

Boards of Governors have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils and to determine the measures to be taken at a school to protect pupils from abuse.

In the exercise of those duties, Boards of Governors must ensure that their schools have a policy on the safe, healthy, acceptable and effective use of the Internet and other digital technology tools. They must also actively promote safe and acceptable working practices for all staff and pupils: these will serve to reassure parents and guardians.

"Used well, digital technologies are powerful, worthwhile educational tools; technical safeguards can partly protect users, but education in safe, effective practices is a key goal for schools." (DENI Circular 2013/25 "eSafety Guidance")

Care and Responsibility

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school. The Internet and other digital and information technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. The use of these exciting and innovative tools in school and at home has been shown to raise educational standards and promote pupil achievement. However, with these opportunities we also have to recognise the risks associated with the internet and related technologies.

As with all other risks, it is impossible to eliminate the risk completely. It is therefore essential, through good educational provision to build pupils' resilience to the risks to which they may be exposed, so that they have the confidence and skills to face and deal with any scenarios which may arise.

In Carr Primary School we understand the responsibility to educate our pupils in E-Safety issues. We aim to teach pupils appropriate behaviours and critical thinking to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the Internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Code of Safe Practice for Pupils

A parental/carer consent letter accompanied by the code of practice for pupils is sent out annually to parents/carers and this consent along with that of the pupil must be obtained before the pupil accesses the internet.

In addition, the following key measures have been adopted by Carr PS to ensure our pupils do not access any inappropriate material:

- The school's Online Safety code of practice for Use of the Internet and other digital technologies is made explicit to all pupils and Online Safety guidelines are displayed prominently throughout the school;
- Our Code of Practice is reviewed each school year and signed by pupils/parents;
- Pupils using the Internet will normally be working in highly-visible areas of the school;
- All online activity is for appropriate educational purposes and is supervised, where possible;
- Pupils will, where possible, use sites pre-selected by the teacher and appropriate to their age group;
- Pupils in Key Stage 2 are educated in the safe and effective use of the Internet, through a number of selected websites.

Classroom 2000 (C2K) is the project responsible for the provision of an information and communications technology (ICT) managed service to all schools in Northern Ireland. It provides a safety service which should ensure educational use made of resources is safe and secure, while protecting users and systems from abuse. It should be accepted, however, that however rigorous these measures may be, they can never be 100% effective. Neither the school nor C2K can accept liability under such circumstances.

The use of mobile phones or access to social networking sites by pupils are not permitted on the school premises during school hours.

Safe Internet Rules in the Classroom

Think then Click

These rules help us to stay safe on the Internet:

- We only use the internet when an adult is with us
- We can click on the buttons or links when we know what they do.
- We can search the Internet with an adult.
- We always ask if we get lost on the Internet.
- We can send and open emails together.
- We can write polite and friendly emails to people that we know.

CARR PRIMARY SCHOOL



E Safety A Guide for Parents

*This leaflet provides an overview of the E Safety Policy of Carr Primary School.
The full policy can be read on the school website or a paper copy requested from
the school office.*