

Evolve Enterprise: E- Safety Policy

ICT in the 21st Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, at Evolve we need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

E-safety involves pupils, staff, Co-Ordinator and parents making best use of technology, information, training and this policy to create and maintain a safe online and ICT environment for Evolve Merseyside.

"As in any other area of life, children and young people are vulnerable and may expose themselves to danger - knowingly or unknowingly - when using the Internet and other digital technologies. Indeed, some young people may find themselves involved in activities which are inappropriate or possibly illegal. "To ignore e-safety issues when implementing the requirements of Every Child Matters could ultimately lead to significant gaps in child protection policies, leaving children and young people vulnerable."

From: Safeguarding Children in a Digital World. BECTA 2006

Our e-safety Policy has been written by the Evolve, following government guidance. It has been agreed and approved by the Co-Ordinators.

- Evolve's e-safety coordinators are John Bennett and Russ Greenop
- The e-safety Policy and its implementation shall be reviewed annually.

Roles and Responsibilities Co-Ordinator:

Co-Ordinators are responsible for the approval of the e-Safety Policy and for reviewing the effectiveness of the policy.

Teaching and Support staff:

- Staff are responsible for ensuring the safety (including e-safety) of members of Evolve's community, though the day-to-day responsibility for e-safety will be delegated to the e-Safety Co-ordinators.
- Staff are responsible for ensuring that the e-safety Coordinator and other relevant staff receive suitable CPD to enable them to carry out their e-safety roles and to train other colleagues, as relevant.
- Staff will ensure that there is a system in place to allow for monitoring and support of those in Evolve who carry out the internal e-safety monitoring role. This is to provide a safety net and also support to those colleagues who take on important monitoring roles.
- Staff should be aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of a serious e-safety allegation being made against a member of staff.

The E-Safety Co-ordinator:

- Takes day-to-day-responsibility for e-safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the Evolve e-safety policy/documents.
- Ensures that all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an e-safety incident taking place.
- Provides training and advice for staff.
- Liaises with Evolve ICT technical staff.

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- Receives reports of e-safety incidents and creates a log of incidents to inform future e-safety developments.

Teaching and Learning

The Internet is an essential element for education, business and social interaction. Internet use is a part of the statutory curriculum and a necessary tool for staff and pupils, and so Evolve has a duty to provide pupils with quality Internet access as part of their learning experience:

- The Evolve Internet access will be designed expressly for pupil use including appropriate content filtering.
- Pupils will be given clear objectives for Internet use and taught what use is acceptable and what is not.
- Pupils will be educated in the effective use of the Internet in research, including the skills of knowledge location, retrieval and evaluation.
- As part of the new ICT (computing) curriculum, all year groups have digital literacy units that focus on different elements of staying safe on line. These units include topics from how to use a search engine, digital footprints and cyber bullying.
- Evolve will ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law.

Through ICT we ensure that Evolve meets the needs of all, taking account of gender, ethnicity, culture, religion, language, sexual orientation, age, ability, disability and social circumstances. It is important that in this Evolve we meet the diverse needs of pupils to ensure inclusion for all and that all pupils are prepared for full participation in a multi-ethnic society. We also measure and assess the impact regularly through meetings our SEN co-ordinator and individual teachers to ensure all children have equal access to succeeding in this subject.

Pupils are taught in all lessons to be critically aware of the materials/content they access on-line and are guided to validate the accuracy of information

Authorised Internet Access

By explicitly authorising use of Evolve's Internet access pupils, staff, Co-Ordinator and parents are provided with information relating to e-safety and agree to its use:

- All staff must read and sign the 'Acceptable ICT Use Agreement' before using any Evolve ICT resource.
- Parents will be informed that pupils will be provided with supervised Internet access and asked to sign and return a consent form for pupil access.
- Only authorised equipment, software and Internet access can be used within the Evolve.

World Wide Web

The Internet opens up new opportunities and is becoming an essential part of the everyday world for children: learning, homework, sharing are some of the legitimate and beneficial uses. However, there are inappropriate and undesirable elements that must be managed:

- If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address), time and content shall be reported to the teacher who will then report to the Headteacher, by recording the incident in an e-Safety Log,

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which will be stored in the Headteacher's office with other safeguarding materials. The e-Safety Log will be reviewed termly by the e-Safety Co-ordinator.

