Eldon Primary School

E-Safety Policy

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Introduction

The e-Safety Policy is important in Eldon Primary School for a number of reasons, including:

- To ensure there is a clear and consistent approach responding to incidents.
- To ensure that every person responsible for the children is fully aware of his/her responsibilities.
- To set boundaries of use (goalposts) of any school owned IT equipment, or personal IT equipment used in the school, and set the boundaries of services such as social networking (e.g. blogging, Twitter).

Policy Statement

For clarity, the e-safety policy uses the following terms unless otherwise stated:

Users - refers to staff, governing body, school volunteers, students and any other person working in or on behalf of the school, including contractors.

Parents – any adult with a legal responsibility for the child/young person outside the school e.g. parent, guardian, carer.

School – any school business or activity conducted on or off the school site, e.g. visits, conferences, school trips etc.

Wider school community – pupils, all staff, governing body, parents, friends of Eldon, volunteers, CPO and visitors.

Safeguarding is a serious matter; at Eldon Primary School we use technology and the Internet extensively across all areas of the curriculum. Online safeguarding, known as e-safety is an area that is constantly evolving and as such this policy will be reviewed on an annual basis or in response to an e-safety incident, whichever is sooner.

The primary purpose of this policy is twofold:

- To ensure the requirement to empower the whole school community with the knowledge to stay safe and risk free is met.
- To ensure risks are identified, assessed and mitigated (where possible) in order to reduce any foreseeability of harm to the student or liability to the school.

This policy is available for anybody to read on the Eldon Primary School website; upon review all members of staff will sign as read and understood both the e-safety policy and the Staff Acceptable Use Policy. A copy of this policy and the Pupils Acceptable Use Policy will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year with a permission slip. Upon return of the signed permission slip and acceptance of the terms and conditions, pupils will be permitted access to school technology including the Internet.

Headteacher Name: Signed:

Chair of Governors: Signed:

Review Date: Next Review:

Policy Governance (Roles & Responsibilities)

Governing Body

The governing body is accountable for ensuring that our school has effective policies and procedures in place; as such they will:

- Review this policy at least annually and in response to any e-safety incident to ensure that the policy is up to date, covers all aspects of technology use within the school, to ensure e-safety incidents were appropriately dealt with and ensure the policy was effective in managing those incidents.

- Appoint one governor to have overall responsibility for the governance of e-safety at the school who will:

    - Keep up to date with emerging risks and threats through technology use.
    - Receive regular updates from the Headteacher in regards to training, identified risks and any incidents.
    - Chair the e-Safety Committee

Headteacher

Reporting to the governing body, the Headteacher has overall responsibility for e-safety within our school. The day-to-day management of this will be delegated to a member of staff, the e-Safety Officer (or more than one), as indicated below.

The Headteacher will ensure that:

- E-Safety training throughout the school is planned and up to date and appropriate to the recipient, i.e. students, all staff, senior leadership team and governing body, parents.
- The designated e-Safety Officer(s) has had appropriate CPD in order to undertake the day to day duties.
- All e-safety incidents are dealt with promptly and appropriately.

e-Safety Officer

The e-Safety Officer will:

- Keep up to date with the latest risks to children whilst using technology; familiarize him/herself with the latest research and available resources for school and home use.
- Review this policy regularly and bring any matters to the attention of the Headteacher.
- Advise the Headteacher, governing body on all e-safety matters.
- Engage with parents and the school community on e-safety matters at school and/or at home.
- Liaise with the local authority, IT technical support and other agencies as required.
- Retain responsibility for the e-safety incident log; ensure staff know what to report and ensure the appropriate audit trail.
- Ensure any technical e-safety measures in school (e.g. Internet filtering software, behaviour management software) are fit for purpose through liaison with the local authority and/or ICT Technical Support.
- Make him/herself aware of any reporting function with technical e-safety measures, i.e. internet filtering reporting function; liaise with the Headteacher and responsible governor to decide on what reports may be appropriate for viewing.

