

2 DA STAGE PERFORMING ARTS & CHILDCARE CLUB

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E- SAFETY POLICY

2 Da Stage Performing Arts & Childcare Club has a commitment to keeping children safe and healthy and the e-safety policy operates at all times under the umbrella of the Safeguarding Policy. The e-safety policy is the implementation of the Safeguarding policy in relation to electronic communications of all types.

INTRODUCTION

The Internet is now regarded as an essential resource for teaching, learning and leisure activities. Computer skills are vital to accessing life-long learning and employment. It is important for children to learn to be e-safe and the after school club can play a vital part in this process. In line with other policies that protect children from other dangers, there is a requirement to provide children with as safe an internet environment as possible and a need to teach them to be aware of and respond responsibly to possible risks

1. CORE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNET SAFETY

The Internet is becoming as commonplace as the telephone or TV and its effective use is an essential life-skill. Unmediated internet access brings with it the possibility of placing children in embarrassing, inappropriate and even dangerous situations.

2. THE E-SAFETY POLICY IS BUILT ON THE FOLLOWING CORE PRINCIPLES: • GUIDED EDUCATIONAL USE

Significant educational benefits should result from Internet use including access to information from around the world. Internet use should be carefully planned and targeted within a regulated and managed environment

- **RISK ASSESSMENT:** We have a duty to ensure that children are not exposed to inappropriate information or materials. We also need to ensure that children know how to ask for help if they come across material that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- **RESPONSIBILITY:** Internet safety depends on staff, parents, carers and visitors taking responsibility for the use of internet and other communication technologies such as mobile phones. It is the after school club's responsibility to use technical solutions to limit internet access and to monitor their effectiveness.

3. WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN TO ACCESS THE INTERNET?

The internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The after school club has a duty to provide children with quality internet access as part of their learning experience, especially for homework research and some leisure purposes.

4. HOW WILL FILTERING BE MANAGED?

The after school club manager will be responsible for ensuring that the appropriate filters are applied to the tablets PCs/laptops in the after school club and tablets. The manager will also review the sites accessed by children.

Staff will monitor the websites being used by the children during after school club sessions and the computer screen will be visible to staff at all times. If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites have been accessed on the PCs/ laptops, they must be reported to the club manager immediately so that the filters can be reviewed.

The after school club will ensure there is sufficient funding and time made available for training, should any be needed, to implement this policy effectively.

5. MANAGING CONTENT

Staff are responsible for ensuring that material accessed by children is appropriate and for ensuring that the use of any internet derived materials by staff or by children complies with copyright law.

6. COMMUNICATION

Children will not have access to e-mail. On-line chat rooms and social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter will not be used at the after school club. Staff will not discuss individual children or their setting on Facebook, Twitter or any other social networking site.

7. PARENTS AND E-SAFETY

Parents' attention will be drawn to the E-Safety Policy in the policy file.

8. HANDLING COMPLAINTS

Any complaints about the appropriate use of the internet or other technologies will be handled through the Complaints procedure.

Print name: TYRON DEVONISH

Position: MANAGER

Date: July 2021

Date of next review: July 2022