed.

Data protection

> 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.

- > It is good that your school provides training materials on the importance of protecting devices, especially portable ones. Please consider sharing those with others through the in . Also ensure that your materials are regularly reviewed to ensure they are in line with the state of the latest technology.
- Your new users are given a standard password and are asked to generate their own password on their first access. Passwords offer unique entry points into the school computing system and some basic rules of password security should be rigorously applied. For further information, read the fact sheet on Safe passwords at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/safe-passwords.
 Include these rules in your Acceptable User Agreement and avoid giving new users a standard "first access" password.

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.
- > 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 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 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.

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.
- > 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-.

- 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.
- 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?

Reporting and Incident-Handling

- 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 teachtoday.de/en website (tinyurl.com/9j86v84). If such incidents arise in your school, make sure you anonymously fill out the eSafety Label Incident handling form (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling) 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

- As new technology and online practices emerge the borders of acceptable practice are constantly blurred. This is something that needs to be discussed at staff meetings often. Could you create a tutorial on professional online conduct of staff and upload it to your school profile via your My school area so that other schools can benefit from your good practice?
- 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 School presence online

- 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.
- 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

> 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy.

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

(<u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-</u>) to ensure that everyone plays their part in ensuring they are all the best and safest digital citizens they can be.

- It is good that the job description outlines that the member of staff responsible for ICT needs to keep up to date with new technologies. In addition, it would be good to regularly send the ICT responsible to trainings/conferences so (s)he can keep up with new features and risks. Check out the <u>Better Internet for Kids portal</u> to stay up to date with the latest trends in the online world.
- > 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 excellent that consequences of online actions are discussed with pupils in all grades. Terms and conditions need to be read to fully understand contractual conditions. This can also concern aspects of data privacy.
 Another important topic is breach of copyright. Please share the materials used through the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the Myschool area.
- > 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.
- > Although these are sensitive issues, it is good to be proactive about raising awareness of them. Consider integrating some education around these issues into the overall eSafety curriculum.
- eSafety needs to be embedded across the whole curriculum regardless of whether this is a statutory obligation in your country. There are several very good schemes of work freely available which will support this; for further information see the fact sheet sheet Embedding eSafety in the curriculum at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/embedding-online-safety-in-curriculum.

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.

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.

Staff training

Your school makes sure that every teacher is trained on cyberbullying. Please share resources that are used in these trainings via uploading them to your <u>My school area</u>. Are you also monitoring the effect that this training had on the number of incidents?

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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