

## e-safety for children and acceptable use

The internet is now regarded as an essential resource to support teaching and learning. Computer skills are vital to accessing life-long learning and employment and we must provide managed access to devices linked to the internet to enable children to control their own experiences.

However, it is also vital for children to learn how to be e-safe from an early age and it is important to begin to teach them to be aware of and respond responsibly to possible risks. We need to ensure that children know how to ask for help if they come across material that makes them feel uncomfortable and empower them with the knowledge and skills to keep safe. Regular teaching of e safety will be part of the provision and be age/developmental stage appropriate.

The DSL/DDSL will access up to date online safety training for early years children and cascade and refresh information and practices at least annually.

The manager will ensure that appropriate filters are applied to each PC/laptop/tablets which children have access to and that there are different logon passwords for children and adults within the setting. This policy refers to electronic devices of all kinds, although the setting tablets are not set up to have access to the internet.

The nursery staff will be responsible for:

- checking devices before use for website search results, security systems and apps
- guiding the children in online activities that will support their learning
- monitoring websites being used by the children and ensure the material is appropriate
- ensuring that the use of any internet derived materials by staff or by children complies with copyright law
- ensuring that the manager is informed immediately if staff or children discover unsuitable sites have been accessed so that filters can be reviewed.
- ensuring any window is immediately minimised but not closed and the device must not be shut down to enable relevant investigations to take place
- ensuring 'acceptable use' rules regarding the use of all electronic devices, including the use of cameras, by children are embedded in practice
- modelling safe practice at all times
- ensuring personal details of children will never be shared over the internet.

Staff are aware of procedures to follow in the event of online safety concerns. Links to various contacts are available on the desktop of staff computers/laptops e.g. CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre) or IWF (Internet Watch Foundation).

In the first instance, staff should always report any e safety concerns to the DSL/DDSL who will be able to make decisions about how and when to escalate concerns.

We will work with parents to ensure that they are aware of safe internet use in the nursery and at home. The nursery will update parents with the latest advice through notice boards, newsletters and Facebook page.

The internet will also be used to support the professional work of staff to allow effective planning and source resources. Staff may use the staff logon for this purpose and must logout immediately after they have finished.

Unsuitable sites must not be accessed by staff. Please refer to our ICT staff policy and acceptable use.