A Whole School Approach to Digital Safeguarding

—

Best Practice Checklist

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by Qoria

Contents

Introduction

The aim of this checklist is to assist school leaders in the evaluation of their digital safeguarding provisions in the post-pandemic world, by encouraging them to take a step back and review their current approach.

Essential reading for:
Headteachers and DSPs wanting a more practical understanding of their safeguarding provision.

Leadership

	Yes/no
Is digital safeguarding and wellbeing a priority across all areas?	
Do you know your school's digital footprint?	
Are all staff up to date with safeguarding legislation?	
Have you completed the annual safeguarding audit tool?	
Do you have a designated safeguarding person (DSP) and deputy allocated in school?	
Are you regularly communicating with the four pillars of your school community? (Four pillars = staff, parents, governors and students).	
Do all relevant stakeholders know what filtering and monitoring systems are in place?	
Do all relevant stakeholders know how the filtering and monitoring systems work and how they're reviewed?	
Do you carry out DBS checks?	
Do you have a central record for all training that staff have received?	

Notes:

Reporting

	Yes/no
Do you have school-based reporting in place that is received and clearly understood by all of the relevant stakeholders?	
Does your school have easily accessible report abuse buttons and channels?	
Does your school have easy and clearly defined ways of how learners can reach out for help?	
Is it clear that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility as part of Wales' safeguarding procedures?	
Do all stakeholders know how incidents can be reported?	
Are all reports of safeguarding incidents regularly reviewed and actioned?	
Do you regularly receive and act upon digital safeguarding reports from all relevant sources? (filtering, monitoring, governors, safeguarding reviews, etc).	

Notes:

Policies

	Yes/no
Does your school have rigorous digital safeguarding policies and procedures in place?	
Are your school policies regularly updated and amended where appropriate?	
Are your school policies integrated (cross referenced) **where relevant?** (safeguarding / behaviour / radicalisation / anti-bullying, etc).	
Is your whole-school community able to influence the development of your school policies and procedures? (e.g. student voice).	
Does your school have a defined code of conduct / acceptable use policy?	
Does your school have a Child Protection Policy (including Child-on-Child) **in place?**	

Notes:

Staff

	Yes/no
Do all staff complete annual digital safeguarding training?	
Do your staff attend regular up-to-date training relating to student safeguarding and wellbeing?	
Does leadership communicate regularly with staff in relation to digital safeguarding and wellbeing?	
Are all staff aware of the policies and procedures in place / informed when updates have been made to these documents?	

Notes:

Governors

	Yes/no
Do your governors receive regular communications with information, advice and guidance relating to digital safeguarding?	
Do your governors attend regular up-to-date training relating to student safeguarding and wellbeing?	
Does leadership communicate regularly with governors in relation to digital safeguarding and wellbeing?	
Are all governors aware of the policies and procedures in place / informed when updates have been made to these documents?	
Do your governors receive information about reporting content online?	

Notes:

Parents

	Yes/no
Do parents receive regular communications with information, advice and guidance?	
Does leadership communicate regularly with parents in relation to digital safeguarding and wellbeing?	
Are parents aware of the school policies and procedures in place / informed when updates have been made to these documents?	
Do parents receive information about reporting content online?	
Do parents receive online or face-to-face training and / or support relating to digital safeguarding?	

Notes:

Students

	Yes/no
Do you provide a flexible, relevant and engaging curriculum that promotes digital resilience, wellbeing and positive behaviours?	
Do you have peer mentoring programmes in place?	
Do you connect with other local schools?	
Do you review your curriculum based on issues / concerns raised?	
Have you recently reviewed your curriculum to ensure it provides learners with the skills development around digital safeguarding?	
Do you do regular learner voice activities?	

Notes:

Additional Notes:

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Smoothwall is the leading provider of digital
safeguarding solutions in UK education.
For more information, visit our website or
get in touch with our team of experts.

Web: www.smoothwall.com
Tel: +44 (0)800 047 8191
Email: enquiries@smoothwall.com

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dedicated to keeping children safe and well in their digital
lives. We harness the power of connection to close the gaps
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