

E Safety

The Internet is now regarded as an essential resource to support teaching and learning. Computer skills are vital to accessing life-long learning and employment.

Children can access the internet using smartphones and tablets, and it's still possible to set up parental controls on these devices however it is important for children to learn to be e-safe from an early age and we plan and discuss safety whenever accessing the internet during activities with the children.

We have a commitment to keep our children safe at all times. E-safety comes under the umbrella of our Safeguarding Policy. The e-safety policy is the implementation of the Safeguarding policy in relation to electronic communications of all types.

E-Safety covers issues relating to children and staff and their safe use of the Internet, mobile phones and other electronic communications technologies, both in and out of pre-school. It includes education for all members of pre-school on risks and responsibilities and is part of the 'duty of care' which applies to everyone working with children.

For parents still trying to find their way through the maze of media and advice on how to protect their children on line, the NSPCC offers advice on <https://www.nspcc.org.uk> just scroll down to online safety advice. Two more sites recommended are Net aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk> 'A guide to social networks your kids use' and Child net www.childnet.com

The management must decide on the right balance between controlling access to the internet and technology, setting rules and boundaries and educating children and staff about responsible use. Management must be aware that children and staff cannot be completely prevented from being exposed to risks both on and offline. All members of staff need to be aware of the importance of good E-Safety practice in the setting in order to educate and protect the children in their care. Members of staff also need to be informed about how to manage their own professional reputation online and demonstrate appropriate online behaviours compatible with their role.

Breaches of an E-Safety policy can and have led to civil, disciplinary and criminal action being taken against staff, students and members of the wider pre-school community. It is crucial that all settings are aware of the offline consequences that online actions can have.

All staff are made aware that uploading information in relations to any child may only be completed via the internet via our online learning journal software Tapestry.

Tapestry is hosted on a secure dedicated server based in the UK. Access to information stored on Tapestry can only be gained by unique user id and password. Parents can only see their own children's information and are unable to login to view other children's learning journeys.