- Evolve will ensure that the use of Internet derived materials by staff and pupils complies with copyright law.
- Pupils will be taught to be critically aware of the materials they are shown and how to validate information before accepting its accuracy.
- Evolve will work in partnership with the Local Authority to ensure filtering systems are as effective as possible.

E-mail

- E-mail is a quick and easy method of communication, ensuring beneficial and appropriate usage is an important part of e-safety:
- Pupils may only use approved e-mail accounts on the Evolve system.
- Pupils must immediately tell a teacher if they receive offensive e-mail.
- Pupils must not reveal personal details of themselves or others in e-mail communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission.
- Whole class or group e-mail addresses should be used in Evolve rather than individual addresses.
- Access in Evolve to external personal e-mail accounts is not allowed.
- E-mail sent to external organisations should be written carefully and authorised before sending, in the same way as a using outlook.
- Chain letters, spam, advertising and all other emails from unknown sources will be deleted without opening or forwarding.

Security and passwords

Passwords should be changed regularly. The system will inform users when the password is to be changed. Pupils and staff should never share passwords and staff must never let pupils use a staff logon. Staff must always 'lock' the PC if they are going to leave it unattended (the picture mute or picture freeze option on a projector will allow an image to remain on the screen and also allow a PC to be 'locked').

Social Networking

- Social networking Internet sites (such as, MySpace, Facebook) provide facilities to chat and exchange information online. This online world is very different from the real one with the temptation to say and do things beyond usual face-to-face contact.
- Use of social networking sites and newsgroups in the Evolve, is not allowed and will be blocked/filtered.
- Pupils will be advised never to give out personal details of any kind that may identify themselves, other pupils, their Evolve or location. This will also include not using personal photographs and videos.
- Pupils and parents will be advised that the use of social network spaces outside Evolve is inappropriate for primary aged pupils.
- Pupils will be encouraged to only interact with known friends, family and staff over the Internet and deny access to others.
- Parents, pupils and staff will be advised of the dangers of discussing pupils, staff or the Evolve on social networking sites. The Co-Ordinator will consider taking legal action, where appropriate, to protect pupils and staff against cyber bullying and defamatory comments.

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Reporting

All breaches of the e-safety policy need to be recorded in the E-Safety reporting book that is kept in the general office. The details of the user, date and incident should be reported.

Incidents which may lead to child protection issues need to be passed on to one of the Designated Teachers immediately – it is their responsibility to decide on appropriate action not the class teachers.

Incidents which are not child protection issues but may require LT intervention (e.g. cyberbullying) should be reported to LT in the same day.

Allegations involving staff should be reported to the Co-Ordinator
Evidence of incidents must be preserved and retained.

The curriculum will cover how pupils should report incidents (e.g, trusted adult, Childline)

Mobile Phones

Many new mobile phones have access to the Internet and picture and video messaging. Whilst these are the more advanced features, they present opportunities for unrestricted access to the Internet and sharing of images. There are risks of mobile bullying, or inappropriate contact.

- Pupils by permission of Staff can bring mobile phones onto the Evolve site where it is seen by the Evolve and parents as a safety/precautionary use.
- The sending of abusive or inappropriate text messages is forbidden.
- Staff should always use the Evolve phone to contact parents.
- Staff including students and visitors are not permitted to access or use their mobile phones within the classroom. All staff, visitors and volunteers should ensure that their phones are turned off and stored safely away during the teaching day.
- Staff may use their mobile phones in the staffroom/one of the Evolve offices.
- Parents cannot use mobile phones on Evolve trips to take pictures of the children

On trips staff mobiles are used for emergency only

Digital/Video Cameras/Photographs

Pictures, videos and sound are not directly connected to the Internet but images are easily transferred.

- Pupils will not use digital cameras or video equipment at Evolve unless specifically authorised by staff.
- Publishing of images, video and sound will follow the policy set out in this document under 'Publishing Content'.
- Parents and carers are permitted to take photos/videos of their own children in Evolve events. They are requested not to share photos/videos from Evolve events on social networking sites if other pupils appear in the background.
- One of the members of staff or a nominee will inform parent(s)/guardian(s) and others present at Evolve events that photographs/videos may be taken on the basis that they are for private retention and not for publication in any manner

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Staff should always use a Evolve camera to capture images and should not use their personal devices. Photos taken by Evolve are subject to the Data Protection act.

