

Internet Safety Policy



Where Internet services are accessible within the nursery setting, and where these are available for use by children, this policy defines the arrangement in place to minimise the vulnerability of the children to inappropriate websites

Aims

All computers have a username and passwords to get onto the system, which only staff members have access to. Under no circumstances will children be left with unsupervised access to the Internet and after each session, the Internet will be disconnected.

The Internet can be a vulnerable place for children and it is entirely possible to in adversely access website containing 'adult'/ offensive, or otherwise inappropriate, material. For this reason, the children's use of Internet is restricted to educational and learning purposes only. Children are not permitted to access chat rooms, engage in web surfing or access for personal use.

The main office PC is fitted with firewall, which places a protective barrier between the Internet and PC's data files. Within the concept of the firewall the nursery subscribes to an Internet privacy service, which performs the following functions:

- Acts as an outbound data blocker to prevent this data being accessed by hackers or malicious websites.
- Enforces access controls for children, effectively limiting their exposure to online threats.
- Set time restrictions for access to the Internet, e.g. during nursery hours only.
- Preventing children from being exposed to inappropriate material is a critical issue of child protection and is considered to be implicit in our duty of care. Therefore, any instance of a staff member deliberately accessing 'adult' or offensive material through the nursery computer system will be viewed as a serious offence, leading to the staff member being subject to a summary dismissal of the offender and possible criminal prosecution.

Staff members will have access to a tablet at all times. These are used as part of the children's daily progress tracker in order to take photos and log observations that support them. The tablets are linked to the nurseries wifi so that such observations and updates can be sent to parents throughout the course of the day. Staff members are fully aware that in line with our safeguarding policy, the tablets are strictly prohibited in gaining access to any social media platforms.

Date:

Signed on behalf of the nursery by:

The date for review: