City of
Doncaster
Council

Developing a "Using the Internet", Computers and Games consoles Procedure

Providers must take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well **– Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2024 (GP 3.3 & CM 3.3)**
Providers must be alert to any issues of concern in the child's life at home or
Elsewhere - **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2024, point (GP 3.4 & CM3.4)**

The procedure should include:

> Where computers/laptops/iPad or other internet enabled devices are located throughout the setting to ensure that children are always in view of a staff member.

> How often children have access to computers and games consoles within the setting and how usage is monitored.

> If children are able to bring in their own devices how will this be monitored to ensure that age restrictions apply.

> How the setting manage devices that children bring from home if they have 4G/5G connections already enabled.

> The security measures the setting has in place to enable safe access for the children, i.e. parental controls.

> How parents are made aware that their children will have internet access and the permission that is sought from parents.

> How the setting provide parents with information to support them in keeping their children safe online whilst in the home environment

> How, when older children are accessing game systems, computers and internet sites, younger children are protected and not able to see inappropriate content

> Any e-safety training that the staff team have accessed to support them in ensuring children are not accessing inappropriate sites

> How children are encouraged and supported should they observe any inappropriate images or content when accessing the internet, who they should report any concerns to and how these will be recorded and referred to appropriate agencies

> How the staff are aware of cyber bulling and the risk for children being sexually exploited through online activity

> How does the setting respond to concerns around inappropriate online usage, for example children having access to social media platforms, gaming, you tube or exposed to inappropriate viewing materials.

> To safeguard children and practitioners online, providers will find it helpful to refer to 'Safeguarding children and protecting professionals in early years settings: online safety considerations'
> **Safeguarding children and protecting professionals in early years settings: online safety considerations - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)**

Resources for settings to use with parents and carers
- AskAboutGames: Supporting families with video games
- Childnet: Keeping under-fives safe online
- Internet Matters: Guidance for parents of pre-schoolers
- London Grid for Learning: Portal linking to various resources on parental engagement around online safety
- NSPCC: Guidance for parents on keeping children safe online
- Parent Zone: Digital Parenting magazine
- Parent Info
- Thinkuknow: Guidance and information for parents/carers from NCA-CEOP
- **Education for a Connected World - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)**

The procedure should be reviewed:
> At least annually.
> The procedure needs to be signed by the registered person, include reviewed date and next review due date.
> If any changes are made to the procedure when reviewed the staff and/or parents need to be informed.

This information is provided for guidance only. It is your responsibility to ensure that all statutory legal guidance is adhered to. Consideration needs to be given to any changes in legislation subsequent to the production of this information.

Reviewed July 2024