eSafety Label - Action Plan

Action plan submitted by İbrahim Çolak for Sebahattin Akyüz Fen Lisesi - 14.01.2023 @ 19:17:59

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

- 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.

- 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.

- 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

- 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 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

- It is good that your email system is protected and that you have a policy for the transfer of pupil data in place. In this regard, it is important to draw up guidelines so that all staff are clear about what to do if they discover inappropriate or illegal content on school machines. For further information see the fact sheet on Protecting

sensitive data (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/protecting-sensitive-data-in-schools).

- 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.

- 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.

Software licensing

- 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

- 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)

- Regularly review the Mobile Phone Policy to ensure that it is fit for purpose and that it is being applied consistently across the school. The fact sheets on Using mobile phones at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/using-mobile-device-in-schools) and School Policy (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/school-policy) will provide helpful information.

- 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 essential for all schools to have an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for staff and pupils. Consult with all stakeholders to draw up an AUP urgently. See the fact sheet and check list on Acceptable Use Policy at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/acceptable-use-policy-aup-.

Reporting and Incident-Handling

- Your teachers know how to recognise and handle (cyber)bullying. Think about ways to raise awareness also among pupils and parents. Check out the eSafety fact sheet for more information.

- 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.

Staff policy

- You have guidelines in your Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) on teachers' classroom usage of mobile phones. Upload your AUP to your school profile as it is a model of good practice that can help other eSafety Label schools.

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

- There should be a code of conduct for staff so that they are clear about what is acceptable behaviour when they are online. This should be clearly communicated to all staff in the School Policy, and to staff and pupils in the Acceptable Use Policy. Regularly review and update both documents as necessary.

Pupil practice/behaviour

- Electronic communication guidelines for pupils should be clearly communicated in the Acceptable Use Policy. Communication between pupils can rapidly degenerate if school-wide standards are not set, giving rise to incidents such as cyberbullying. Learning about effective, responsible communication should also be part of the school curriculum, as it is a necessary competence for every young person. Discuss this at a staff meeting in order to define the standards you want to implement.

School presence online

- Check the fact sheet on Taking and publishing photos and videos at school (www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/taking-and-publishing-photos-and-videos-at-school) to see that your School Policy covers all areas, then upload this section of your School Policy to your profile page via your My school area so that other schools can learn from your good practice.

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

- 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.

- 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.

- Although these are sensitive issues, it is good to be proactive about raising awareness of them. Consider integrating some education around these issues into the overall eSafety curriculum.

Extra curricular activities

- Consider carrying out a simple survey in order to establish what pupils are doing when they go online. This will help to inform eSafety education within the school. Share your survey questionnaire and results in the eSafety Label community via your My school area (avoiding publishing any personal information) so that other schools can benefit from your work and even share their results with you for comparative purposes.

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.

- Dobro je, da staršem nudite podporo v zvezi z e-varnostjo, ko si to želijo. Premislite, ali bi bilo dobro vse starše redno obveščati prek spletne strani ali prek povezav v šolskem e-glasilu. Morda imate lahko tudi roditeljski sestanek. Poglejte si smernice o informacijah za starše na www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/information-for-parents, kjer boste našli gradiva, ki jih lahko posredujete staršem, in ideje, ki jih lahko uporabite na roditeljskih sestankih.

Staff training

- In your school knowledge exchange between staff members is encouraged. This is beneficiary to the whole school. Upload PowerPoints, documents or similar of knowledge exchanges on eSafety topics via the uploading evidence tool, accessible also via the My school area.

- All staff need to be regularly updated about emerging trends in eSafety issues. Consider a needs-analysis to determine what different staff need from their training and consult the eSafety Label portal to see suggestions for training courses at www.esafetylabel.eu/group/community/suggestions-for-online-training-courses.

- It is important that teachers are aware 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. Ensure that all teachers are provided with information of this. Have a look at the Essie Survey of ICT in schools.

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 Upload evidence on the My school area 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 Forum, and your reporting of incidents on the template provided are all also taken into account.