# 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**

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

- > 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.
- All staff and pupils are allowed to use USB memory sticks in your school. This is good practice, and your Acceptable Use Policy should stipulate that all removable media is checked before use in the school systems. Check the fact sheet on Use of removable devices at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/use-of-removable-devices">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/use-of-removable-devices</a> to make sure you cover all security aspects.
- You should organise a meeting with other teachers so you can discuss how the school could use social media and digital devices as an aid to learning in the classroom. Look at the outcomes and report from the SMILE project (Social Media in Learning and Education, <a href="http://www.eun.org/teaching/smile">http://www.eun.org/teaching/smile</a>) to learn more about using social media in the classroom.

#### **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>).
- > It is good that all users are attributed a different password by the system in your school. Remind all school members never to write their given password down anywhere, certainly not on a sticker on a computer! Also,

ensure that the Acceptable Use Policy reminds staff and pupils to keep their passwords secure and not share them with others.

Unprotected devices and even more so portable devices are a very high risk to data protection and not just to the device owner itself, but also to any person he has contact with. It is therefore crucial that all staff are informed and that this is also explained to pupils. Consider producing materials to share with all of your staff that raises awareness on this issue. This material should also be pointed out to new staff as part of there induction.

## **Software licensing**

- > It is good practise that the member of staff responsible is fully aware of installed software and their license status.
- > 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 <a href="End-user license agreement">End-user license agreement</a> section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.

# **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.

# **Policy**

#### Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

- > 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.
- 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 <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-</a>.

#### **Reporting and Incident-Handling**

- > Your teachers know how to recognise and handle (cyber)bullying. Think about ways to raise awareness also among pupils and parents. Check out the eSafety fact sheet for more information.
- > 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.

- Have teachers received training on dealing with potentially illegal material? Is the procedure clearly indicated in the School Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy which all teachers and pupils have signed? All staff and pupils should be aware that they should report any suspected illegal content to the national INHOPE hotline (www.inhope.org).
- 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 (<a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling</a>), as this enables schools to share and learn from each other's strategies.
- 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.

#### Staff policy Pupil practice/behaviour

> When discussing eSafety pupils at your school can sometimes provide feedback on the activities. Involve them as much as possible so that the teacher recognises real life issues while the pupils are more engaged.

#### School presence online

> It is good that pupils can give feedback on the school's online presence. Think about creating a space that is entirely managed by pupils. It's a great opportunity to learn about media literacy and related issues. It also can help to establish a peer network of support. Find out more about in the eSafety Label fact sheet.

# **Practice**

#### Management of eSafety

- In your school, teachers are responsible for their own pupils' online activity. There are many network security and user privacy, audit and procedural tool checks and balances that need to take place to ensure the safety of your pupils and the school networks, and these should be laid down in your School Policy. See our fact sheet on School Policy at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy</a>.
  - To ensure this happens as efficiently and often as necessary, we advise that the Principal of your school appoints one individual staff member to look after eSafety management in the school. This person will be responsible for seeing that all aspects included in your School Policy are discussed and looked at with other teachers as well as with pupils in the classroom.

To ensure that every staff member, pupil and parent is aware of her or his online rights and responsibilities, see the fact sheet on Acceptable Use Policy (<a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-</a>).

#### eSafety in the curriculum

- > It is good that cyberbullying is a topic within the curriculum of older pupils. Unfortunately, however, it is also an issue that very young pupils are faced with. Try to discuss this with pupils from a very early age, maybe in the form of role plays. Also check the according fact sheet for more information.
- These issues are very topical at present and it is important to raise awareness and provide pupils with opportunities to discuss concerns and ask questions. Consider integrating some education around these issues into the overall eSafety curriculum.
- 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.

#### Extra curricular activities

- Consider carrying out a simple survey in order to establish what pupils are doing when they go online. This will help to inform eSafety education within the school. Share your survey questionnaire and results in the eSafety Label community via your <u>My school area</u> (avoiding publishing any personal information) so that other schools can benefit from your work and even share their results with you for comparative purposes.
- > 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 <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents</a> to find resources that could be circulated to parents and ideas for parent evenings.
- 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

- All teachers should be able to recognise signs of cyberbullying and be aware on how to best proceed. Make sure that your teachers are regularly trained bearing in mind the rapid changes of new technology. Also check the eSafety fact sheet on Cyberbullying at <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/cyberbullying">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/cyberbullying</a>.
- 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 <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses</a>.

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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