

eSafety Label - Action Plan

Action plan submitted by OKAN KARACA for KÜTAHYA GEDİZ ALTINKENT ORTAOKULU - 30.11.2022 @ 10:09:42

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.
- 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.
- 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.

Pupil and staff access to technology 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.
- Your new users are given a standard password and are asked to generate their own password on their first access. 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.

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.

- > Ensure that all staff are aware of the procedure for purchasing new software and that all licenses are appropriate for the number of pupils and staff that will be using them. The End-user license agreement section in Wikipedia will provide useful information for understanding terms and conditions and comparing software agreements.
- > It is good that you can produce an overview of installed software and their licences in a short time frame with the help of several people. Consider centralising this.

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.
- > There is a mechanism set up in your school that allows any staff member to make a request for new hard/software a request that leads to an informed decision within a reasonable amount of time. This is great as this way teacher can benefit from new technologies while still staying inline with school policy.

Policy

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.
- > In your school policy issues are regularly discussed. This is good practice as it ensures staff and pupils are aware of them. Do pupils and staff also have to sign related documents to confirm their awareness?
- 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-.

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), as this enables schools to share and learn from each other's strategies.
- > Please share the materials in which you tackle these issues especially with pupils and parents in the of the eSafety Label portal.
- > 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 Pupil practice/behaviour

- Your school has a school wide approach of positive and negative consequences for pupil behaviour. This is good practice, please share your policy via the <u>My school area</u> of the eSafety portal so that other schools can learn from it
- > 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.
- 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 <u>My school area</u> so that other schools can benefit from your experience.

School presence online

> 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

It is good that all staff in your school are responsible for eSafety. However, it is good practice to appoint a person who will have overall responsibility for eSafety issues to provide the focus needed. Ideally this should be someone from the senior leadership team. 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.

eSafety in the curriculum

- It is very good that, in your school, pupils are taught from an early age on about responsibilities and consequences when using social media. Please share any resources through the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the My school area.
- 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 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.

- 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.
- > 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.

Extra curricular activities Sources of support

- > It is great that you have a staff member which is knowledgable in eSafety issues who acts as a teacher of confidence to pupils.
- > 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.
- 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.