Care, Aspire, Achieve

Alexandra Park Primary eSafe Policy

September 2020

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Who are eSafe?

eSafe are pioneers in the monitoring sector and have been setting the highest standards in the industry. Their innovative service is constantly evolving to keep pace with the increasing demands placed on education leaders to know exactly what is occurring within their establishments. Not only does eSafe protect students and staff from the growing list of potentially harmful or inappropriate behaviours, it also removes the heavy and time-consuming burden from education leaders.

What makes them really unique is the capability to detect safeguarding risks early, so intervention can be fast - ultimately, helping to safeguard the reputation of us, the children and the school name.

How does eSafe work?

The eSafe system is in place to monitor the children's activities both online and offline. The system works in a variety of different ways.

- It will monitor video and photographic content that is being viewed online.

- It will use keystrokes (touches of keys) and detect whether inappropriate or concerning words/statements/sentences are being written both online and offline, meaning that it will detect things written onto Word documents etc.
- It works as a secondary firewall, further ensuring the safety of the children and the school computer network.

The children have all been made aware of the eSafe system and if any event is brought to our attention, Mr Williams will talk to the individual child and record the event in a designated area. If the event is a safeguarding issue, then appropriate action will be taken in conjunction with the school's safeguarding policy and procedures.

eSafety in the curriculum

The computing curriculum can be broken down into modules across each year group. They are:
1. Programming
2. Data
3. Communication
4. Multimedia
5. E-safety)

The e-safety element of the curriculum will not be taught at one time as a full unit of work. Where e-safety is taught as one unit all at once, the children tend to forget the unit quickly as they move on to focus on other things in computing. This is something we aim to avoid.

We have taken the decision to teach e-safety at the start of each of the other four modules, giving the children e-safety reminders in short bursts connected to what they are learning. For example, we would teach the dangers of multimedia online (including social media etc. to the older children), at the beginning of the multimedia module. The children will then be given constant reminders of the e-safety issues connected to what they are learning as well as reminders about the eSafe system working in our school.

Care, Aspire, Achieve

Alexandra Park Primary School is all about these three words. In computing, the children have huge opportunities to achieve great things, especially given the digital age we now live in. They have opportunities to aspire and try new things, using a variety of different hardware and software.

The care side of computing comes from all of the above as we want to ensure that each and every child is safe, happy and cared for. Our e-safety curriculum will inform them and the eSafe system will protect them. The two together provide a strong system that will ensure the highest standards of care and safety.