eSafety Label for a safer school

eSafety Label - Action Plan

Action plan submitted by Esma Omacan for İSTEK Bilge Kağan Ortaokulu - 02.01.2023 @ 11:49:27

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

- > Ensure that the policy on mobile phones is being applied consistently throughout the school. Take a look at the fact sheet on Using Mobile Phones at School (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools).
- > 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.

Data protection

- > You have a good policy of keeping your learning and administration environments separate. It is good to ensure that staff training on managing these environments is up to date as you continue to review your policies. Share your policy with other eSafety Label users by uploading it to your school profile.
- > It is good that your school records are stored in a safe environment, it is also necessary that they are archived and disposed with in line with the Data Protection Act. Ensure that a good records management system is put in place. Check the according fact sheet for more information.
- 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.

Software licensing

Compliance with licensing agreements is important. Someone needs to have overall responsibility to ensure that this is happening and that all licenses are valid for purpose. Staff should be briefed on who is the person responsible.

The <u>End-user license agreement</u> section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.

- > 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

> 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)

- 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 www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-.
- It is excellent that eSafety is an integral part of several school policies. Do all staff make reference to it when appropriate through their teaching? Look for examples of good practice and share these with staff and pupils.
 Produce a short case study to highlight this good practice and upload it to your profile on the eSafety Label portal via your My school area as inspiration for other schools.

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.
- 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.

> 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

As new technology and online practices emerge the borders of acceptable practice are constantly blurred. This is something that needs to be discussed at staff meetings often. Could you create a tutorial on professional online conduct of staff and upload it to your school profile via your <u>My school area</u> so that other schools can benefit from your good practice?

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.
- > 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 addition to a clear designation of responsibility to ensure that all necessary network security and user privacy checks are in place, it is essential that schools also have audit and procedural checks at regular intervals.
 Without this, a school will be leaving itself vulnerable. See our fact sheet on School Policy at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy.
 - Although there should always be an overall lead person on eSafety just as you have in your school, everybody in the school has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties. Even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise problems. Use our fact sheet Acceptable Use Policy
 - (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-) to ensure that everyone plays their part in ensuring they are all the best and safest digital citizens they can be.

eSafety in the curriculum

- It is excellent that consequences of online actions are discussed with pupils in all grades. Terms and conditions need to be read to fully understand contractual conditions. This can also concern aspects of data privacy.
 Another important topic is breach of copyright. Please share the materials used through the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the Myschool area.
- > 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.
- > 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.

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 My school area.
- How do you organise peer mentoring among pupils on eSafety? Check out the resources of the <u>ENABLE project</u> and share your ideas in the <u>forum</u> of the eSafety Label community so that other schools can benefit from your experience to establish a similar approach.
- > Gather feedback from pupils to see what sort of additional eSafety support they would benefit from outside curriculum time. Could they be involved in delivering some of this to their peers? Check the resource section on the eSafety Label portal to find resources that will help them do 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 great that in your school pupils are actively encouraged to become eSafety mentors. You might want to share your approach to strengthening this network with other teachers on the eSafety Label website via the forum or your school's profile page, so that others can replicate it.

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.
- > 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?

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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