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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. Ensure that the provision and management of the firewall are regularly reviewed and updated, as and when required.

### 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.
- › 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, <http://www.eun.org/teaching/smile>) to learn more about using social media in the classroom.
- › 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 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 ([www.esafetylevel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools](http://www.esafetylevel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools)).

## Software licensing

- › 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 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 Management

- › 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.
- › 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 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-](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-).

### Reporting and Incident-Handling

- › 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](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling)), as this enables schools to share and learn from each other's strategies.
- › 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.
- › Please share the materials in which you tackle these issues especially with pupils and parents in the of the eSafety Label portal.
- › 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](http://www.inhope.org)).

## Staff policy

- › 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 [My school area](#).
- › 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.
- › Ensure that all staff, including new members of staff, are aware of the policy concerning online conduct. This should be a topic that is regularly discussed at staff meetings and clearly communicated in the School Policy, and to staff and pupils in the Acceptable Use Policy. Regularly review and update both documents as necessary.

## Pupil practice/behaviour

- › 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 [My school area](#) so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

## 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](http://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.

# 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 [Better Internet for Kids portal](#) to stay up to date with the latest trends in the online world.
- › 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 [www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy).

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 ([www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-)).

- 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 [www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/teacher/incident-handling).

## eSafety in the 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.
- 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.
- You may want to consider including sexting in your child protection policy to help to ensure a consistent whole-school approach to dealing with any incidents.
- 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](#).
- 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 Embedding eSafety in the curriculum at [www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/embedding-online-safety-in-curriculum](http://www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/embedding-online-safety-in-curriculum).

## Extra curricular activities 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

- 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 [Essie Survey of ICT in schools](#).

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 [Upload evidence](#) on the [My school area](#) 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 [Forum](#), and your [reporting of incidents](#) on the template provided are all also taken into account.