Online Safety Policy

Enfield County School for Girls

Learning Today – Leading Tomorrow

Contents

Contents

Mission Statement

At Enfield County School for Girls we realise the value and the huge resource that the internet provides to learning and communication, however we are also aware of the potential risks and harms posed online and the need for young people to be educated to use the internet safely and responsibly. We are conscious that students will need the skills to navigate the internet both socially and professionally and we intend this policy to make clear our commitment to keeping students informed and safety both now and in the future.

The purpose of this policy is to:

• ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices

• provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety

• ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices.

The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, children and young people and anyone involved in Enfield County School for Girls'.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England

Summaries of the key legislation linked to this policy:

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2022)

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)

Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment between Children (September 2021)

'What do if you are worried a child is being abused' (information sharing 2018)

Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 (amended 2018)

Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners (DfE March 2015);

Contents

The Prevent Duty 2015

Guidance for Safer Working Practices for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education Settings (May 2019);

We believe that:

• Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind

• Children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times.

We recognise that:

• The online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges

• We have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online

• We have a responsibility to help keep children and young people safe online, whether or not they are using Enfield County School for Girls's network and devices

• Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety

• All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

• Safeguarding children who come from Black, Asian or Global Majority communities

• Safeguarding LGBTQ+ children and young people

• Safeguarding children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

Contents

• Ensuring online safety coordinators are in place

• Providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online through our behaviour code for adults

• Supporting and encouraging young people using our service to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others

• Supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online

• developing an online safety agreement for use with young people and their parents or carers

• Developing clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child or young person

• Reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly

• Ensuring that user names, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively

• Ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely and shared only as appropriate

• Ensuring that images of children, young people and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given

• Providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety

• Examining and risk assessing any social media platforms and new technologies before they are used within the organisation.

If online abuse occurs, we will respond to it by:

• Having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse (including online abuse)

• Providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying or cyberbullying, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation

• Making sure our response takes the needs of the person experiencing abuse, any bystanders and our organisation as a whole into account

Contents

• Reviewing the plan developed to address online abuse at regular intervals, in order to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

Related policies and procedures

This policy statement should be read alongside our:

• Safeguarding and Child protection policy

• Code of conduct for staff and volunteers • anti-bullying policy and procedures

• Anti-Bullying Policy

Contact details

Online Safety Co-ordinator name: Deputy Headteachers, Mrs H O'Brien and Ms J Foster

Senior Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection name: Ms J Scott