Online Safety Policy – appendix

Wainwright Primary Academy

September 2024

Diverse Academies

Contents

1   Introduction

Online safety at Wainwright Primary Academy is of paramount importance. As the online world evolves, so do both the online harms and risks facing our children and the relevant legislation, both statutory and non-statutory, which directs and guides how the academy meets online safety requirements.

School staff and governors play a vital role in setting an example for the whole school and are central to implementing policy and process. A whole school community approach to online safety is adopted and all stakeholders are aware of their responsibilities and duties in relation to keeping children safe online. This supports a robust online safety ethos and ensures that the academy provides the best online safety provision possible.

This policy appendix is applicable to all members of Wainwright Primary Academy. This includes, staff, students and pupils, volunteers, parents/carers, visitors and community users who have access to and are users of the Wainwright Primary Academy digital technology systems, both internally and externally within the home and community setting.

In addition to this appendix, we always adhere to the overarching Trust Online Safety Policy.

2   Online Safety School Statement

Wainwright Primary Academy asserts that online safety is an essential element of safeguarding and duly acknowledges its statutory obligation to ensure that all learners and staff are protected from potential online harm.

Wainwright Primary Academy believes that the internet and associated devices are an integral part of everyday life and that learners should be empowered to build resilience and to develop strategies to recognise and respond to online risks.

3   Policy Scope

Online safety is an omnipresent topic which requires recurrent regulatory review and places a stringent duty of care on us all. This policy supports schools in meeting statutory requirements as per the DfE guidance under [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) [Working together to safeguard children 2018](#) and non-statutory guidance, [Teaching online safety in schools](#) Effective, timely and robust online safety is fundamental to protecting children and young people in education and it is a significant part of the safeguarding agenda.

High quality online safety provision requires constant vigilance and a readiness to act where abuse, exploitation or neglect is suspected. The landscape of safeguarding is constantly evolving, and at Wainwright Primary Academy, we endeavour to embrace and shape key priorities in support of this. We have a vital role to fulfil in protecting children and young people from forms of online abuse whilst demonstrating a concerted obligation to respond with haste and flexibility to concerns as they arise. Above all, all staff must foster dedication to ensuring that they listen to the voices of the vulnerable and act upon what is heard. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Defining online abuse: "Online abuse is any type of abuse that happens on the web, whether through social networks, playing online games or using mobile phones" (NSPCC, 2019).

The types, patterns and different circumstances of significant harm and abuse should be considered within the categories identified for children in the [Children Act 1989](#)

Technology can facilitate a world of learning and development, in addition to help yield a range of opportunities. However, the stark reality is that it can also present a window to potential and actual harm and abuse. It can elicit and support an array of illegal abusive behaviours including, but not limited to:

- Cyberbullying
- Emotional abuse
- Grooming
- Sexting
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Harassment

- Stalking
- Threatening behaviour

4 Roles and Responsibilities

The following section outlines the online safety roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders across the online community within Wainwright Primary Academy.

4.1 Teachers and Staff

All teachers and staff at Wainwright Primary Academy have a full understanding of their duty to protect children online. All staff receive dedicated training to ensure that they understand the processes and procedures when dealing with online safety.

At Wainwright, we understand how important it is to ensure that we provide a robust curriculum that teaches children how to be safe online.

Online Safety Lead – Paul Dowse - pdowse@wainwrightprimary-ac.org.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Carly Ripley – cripley@wainwrightprimary-ac.org.uk

4.2 Children and Young People

Children at Wainwright Primary Academy are taught explicitly through our computing curriculum and know how to keep safe through the use of our 5Bs and Jigsaw programme. We teach children which adults they are able to report to and how to keep safe online. We use our 5B behaviours to reinforce how to keep safe, be responsible and respectful online.

4.3 Parents and Carers

Parents and carers play a crucial role in ensuring that their children understand the need to use the online services and devices in an appropriate way.

