# eSafety Label for a safer school

# **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.
- > It is good practice that your ICT services are regularly reviewed, updated and removed if no longer in use.
- 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

> 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.

#### **Data protection**

- > 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.
- > 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.

#### **Software licensing**

- > 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 is good that you can produce an overview of installed software and their licences in a short time frame with the help of several people. Consider centralising this.

#### **IT Management**

Once a year decisions on new hard/software are made. Investigate ways to also allow for new hard/software requests throughout the year. It will allow teachers to create a more engaging lesson without the temptation of unauthorized copying and its inherent dangers and costs.

## **Policy**

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

- 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.
- > 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 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.

#### **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**

- 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 <a href="My school area">My school area</a> so that other schools can benefit from your good practice?
- > 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>.

#### **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**

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 eSafety in the curriculum

- > 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 <a href="My school area">My school area</a>.
- > 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 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 My school 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 My school area.

- > It is good practise that in your school Cyberbullying is discussed in the curriculum with pupils from a young age.
- > 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.

#### 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.
- Gather feedback from pupils to see what sort of additional eSafety support they would benefit from outside curriculum time. Could they be involved in delivering some of this to their peers? Check the resource section on the eSafety Label portal to find resources that will help them do this; check out the fact sheet on Pupils' use of online technology outside school at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school</a>.
- How do you organise peer mentoring among pupils on eSafety? Check out the resources of the <u>ENABLE project</u> and share your ideas in the <u>forum</u> of the eSafety Label community so that other schools can benefit from your experience to establish a similar approach.

#### **Sources of support 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>.

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.