



Wise Owls Nursery School Online Safety Policy

Policy statement

Wise Owls Nursery School is committed to keeping children safe and healthy. This Online Safety Policy sits alongside the Safeguarding Policy and explains how the nursery promotes the safe and appropriate use of the internet, social media, electronic communications and digital devices.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure children's safety and wellbeing when adults or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices.
- Provide staff, students and volunteers with clear principles for safe online practice.
- Ensure the nursery operates lawfully and in line with safeguarding expectations when using technology.

This policy applies to all staff, students, volunteers, children and anyone involved in Wise Owls Nursery School's activities.

Legal framework

This policy has been developed in line with current safeguarding legislation, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework and relevant government guidance relating to online safety.

Our principles

We believe:

- Children should never experience abuse of any kind.
- Children should be able to benefit from technology safely for learning and development.
- Safeguarding responsibilities extend to the online environment.

We recognise:

- The online world provides many opportunities but also presents risks.
- We have a duty to protect children and adults from online harm.
- Partnership with parents and other agencies is essential.
- All children have an equal right to protection from harm.



How we keep children safe online

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has overall responsibility for online safety, supported by the Deputy DSLs.

- All staff follow this policy and report any online safety concerns immediately.
- Internet-enabled devices are supervised, password protected and appropriately secured.
- Information about children, families and staff is stored securely.
- Children's images are only used with parental consent recorded through Famly.
- Staff must not use personal phones, cameras or social media accounts to photograph children or communicate with current families.
- Children's full names are never published alongside photographs on public platforms.
- The nursery considers the risks of AI-generated image misuse before publishing photographs.
- New technology, apps and online platforms are risk assessed before use.
- Staff receive regular safeguarding and online safety training.
- Parents are supported with guidance to help keep children safe online.

Responding to online safety concerns

Any concern relating to online safety, including inappropriate content, cyberbullying, misuse of images, inappropriate online conduct or accidental access to unsuitable material, must be reported immediately to the DSL. Concerns will be recorded and managed in line with the Safeguarding Policy and, where appropriate, the Allegations Against Staff, Whistleblowing and Complaints procedures.

Handling complaints

Complaints relating to the use of the internet or digital technologies will be managed in accordance with the nursery's Complaints Policy.

Useful resources

- Safeguarding Network - Online Safety Advice for Early Years Settings
- GOV.UK - Safeguarding Children and Protecting Professionals in Early Years Settings: Online Safety Guidance
- Internet Matters - Pre-school (0-5) Online Safety Guide
- Childnet - Smartie the Penguin
- Childnet - Digiduck Stories

Linked policies

- Safeguarding Policy
- Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy
- Staff Handbook
- Parents in Partnership Policy
- Code of Conduct



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