The academy will take every opportunity to help parents and carers understand these issues through:

- Ensuring provision and adherence to online safety policies and other policies of relevance
- Providing them with a copy of the learners' acceptable use agreement
- Providing details of all relevant contacts (for example, the DSL)
- Recognising and cultivating the essential role parents and carers have in fostering safer online safety practices in children and young people, by publishing information about appropriate use of social media relating to posts concerning the academy
- Obtaining permissions concerning digital images
- Ensuring provision of resources, support and advice
- Advise of how and when to raise concerns.

Parents and carers will be encouraged to support our academy in:

- Supporting online safety approaches and education provision and reinforcing the online safety messages provided to learners in academy
- The use of their children's personal devices in the academy (where this is allowed)
- Knowing how to report online issues
- Adhering to academy policy regarding taking photos/using technology at academy events
- Identifying changes in children's behaviour that could indicate they are at risk of online harm or abuse and share any concerns with the academy
- Engaging with resources and shared information from National Online Safety, such as the Weekly Wake Up Wednesday materials and the opportunity to complete online safety modules for parents and carers

5   Education and Training

At Wainwright Primary Academy, we are committed to ensuring the provision of an integrated and highly robust safeguarding service for all ages. Online safety has a high emphasis ensuring up to date policies and procedures, robust governance arrangements and collaborative practices.

Professional development ensures that all staff are knowledgeable, confident and equipped with the skills to deal with processes and procedures when concerns arise relating to online abuse or harm. Staff receive online safety training through the certified National Online Safety Programme

which meets the statutory online safety duties in the [Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance](#) and aligns to the [Education for a Connected World Framework](#)

5.1 Learners

Wainwright Primary Academy will promote safe and responsible internet use by ensuring that:

- Curriculum Leads will work with the Online Safety Lead to ensure a well-planned, sequenced and progressive online safety education programme
- The programme of studies in Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Information Computer Technology, prepare children with the knowledge and personal skills to enable them to keep themselves safe online
- Assemblies and pastoral programmes are used to enrich the curriculum, for example, using relevant national initiatives and opportunities e.g. [Safer Internet Day](#) and [Anti-bullying week](#)

5.2 Vulnerable Learners

Wainwright Primary Academy recognises that some learners are more vulnerable due to a range of factors. Those children may be:

- Receiving statutory care or support
- Known to have experienced specific personal harm
- With a disability, ill-health or developmental difficulties
- In households or families with characteristics or locations that indicate higher potential likelihood of current and future harm
- Vulnerable or of concern by virtue of their identity or nationality
- At risk in relation to activity or institutions outside the home
- Caring for others.

Wainwright Primary Academy will ensure the effective and safe provision of tailored online safety education, as well as obtain input and advice from specialist staff as deemed necessary.

6   Cultivating a safe environment through the curriculum offer

An overview of our computing curriculum can be found [here](#)

Children will be educated in an age-appropriate way around:

- How to evaluate what they see online
- How to recognise techniques for persuasion
- Their online behaviour
- How to identify online risks
- How and when to seek support

7   Responding to Online Safety Concerns

The safety of the child and young person is of paramount importance. Immediate action may be required to safeguard investigations and any other children and young people. Any concern that children and young people may be at risk of harm or abuse, must immediately be reported to the DSL/DDSL. Reputational issues must be managed appropriately by discussion with the relevant communications team.

Online safety is recognised as part of Wainwright Primary Academy's safeguarding responsibilities – the DSL will take lead responsibility for online safety concerns, which should be recorded and actioned. Children and young people will be enabled, at a level appropriate to their age and ability, to share online concerns. The child protection policy for Wainwright Primary Academy includes procedures to follow regarding online safety concerns.

Remember:

- Child welfare is our principal concern – the best interests of our children always take precedence
- If there is any immediate danger, we contact the police on 999
- We refer to all appropriate agencies as per Wainwright Primary Academy local process

- We always adhere to local safeguarding procedures and report to the DSL Mrs C Ripley, Principal and Ms J Ashley, the Family Support Advisor.

8   Monitoring and Compliance

Monitoring Requirements	For example: Analysing incident logs Checking planning for online safety lessons Student, pupils, parents and carers questionnaires Evaluations
Monitoring Method	QA
Monitoring Prepared by	Mr P Dowse
Monitoring Presented to	Mrs C Ripley and Ms J Ashley DSL
Frequency of Reporting	Termly