Published Content and the Evolve Website

The Evolve website is a valuable source of information for parents and potential parents.

- Contact details on the Website will be the Evolve address, e-mail and telephone number.
- Staff and pupils' personal information will not be published.
- One of the Staff or a nominee will take overall editorial responsibility and ensure that content is accurate and appropriate.
- Photographs and videos that include pupils will be selected carefully and will not enable individual pupils to be clearly identified.
- Pupils' full names will not be used in association with photographs.
- Consent from parents will be obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the Evolve Website.
- Work will only be published with the permission of the pupil.
- Parents should only upload pictures of their own child/children onto social networking sites.
- The Governing body may ban the use of photographic equipment by any parent who does not follow the Evolve policy.

Information System Security

- Evolve ICT systems capacity and security will be reviewed regularly.
- Virus protection will be installed and updated regularly.
- Security strategies will be discussed with the Local Authority.
- E-safety will be discussed with our ICT support and those arrangements incorporated in to our agreement with them.

Protecting Personal Data

Personal data will be recorded, processed, transferred and made available according to the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information Act

Assessing Risk

Evolve will take all reasonable precautions to prevent access to inappropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked Internet content, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on an Evolve computer. The Evolve does not accept liability for the material accessed, or any consequences of Internet access. Evolve will audit ICT use to establish if the e-safety policy is adequate and that the Implementation of the e-safety policy is appropriate.

Handling E-Safety Complaints

- Complaints of Internet misuse will be dealt with by a senior member of staff.
- Any complaint about staff misuse must be referred to one of the Staff.
- Complaints of a child protection nature shall be dealt with in accordance with Evolve child protection procedures.
- Pupils and parents will be informed of the complaints procedure.
- Discussions will be held with the community police officer to establish procedures for handling potentially illegal issues.

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Communication of Policy

Pupils:

- Rules for Internet access will be posted in all networked rooms.
- Pupils will be informed that Internet use will be monitored.
- Pupils will be informed of the importance of being safe on social networking sites such as msn. This will be strongly reinforced across all year groups during ICT lessons and all year groups look at different areas of safety through the digital literacy lessons.

Staff:

- All staff will be given the Evolve e-safety Policy and its importance explained.

Parents:

- Parents' attention will be drawn to the Evolve e-safety Policy in newsletters and on the Evolve Website.

Further Resources

We have found these web sites useful for e-safety advice and information.

http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/	Set up by the Police with lots of information for parents and staff including a place to report abuse.
http://www.childnet-int.org/	Non-profit organisation working with others to "help make the Internet a great and safe place for children".

Appendix 1 – AUPs

AUP for learners

I want to feel safe all the time.

I agree that I will:

- always keep my passwords a secret
- only open pages which my teacher has said are OK
- only work with people I know in real life
- tell my teacher if anything makes me feel scared or uncomfortable on the internet
- make sure all messages I send are polite
- show my teacher if I get a nasty message
- not reply to any nasty message or anything which makes me feel uncomfortable
- not give my mobile phone number to anyone who is not a friend in real life
- only email people I know or if my teacher agrees
- only use my Evolve email
- talk to my teacher before using anything on the internet
- not tell people about myself online (I will not tell them my name, anything about my home and family and pets)

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- not upload photographs of myself without asking a teacher
- never agree to meet a stranger

**Anything I do on the computer may be seen by someone else.
I am aware of the CEOP report button and know when to use it.**

Signed

Appendix 2 – AUP

AUP for learners in KS2

When I am using the computer or other technologies, I want to feel safe all the time.

