Abingdon Primary School

E-safety Policy

Reviewed: May 2024

Next review July 2025

At Abingdon Primary, we consider E-safety to be of upmost importance. We strive to ensure that children have a solid awareness on how to be safe, both online and offline. It is paramount to us that our children know how to act 'SMART' online and have an awareness of their digital footprint. Our three core values: respect, responsibility and resilience are embedded throughout our lessons and it is crucial to us that children are able to communicate ideas and thoughts in a safe, secure environment.

Aims of the Policy:

1. To ensure all children have safe and secure access to the Internet.

2. To provide clear rules that are consistent throughout our school, which are in place to ensurethe safety of children is paramount at all times.

3. To equip our children and staff with the knowledge and skills needed, to remain safe in the online and offline world.

We understand that new technologies have become an integral part of our young children's lives in and outside of school. The internet is a powerful tool which opens up many new opportunities for our children. The purpose of internet use in our school is to raise educational standards, to promote pupil achievement and to support the professional work of staff. Internet use is part of the statutory curriculum and a vital tool for learning.

Access to the internet is therefore an entitlement for pupils who show a responsible and mature approach to its use and therefore, Abingdon Primary School has a duty to provide pupils with safe and secure internet access.

Here are some of the benefits of the digital world that we value most:

- Access to high quality educational resources.
- Use of exciting and innovative tools in school raises educational standards and promotes pupil achievement.
- Worldwide communication.
- Access to experts in many fields for pupils and staff ensure high quality professional development.
- Educational materials and effective curriculum practice.
- Collaboration across support services and professional associations.
- Exchange of curriculum and administration data with the Local Authority.
- Access to learning at home when learning remotely.
- Children with additional needs, making increased progress across all subjects.

However, as a school community, it is vital that we acknowledge that the use of these technologies can put our children at risk inside and outside of school.

Some of the dangers they may face include:

- Access to illegal, harmful or inappropriate images or other content.
- Unauthorised access to / loss of / sharing of personal information
- The risk of being subject to grooming by those with whom they make contact on the internet.
- The sharing / distribution of personal images without an individual's consent or knowledge.
- Inappropriate communication / contact with others, including strangers
- Cyber-bullying.
- Access to unsuitable video / internet games.
- An inability to evaluate the quality, accuracy and relevance of information on the internet.
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement.
- Illegal downloading of music or video files.
- The potential for excessive use which may impact on the social and emotional development, and the learning of the young person.

Many of these risks also reflect situations in the offline world which is why it is crucial that this policy is used in conjunction with the behaviour, anti-bullying and child protection policy. We hope that through effective educational provision, we are able to educate our children in online safety and equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to keep themselves and other safe online.

The requirement to ensure that our children are able to use the internet safety, is addressed as part of the wider duty of care, of which all who work at our school are responsible for. At Abingdon Primary School, we strive to ensure that the safety of our children and staff is of upmost importance.

We ensure that e-safety at our school is of paramount importance by:

- Ensuring we have a relevant, up-to-date online safety curriculum which is progressive from Reception to Year 6.
- Ensuring parents and carers are kept up to date with relevant online safety matters, policies and agreements.
- Ensuring that pupils, staff and parents have read and signed our Acceptable Use Policies.
- Educating our children on the dangers that may be encountered when online and how to react in a safe way if the situation were to arise.
- Making sure our children are aware of the impacts of cyber bullying and where to seek advice or help if they experience any concerns when using the internet.
- We will ensure that our children have a solid understanding on what internet use is acceptable and what is not.
- We aim to provide a trusting environment where children feel comfortable sharing any concerns that they have relating to online safety.
- We use E-Safe digital safeguarding software to identify the use of any inappropriate language used on our devices in school.
- We use a monitoring company called Smoothwall to provide filtering and reports on all of our school systems.
- If we receive any reports of unacceptable use/language/concerns, it is reported and investigated immediately.
- Ensuring our staff act as positive role models when using technology inside and outside of school.
- Posters are displayed inside school, with reminders on how to be safe online.

- Pupils are helped to understand the need to adopt safe and responsible use of the Internet and mobile devices both within and outside school.

- All phones belonging to children that are brought into school are kept in a locked drawer or cupboard.

- Parents are provided with regular reminders, documents and support to help ensure our children are using the internet safely, both inside and outside of school.

Through the learning provided at our school, assemblies, class circles, PSHE lessons and internet safety weeks, we aim to do our best to provide a safe environment for our children, both online and offline. We aim to work collaboratively as a school withour children and parents to ensure that we succeed in creating responsible, resilient and respectful users of the internet.

We recommend that parents visit the CEOP Think U Know website for moreinformation on

keeping your child safe online: www.thinkuknow.co.uk