



Walker Children's Club

Safe Internet Use

Walker Children's Club recognises that the internet is a useful resource for both staff and children, for purposes of research, homework and entertainment. However, it must be used with care to ensure that children are kept safe from exposure to harmful material, in accordance with the EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare requirements and the Prevent Duty. Prevent Duty is about protecting and safeguarding young vulnerable people from abuse, becoming terrorists or supporting extremist ideology. It is important to emphasise that the Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. On the contrary, the club should provide a safe space in which children, young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments.

Parental permission

Children will only be allowed to access the internet at the Club if their parent or career has given written permission.

Guidelines for children

A printed copy of the **SMART** guidelines are kept next to the computer. The guidelines are explained to any children wishing to access the internet:

- **Safe:** Keep safe by not giving out personal information - such as name, email, phone number, address, or school name - to people who you don't trust or know online.
- **Meeting:** Never agree to meet anyone you have only met online unless your parent or carer is with you.
- **Accepting:** Do not accept emails or instant messages, or open files, images or texts from people you don't know. They can contain viruses or nasty messages.
- **Reliable:** Not all the information found on the Internet is reliable and people you meet online won't always be telling the truth.
- **Tell:** Tell a member of staff or your parents if someone or something you encounter online makes you feel uncomfortable.

Protecting children

We have put in place the following safeguards to keep children safe whilst accessing the internet on the Club's computers:

- A risk assessment has been undertaken;
- Parental controls have been activated on all computers accessible to children;
- Google SafeSearch Filtering is turned on;
- YouTube Restricted Mode is set to on;
- The computers are located so that the screens can easily be seen from the rest of the room;
- Staff keep a close eye on children and the sites that they are accessing when they use the internet;
- The computers have an up to date virus checker and firewall installed;
- The computers' browser histories are regularly checked to monitor which sites are being accessed (staff and children are aware of this);

- The club co-ordinator has registered with *Think U Know* and regularly reviews the advice and learning materials provided.

If, despite the safeguards the Club has put in place, a child encounters harmful material on the internet, or receives inappropriate messages, or experiences online bullying, whilst using the Club's computers, the manager will be informed, and the incident will be noted on an **Incident Record** in the child's file. The child's parent will be asked to sign the **Incident Record**. The manager will investigate how to prevent a reoccurrence of the incident.

If staff at the Club become aware that a child is deliberately attempting to access sites containing sexual, extremist or otherwise inappropriate material, or has been shown such material by a third party, they will complete a **Logging a concern** form and refer the matter to the Club's designated safeguarding lead, in accordance with our **Safeguarding Children Policy**.

Related policies

See also: **Safeguarding Children Policy, Social Media Policy, No Platform Policy**

This policy was adopted by: Walkers Children's Club	Date: 02/09/2021
To be reviewed: Annually	TBR September 2022

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Introduction [3.2]; Child Protection [3.6-3.7]*.