



# **CVSE Online Safety for Children and Young People Policy**

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Date Ratified by management team	September 2017
Status	Ratified
Last Review Date	September 2021
Policy Number	CVSE doc 6

## **Online safety for children and Young People**

We recognise that the modern world can be a dangerous place for our young people. Our aim is to help our children develop the resilience and self-confidence needed to avoid exploitation by others in whatever form it may occur, whether that be sexual or political exploitation. The aim of this policy addresses the need for young people to be alert to the potential dangers of online interactions, and to be aware of the need for vigilance to ensure their own safety and well-being.

### **Working with children, parents, and carers.**

- We work in a three-way relationship with child, parents and teacher. This close working relationship aims to support the developing needs of the children.
- In these early years, we work with parents, to help them to understand the need to be vigilant and supportive regarding their children's internet use.
- Screen usage is on the agenda of every parents' evening where teachers actively discourage the use of computers and mobile phones by children. We warn of the dangers of internet activities both in the sense of the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual development of the child, and in the sense of internet safety.
- The teachers also intervene in the event of overheard or overt conversations about any screen use. They comment on the suitability of activity to the children and if there are further concerns, a direct conversation with the parents of those children will ensue.
- The teachers may talk to the children about the dangers of screen use, in particular online safety, whenever the opportunity arises.
- We recognise that there are dangers inherent in a potential naivety around internet use, and that digital media is becoming more and more ubiquitous in everyday life.
- Our curriculum and the way we work with the children develops confidence and assertiveness. Their opinions are respected by staff who also encourage peer to peer respect. This is particularly encouraged during Kindergarten mealtimes.
- We have ongoing training for staff in how to listen to children so that they are confident in their responses to potential disclosure. This will reinforce our online training in this area.

### **Support for parents.**

- CVSE has a lead for online safety - DSL – Kate Lunn, parents will be made aware that they can contact the DSL for advice
- CVSE will provide all new parents a copy of the NSPCC book let – Keeping your kids safe online
- CVSE will check with parents remaining with us at the start of term if they require a further copy of the NSPCC booklet
- Parents evenings will have an agenda item of online safety

Teachers cannot be experts regarding online security so helpful advice can be sought from other sources.

For further information see <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware>

- There is a wealth of information available to support early year's settings and colleges to keep children safe online. The following is not exhaustive but should provide a useful starting point:
- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
- [www.disrespectnobody.co.uk](http://www.disrespectnobody.co.uk)
- [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)
- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- [educateagainsthate.com](http://educateagainsthate.com)
- [www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation)

If parents need any advice re online safety they can contact Kate Lunn (the Lead DSL for CVSE on 07815 425139)