I agree that I will:

- always keep my passwords a secret
- only use, move and share personal data securely
- only visit sites which are appropriate
- work in collaboration only with people Evolve has approved and will deny access to others
- respect Evolve network security
- make sure all messages I send are respectful
- show a responsible adult any content that makes me feel unsafe or uncomfortable
- not reply to any nasty message or anything which makes me feel uncomfortable
- not use my own mobile device in Evolve unless I am given permission
- only give my mobile phone number to friends I know in real life and trust
- only email people I know or approved by Evolve
- only use email which has been provided by Evolve
- obtain permission from a teacher before I order online
- discuss and agree my use of a social networking site with a responsible adult before joining
- always follow the terms and conditions when using a site
- always keep my personal details private. (my name, family information, journey to Evolve, my pets and hobbies are all examples of personal details)
- always check with a responsible adult before I share images of myself or others
- only create and share content that is legal
- never meet an online friend without taking a responsible adult that I know with me

I am aware of the CEOP report button and know when to use it.

I know that anything I share online may be monitored.

I know that once I share anything online it is completely out of my control and may be used by others in a way that I did not intend.

Signed.....

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Appendix 3 – Parent letter – Internet/e-mail use

Evolve

Parent /Guardian name:.....

Pupil name:

Pupil's class:

As the parent or legal guardian of the above pupil(s), I grant permission for my child to have access to use the Internet, the Virtual Learning Environment, and other ICT facilities at Evolve. I know that my daughter or son has signed a form to confirm that they will keep to Evolve's rules for responsible ICT use, outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). I also understand that my son/daughter may be informed, if the rules have to be changed during the year.

I accept that ultimately Evolve cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the Internet and mobile technologies, but I understand that Evolve will take every reasonable precaution to keep pupils safe and to prevent pupils from accessing inappropriate materials. These steps include using a filtered internet service; secure access to email, employing appropriate teaching practice and teaching e-safety skills to pupils.

I understand that Evolve can check my child's computer files, and the Internet sites they visit. I also know that Evolve may contact me if there are concerns about my son/daughter's e-safety or e-behaviour. I will support Evolve by promoting safe use of the Internet and digital technology at home and will inform Evolve if I have any concerns over my child's e-safety.

I am aware that Evolve permits parents/carers to take photographs and videos of their own children in Evolve events and that the Evolve requests that photos/videos are not shared on any social networking site such as Facebook if the photos/videos contain images of other children. I will support the Evolve's approach to e-Safety and will not upload or add any pictures, video or text that could upset, offend or threaten the safety of any member of Evolve community

Parent's signature:..... **Date:**.....

At Evolve we have an Acceptable Use Agreement which is reviewed annually to safeguard and promote the welfare of staff and pupils.

Internet

Whilst ICT is exciting and beneficial in and out of education, web based resources are not well policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these internet technologies and their individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children and themselves, in Evolve and at home.

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Educating pupils on the dangers of technologies that maybe encountered outside Evolve is done informally when opportunities arise and as part of the E-safety curriculum. Pupils are aware of the impact of Cyber bullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying.

Managing the Internet

- The Evolve maintains that pupils will have supervised access to Internet resources through Evolve's fixed and mobile internet technology. All staff will preview any recommended sites before use.
- Raw image searches are discouraged when working with pupils. If internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research.
- All users must observe software copyright at all times. It is illegal to copy or distribute Evolve software or illegal software from other sources. All users must observe copyright of materials from electronic resources.

Internet Use

- Some pupils at Evolve are too young to use social networking sites, such as Facebook (the legal age limit is 13 year old). However, we recognise children are accessing the sites at home and provide information annually or as necessary to ensure privacy levels are high and children are aware of the risks.
- Annual E safety reminders are taught- specifically in safety week.

Security

Software security

- A security breach lost stolen equipment, virus notifications, unsolicited emails and all other policy noncompliance must be reported to senior management.
- To minimise risk, pupils should not bring work to Evolve using personal memory sticks.

Password security

- Password security is essential for pupils
- Pupils are expected to keep their passwords secret and not to share with others, particularly their friends.
- Staff and pupils are regularly reminded of the need for password security.

E-mail

- Pupils may only use Evolve approved accounts on the Evolve system and only under direct teacher supervision for educational purposes.
- Pupils must immediately tell a teacher/ trusted adult if they receive an offensive e-mail.
- Pupils are introduced to e-mail as part of the ICT Curriculum.

This policy was adopted by the Evolve Directors on 01/09/2022.

This policy is due for review September 2024.

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