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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 but is sometimes bypassed for certain applications. While there may be some arguments for bypassing it, it is usually inadvisable to do so. If it is decided that the school policy will permit this, then it should only be implemented by an authorised technical manager and then on a restricted time basis.

Pupil and staff access to technology

- 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.
- 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.

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.

- 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.
- It is good that staff members with questions about software issues can contact a school helpdesk. Consider whether you need to provide training and/or guidance to new software that is installed on school computers. This is important to ensure that school members will take advantage of new features, but also that they are aware of relevant security and data protection issues.
- In your school only the head master and/or IT responsible can acquire new software. Consider putting a system into place where teachers can ask for new software in a non-bureaucratic and timely fashion. This allows 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 <u>My school area</u> as inspiration for other schools.
- > It is good that school policies are reviewed annually in your school. Ensure that they are also updated when changes are put into place that could affect them. All staff should be aware of the contents of the policy.
- 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 (<u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools</u>) and School Policy (<u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy</u>) will provide helpful information.
- 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 <u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-</u>.

Reporting and Incident-Handling

- It is a pity not to share the details and solutions applied to bullying incidents both with the staff members and via the eSafety Label incident handling form. Only in this way can you learn through experience and the successful incident handling practices of others. You should also make sure that anti-bullying guidelines are given to pupils and staff 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.
- It's good that you have a clear School Policy on handling out-of-school eSafety incidents; is the number of these declining? Start a discussion thread in the community on what other preventative measures or awareness raising activities could be used in order to reduce the number of issues further. Don't forget to anonymously document incidents on the Incident handling form (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling), as this enables schools to share and learn from each other's strategies.

Staff policy

In your school user accounts are managed in a timely manner. This is important as it decreases the risk of misuse.

Pupil practice/behaviour

- It is good that pupils have the possibility to shape school activities when discussing eSafety, be it extra-curricular and curricular ones, based on what is going on in their daily lives. This way they will be more engaged and it also allows the teacher to recognise real life issues.
- 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

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 <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.

Consider appointing a governor or board member who provides a liaison for eSafety issues. Consider also reporting on the number and type of eSafety incidents to the governing body on an annual basis when you also review your School Policy. See our fact sheet on School Policy <u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy</u>.

eSafety in the curriculum

- > 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.
- It is good that eSafety is taught as part of the curriculum in your school. Ensure that all staff are delivering eSafety education where appropriate throughout the curriculum and not just through ICT or Personal Social and Health lessons. You/your staff may find some useful ideas and resources in the fact sheet Embedding eSafety in the curriculum at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/embedding-online-safety-in-curriculum.
- All pupils need to receive some eSafety education. Although pupils may not be using technology within school, they will more than likely be using it at home and so some of the issues surrounding the use of online technology need to be addressed.

Extra curricular activities

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

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

Staff training

- It is good practise that you provide information to teachers on the technology used by pupils in their freetime. This is important as this awareness is the first step in addressing the issue of powering down for school. At the same time pupils should not be asked to do their homework using technology not available to them outside of schools. You might want to have a look at the <u>Essie Survey of ICT in schools</u>.
- All staff need to be regularly updated about emerging trends in eSafety issues. Consider a needs-analysis to determine what different staff need from their training and consult the eSafety Label portal to see suggestions for training courses at <u>www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses</u>.

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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