

eSafety Policy

Review Date	October 2015	Leader of Policy Review	Mr. S. Budgen
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eSafety is the education of students about the benefits and risks of using new technologies, and to provide safeguards and awareness that enable them to control their on-line experiences. Examples of such technologies include the Internet and other electronic communications, as well as social networking and personal publishing.

Parents and teachers should be aware that the Internet has emerging online spaces and social networks which allow individuals to publish unmediated content.

Writing for an audience is important to language development and an essential life skill. However, students should be encouraged to be cautious about revealing too much personal information and about the difficulty of removing inappropriate text, images or other content once it is published.

Some potential dangers of such technologies include:

- Providers that do not supply any solid ownership or contact information for their sites
- The dangers inherent when sites can be setup using a false name and email address with no identity checking
- The posting of anonymous comments that may be malicious
- Sites that give safety of users a low priority
- Sites that celebrate inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour

In response the School will:

- Filter access within school in line with the published policy on 'Acceptable use of Electronic Communications'
 - Be proactive in educating students so that they have a good understanding of what it means to be a responsible and mature user of internet technologies
 - Explain to students the risks and how to get help should they need it
 - Discourage students from posting personal information about themselves and each other
 - Teach students to critically evaluate materials and learn good searching skills
 - Provide opportunities within a range of curriculum areas to teach about e-Safety
 - Provide parents and the school community with information relating to the safe use of computers and offer constructive advice on how to minimise risk to their children
 - Deal with any incidents relating to e-Safety via the Behaviour Policy
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