eSafety Label for a safer school

eSafety Label - Action Plan

Action plan submitted by Sevilay Bozkurt for Çandarlı Cumhuriyet İlkokulu - 18.01.2020 @ 19:40:08

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 www.europa.eu/youth/EU_en for examples of discussions that can take place in the classroom on this topic, through role-play and group games.
- > 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-your-devices-against-malware.

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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/use-of-removable-devices to make sure you cover all security aspects.
- > It is great that in your school laptops/tablets are easily accessible within a lesson. Using them provides best practise for pupils in dealing with new media. Ensure that safety issues are also discussed.

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.
- Passwords offer unique entry points into the school computing system and some basic rules of password security should be rigorously applied. For further information, read the fact sheet on Safe passwords at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/safe-passwords.

Include these rules in your Acceptable User Agreement and avoid giving new users a standard "first access" password.

Having your learning and administration environments together can create a security risk. Ensuring security of staff's and pupils' private data is a fundamental role of the school. We recommend that your appointed eSafety manager/ICT coordinator, together with the staff and a technical expert, define and implement a strategy for separating learning and administration environments or ensuring the equivalent highest level of security between them. Read the fact sheet on Protecting sensitive data in schools at www.esafetylabel.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 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 (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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-.

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.
- > 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.

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).

Staff policy

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

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.

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

> 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.

> 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.

eSafety in the curriculum

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

It is good that you provide eSafety support for your pupils outside curriculum time when asked. Consider offering all pupils support to deal with online safety issues. It may be helpful to provide a "surgery" to help pupils to set their Facebook privacy etc. The eSafety Label portal provides resources that will be useful for this; check out the fact sheet on Pupils' use of online technology outside school at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/pupils-use-of-online-technology-outside-school.

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

- Your school makes sure that every teacher is trained on cyberbullying. Please share resources that are used in these trainings via uploading them to your <u>My school area</u>. Are you also monitoring the effect that this training had on the number of incidents?
- 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.
- 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses.

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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