

LEADEN HALL SCHOOL

E-SAFETY

How Safe is our School?

The internet is a wonderful resource providing information and learning activities, however it also has a darker side of information not appropriate to learners. Leaden Hall is aware of the potential dangers and takes measures to ensure safe usage by all by strictly filtering mail and websites.

All schools have a responsibility to ensure that all pupils and staff access the internet safely and responsibly. Failure of this could result in disciplinary or legal action taken against individuals, Head teachers and governing bodies.

Our school's culture and philosophy determines the approach to online communications. For instance, we insist on the same courteous communications as if they were printed mail.

Internet traffic is monitored and any matters of concern are brought to the SMT or the Head as appropriate. Our staff are aware of this.

Our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is posted on the door of the ICT suite and is brought to the attention of the children regularly. There is a copy in the Staff Room for adults and any staff who use the Internet from school. The AUP sets out the rules and regulations for users. In addition this AUP is sent to all boarders at the start of an academic year or when they start at the school if it is during the year.

Internet Safety is embedded into the curriculum. We are grateful to parents who advise us of new sites to be avoided and out-of-school activities which might affect the children.

Our staff are updated on new risks in Staff Meetings, especially as access to the Internet becomes available to younger and younger children each year.

Parents are informed of our policies and risks are discussed in age-appropriate meetings.

E- Safety Review – October 2009

Acceptable Use Policies

We have an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) which is reviewed at least annually. It is explained to the children and displayed in the Staff Room, the ICT room and any other appropriate place where the children or staff will read it.

Use of the Internet:

Sites are regularly reviewed by our filtering system and any inappropriate sites which 'appear' are notified and blocked by blacklisting. We are grateful to parents who update us on out-of-school trends which are blocked by our firewall or monitoring.

Use of email:

Email is available to all children who have their own usernames. Staff and children are told that the type of language used should be of the same appropriate nature as written communication. We do allow attachments to be sent and received but only if they are relevant and not chain letters or of an inappropriate nature.

Passwords:

All pupils have a username and password. Younger children have a 'class' password and username. From Year 4 children have their own private password. The administrator can change the password. Children are told not to share their passwords.

The Administrator's password is known only to a few administrative staff.

Viruses and Spam:

We have an up to date anti virus and anti spam system by Sophos and Mail Defender which is updated daily/weekly. Our network automatically scans equipment when it is logging onto the network. Sophos is automatically updated and rolled out to the PCs.

Video Conferencing:

We do not currently use a video conferencing facility although we can do so via Webcam if we wish.

Mobile Devices:

We do not allow mobile devices such as phones for the children at school. In addition children cannot log onto the wireless network or wired network with their own equipment.

Monitoring:

Our school monitors and is able to report on use of all network systems including the use of internet and email. This is known to Users as a condition of using the system.

General Network Security:

Our Network Security Report is currently being reviewed by the SWGfL at our request. Our wireless network has a security password known to the Administrator.

What to do if things go wrong:

When we discover a breach of security the SMT deal with it appropriately. In a serious situation this would trigger a Crisis Management event.

There is a wealth of information to guide parents and staff on the Internet. Listed here are a few sites which we advise you to look at.

Staying safe on the Internet

Filtering software:

K9 Web Protection (free)

<http://www1.k9webprotection.com/>

Microsoft Family Live (free)

<http://www.microsoft.com/protect/products/family/onecarefamilysafety.aspx>

Crawler Parental Controls (free)

<http://www.crawlerparental.com/>

Sentry parental Controls (£25 P.A.)

<http://www.sentryparentalcontrols.co.uk/>

Net Nanny (£30)

<http://www.netnanny.com/>

Useful Web sites for Internet safety Guidance:

For children:

Hector's World:

<http://www.hectorsworld.com/>

Cyber Cafe:

http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/cybercafe

Captain Kara, Winston and the SMART Crew

<http://www.childnet.com/kia/primary/smartadventure/default.aspx>

For Parents:

Think U Know for Parents:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

ChildNet International

<http://www.childnet-int.org/>

Child appropriate search engines:

Yahooligans:

<http://kids.yahoo.com/>

Ask Jeeves for Kids:

<http://www.askkids.com/>

Kids Click

www.kidsclick.org/

Internet Chanel for Education

<http://ice.medialab.nl/>