

St Moninna's Primary School and Nursery Unit



E-Safety Policy

Ag foghlaim agus ag fás le grá

Learning and growing with love

Agreed by Governors	
Review Date	
Principal	
Chair of Governors	

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision Statement

“Learning and Growing with Love”

Ag foghlaim agus ag fás le grá

Aims

In St. Moninna’s Primary School:

- We aim to enable **LEARNING** so that pupils develop to their full potential in all areas of the curriculum and become motivated, independent, life-long learners.
- We aim to enable pupils to **GROW** socially, emotionally, physically, spiritually and academically and to develop the attributes they need to be valuable, responsible, contributing adults.
- We aim to do this in an atmosphere of **LOVE** so that pupils embrace the virtues of respect, kindness, tolerance, compassion and faith while feeling happy, safe and valued as part of the St. Moninna school family.

Mission

In St. Moninna’s P.S. we believe we can achieve our aims by ensuring we are committed to

- Promoting the values of Catholic education within our school family
- Having high expectations for all pupils and a desire to see them reach their full potential
- Having inclusive, stimulating and supportive classrooms
- Working together for a common goal
- Valuing continuous improvement for all
- Investing in people and resources
- Working closely with home and the wider community

Values

- Kindness
- Respect
- Family
- Growth
- Trust

DENI circular 2007/01 states:

“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.”

Rationale

The Boards of Governors has a duty to:
safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils; and

(Article 17 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 2003).

determine the measures to be taken at a school to protect pupils from abuse

(Article 18 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 2003).

The rapidly changing nature of the Internet and new technologies means that e-Safety is an ever growing and changing area of interest and concern. The school has a duty of care to enable pupils to use on-line systems safely. This policy highlights the responsibility of the school, staff, governors and parents to mitigate risk through reasonable planning and actions. It covers not only Internet technologies but also electronic communications via mobile phones, games consoles and wireless technology.

This policy is largely based on DENI Circular 2007/1 ‘Acceptable Use of the Internet and Digital Technologies in Schools’ and DENI Circular 2011/22 ‘e-Safety Guidance’ and should also be read in conjunction with the School’s Safeguarding policies. It has taken into account the recommendations of the *360 Degree Safe e-Safety Self Review Tool*. The school is currently working towards the E-Safety Accreditation Mark which recognises the school’s commitment to e-Safety.

Aims: What is E-Safety?

E-Safety (electronic safety) in the school context:

- is concerned with safeguarding children in the digital world, with an emphasis on learning to understand and use technologies in a positive way;
- is less about restriction and focuses on education about the risks as well as the benefits so that users feel confident online;
- is concerned with supporting pupils to develop safer online behaviours both in and out of school; and
- is concerned with helping pupils recognise unsafe situations and how to respond to risks appropriately.

E-Safety

This policy is based on and complies with DENI Circular 2007/1 on Acceptable Use of the Internet and Digital Technologies in Schools

1. Introduction

In St. Moninna's PS Cloughoge, we believe that the Internet and other digital technologies are very powerful resources which can enhance and potentially transform teaching and learning when used effectively and appropriately. The Internet is an essential element of 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. This school provides pupils with opportunities to use the excellent resources on the Internet, along with developing the skills necessary to access, analyse and evaluate them.

The above circular states that:

"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."

This document sets out the policy and practices for the safe and effective use of the Internet in St. Moninna's PS Cloughoge.

2. Code of Practice

Pupil access to the Internet is through a filtered service provided by C2K, which should ensure educational use made of resources is safe and secure, while protecting users and systems from abuse.

In addition, internet access on the iPads is filtered using the C2K wireless filtering system. The following key measures have been adopted by St. Moninna's PS Cloughoge to try to ensure that our pupils do not access any inappropriate material:

- 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
- Pupils will, where appropriate, use sites pre-selected by the teacher and appropriate to their age group;
- Pupils in across the school are educated in the safe and effective use of the Internet.

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 by pupils is not normally permitted on the school premises during school hours, unless in exceptional circumstances, where permission may be granted by a member of staff.

Networking sites, besides 'MySchool', which is filtered and monitored by C2k, are not accessible for pupils.

3. Internet Safety Awareness

In St. Moninna's PS Cloughoge, we believe that, alongside having a written e-safety policy and code of practice, it is essential to educate all users in the safe and effective use of the Internet and other forms of digital communication. We see the educational use of the Internet as an appropriate, effective, safe and essential element of the school curriculum. This education is as important for staff and parents as it is for pupils.

Internet Safety Awareness for pupils

Rules for the Acceptable use of the Internet are discussed with all pupils. In addition, Key Stage 2 pupils follow a structured programme of Internet Safety Awareness in P.D.M.U. using a range of online resources e.g.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/topics/stay-safe>

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

Internet Safety Awareness for staff

The ICT coordinator will keep informed and updated on issues relating to Internet Safety and attend courses when available. This training is then disseminated to all teaching staff, classroom assistants and supervisory assistants.

Internet Safety Awareness for parents

The e-safety and acceptable use and the acceptable use of the internet and digital technologies policy and Code of practice for pupils is available for parents. Internet safety leaflets for parents and carers may need to be sent home when necessary. Parent awareness evenings will be organised. External agencies such as the PSNI may be asked to contribute.

Community Use of School ICT Resources

If the school's U.I.C.T. facilities are used as a community resource under the Extended Schools programme, users need to be issued with separate usernames and passwords by C2K. They must also agree to the school's Acceptable Use of the Internet policy before participating and only access pre-selected and appropriate websites under the guidance of a tutor.

4. Health and Safety

St. Moninna's PS Cloughoge has attempted, so far as is possible, to ensure a safe working environment for pupils and teachers using U.I.C.T. resources, both in classrooms and in the resource areas, which has been designed in accordance with health and safety guidelines. Pupils are supervised at all times when Interactive Whiteboards and Digital Projectors are being used.

5. Digital and Video Images of Pupils

Parental permission, in writing, is sought for newly enrolled pupils to cover the use of photographs of pupils on the school website, app, in the local press and for displays etc within school. It is the parent's responsibility to inform school of any changes in circumstances.

School Website

Our school website promotes and provides up to date information about the school, as well as giving pupils an opportunity to showcase their work and other aspects of school life. In order to minimise risks of any images of pupils on the school website being used inappropriately the following steps are taken:

- Group photos are used where possible, with general labels/captions.
- The website does not include home addresses, telephone numbers, personal e-mails or any other personal information about pupils or staff.

6. Social Software

Chatrooms, blogs and other social networking sites are blocked by the C2K filters and iPad Wi-Fi filters so pupils do not have access to them in the school environment. Such communication is maintained within the educational learning environment on the C2K system (Learning NI). Pupils should not be on age inappropriate social networking websites outside of school.

However, we regard the education of pupils on the safe and responsible use of social software as vitally important and this is addressed through our Internet Safety Education for pupils.

Instances of cyber bullying of pupils or staff will be regarded as very serious offences and dealt with according to the school's discipline policy and child protection procedures.

Monitoring, Review and Evaluation of this Policy

This policy will be reviewed in line with our 3 year cycle of policy reviews / when changes in policy are required. Any changes in provision or policy will be relayed appropriately. The review process will be assisted by feedback from teachers, parents, governors, outside agencies and pupils.