# 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 important that your ICT services are regularly reviewed, updated and removed if no longer in use. Installing the latest versions and patches often addresses security vulnerabilities without which your services might come under attack. Ensure that this is part of the job description of the ICT coordinator.

#### Pupil and staff access to technology

> The fact that staff and pupils are allowed to use USB memory sticks in your school following permission, would require that all staff concerned receive adequate training to be able to know when they can be used safely. Is this the case? To keep your systems secure whilst allowing staff and pupils you also need to include the ground rules in your Acceptable Use Policy. 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.

#### **Data protection**

- It is good that your school provides materials on the importance of protecting devices, especially portable ones. Ensure that staff are aware of these and use them. This material should be pointed out to new staff as part of their induction. Please consider uploading those as evidence at <u>evidence</u> and sharing with others in the forum. Also ensure that your materials are regularly reviewed to ensure they are in line with the state of the latest technology.
- > Your school has a legal obligation under the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998 to store, archive and dispose of personal information securely. Ensure that a good records management system is put in place. Check the

according fact sheet for more information.

> You have a good policy of encrypting pupil data and storing it safely. Ensure all new staff made aware of the procedures for encryption and data handling and that there is a named point of contact acting as the data controller for your school. Upload to your school profile some guidelines about protecting sensitive data through an encryption system so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

#### **Software licensing**

- > 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.
- > Your school has set a realistic budget for software needs. This is good. Ensure that it remains this way. You might also want to look into alternatives, e.g. Cloud services or open software.

#### **IT Management**

> It is good practise that your are training and/or providing guidance in the use of new software that is installed on school computers. This ensures that school members will take advantage of new features, but also that they are aware of security and data protection issues where relevant.

# **Policy**

#### 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.
- It is good that you have an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for pupils. You should now amend the AUP to include staff and the wider community. To ensure that your revised 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**

- Consider making the policy on 'Online incidents that take place outside school' more explicit and ensure that it is clearly communicated to all through the School Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy. 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.
- 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 <a href="teachtoday.de/en">teachtoday.de/en</a> website (<a href="tinyurl.com/9j86v84">tinyurl.com/9j86v84</a>). If such incidents arise in your school, make sure you

anonymously fill out the eSafety Label Incident handling form (<a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling</a>) so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

- > 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.

### **Staff policy**

- > Ensure that all staff understand the school's regulations on use of personal mobile devices in the classroom; these should be clearly communicated in the School Policy. Monitor the effectiveness of the policy and ensure that it is adhered to. You can also advise your staff to read the fact sheet Using mobile phones at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools).
- New technologies, such as smartphones or other mobile devices bring a new set of risks with them. Ensure that your teachers are aware of those. This way they can avoid the pitfalls when using the devices and also pass the knowledge onto the pupils.

#### **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 important that a designated member of staff has an overview of any social networking profiles set up by representatives of your school. 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. Consider setting up a school social media profile to facilitate monitoring and showcase initiatives and achievements, as this can be a useful dissemination tool.

## **Practice**

#### Management of eSafety

- 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy.
- > It is good that you have a designated member of staff responsible for eSafety. Consider whether it would be helpful to have an eSafety committee comprising members from all groups of stakeholders. 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 <a href="https://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling</a>.

### eSafety in the 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.
- > Ensure that the eSafety curriculum keeps up with emerging issues by making full use of all available resources and ensure that it builds on prior learning, bearing in mind that pupils will need different messages depending on how they are using the technology.

#### 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 <a href="Myschool area">Myschool area</a>.
- Use Safer Internet Day as a mechanism to get the whole school community involved with online safety. The information and resources available at <a href="https://www.saferinternetday.org">www.saferinternetday.org</a> offer an ideal opportunity to promote peer advocacy activities.

### **Sources of support**

- Dobro je, da staršem nudite podporo v zvezi z e-varnostjo, ko si to želijo. Premislite, ali bi bilo dobro vse starše redno obveščati prek spletne strani ali prek povezav v šolskem e-glasilu. Morda imate lahko tudi roditeljski sestanek. Poglejte si smernice o informacijah za starše na <a href="www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents">www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents</a>, kjer boste našli gradiva, ki jih lahko posredujete staršem, in ideje, ki jih lahko uporabite na roditeljskih sestankih.
- > It is great that you have a staff member which is knowledgable in eSafety issues who acts as a teacher of confidence to pupils.

#### 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 <a href="Essie Survey of ICT">Essie Survey of ICT in schools</a>.
- 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>.

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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