ICT Technical Support Staff

Technical support staff are responsible for ensuring that:

- The IT technical infrastructure is secure; this will include at a minimum:
    - Anti-virus is fit-for-purpose, up to date and applied to all capable devices.
    - Windows (or other operating system) updates are regularly monitored and devices updated as appropriate.
    - Any e-safety technical solutions such as Internet filtering are operating correctly.
    - Filtering levels are applied appropriately and according to the age of the user; that categories of use are discussed and agreed with the e-safety officer and Headteacher.
    - Passwords are applied correctly to all users regardless of age. Passwords for staff will be a minimum of 8 characters.
    - The IT System Administrator password is to be changed on a monthly (30 day) basis.

All Staff

Staff are to ensure that:

- All details within this policy are understood. If anything is not understood it should be brought to the attention of the Headteacher.
- Any e-safety incident is reported to the e-Safety Officer (and an e-Safety Incident report is made), or in his/her absence to the Headteacher. If you are unsure the matter is to be raised with the e-Safety Officer or the Headteacher to make a decision.
- The reporting flowcharts contained within this e-safety policy are fully understood.

All Students

The boundaries of use of ICT equipment and services in this school are given in the student Acceptable Use Policy; any deviation or misuse of ICT equipment or services will be dealt with in accordance with the behaviour policy.

E-Safety is embedded into our curriculum; pupils will be given the appropriate advice and guidance by staff. Similarly all pupils will be fully aware how they can report areas of concern whilst at school or outside of school.

Parents and Carers

Parents play the most important role in the development of their children; as such the school will ensure that parents have the skills and knowledge they need to ensure the safety of children outside the school environment. Through parents evenings, school newsletters, the school website, school E-safety events and assemblies the school will keep parents up to date with new and emerging e-safety risks, and will involve parents in strategies to ensure that pupils are empowered.

Parents must also understand the school needs have to rules in place to ensure that their child can be properly safeguarded. As such parents will sign the Pupil Acceptable Use Policy before any access can be granted to school ICT equipment or services.

e-Safety Committee

Chaired by the Governor responsible for e-Safety, the e-safety Committee is responsible:

- to advise on changes to the e-safety policy.
- to establish the effectiveness (or not) of e-safety training and awareness in the school.
- to recommend further initiatives for e-safety training and awareness at the school.

Established from volunteer students, parents, e-Safety Officer, responsible Governor and others as required, the e-Safety Committee will meet on a termly basis.

Technology

Eldon Primary School uses a range of devices including PC's, laptops and IPads. In order to safeguard the pupils and in order to prevent loss of personal data we employ the following assistive technology:

Internet Filtering – we use Lightspeed systems software that prevents unauthorized access to illegal websites. It also prevents access to inappropriate websites; appropriate and inappropriate is determined by the age of the user and will be reviewed in line with this policy or in response to an incident, whichever is sooner. The ICT Coordinator, e-Safety Officer and IT Support are responsible for ensuring that the filtering is appropriate and that any issues are brought to the attention of the Headteacher.

Email Filtering – we use software that prevents any infected email to be sent from the school, or to be received by the school. Infected is defined as: an email that contains a virus or script (i.e. malware) that could be damaging or destructive to data; spam email such as a phishing message.

Encryption – All school devices that hold personal data (as defined by the Data Protection Act 1998) are encrypted. No data is to leave the school on an un-encrypted device; all devices that are kept on school property and which may contain personal data are encrypted. Any breach (i.e. loss/theft of device such as laptop or USB keydrives) is to be brought to the attention of the Headteacher immediately. The Headteacher will liaise with the local authority to ascertain whether a report needs to be made to the Information Commissioner's Office.

Passwords – all staff and students will be unable to access any device without a username and password. Staff passwords will change on a termly basis or if there has been a compromise, whichever is sooner. The ICT Coordinator and IT Support will be responsible for ensuring that passwords are changed.

Anti-Virus – All capable devices will have anti-virus software. This software will be updated at least weekly for new virus definitions. IT Support will be responsible for ensuring this task is carried out, and will report to the Headteacher if there are any concerns. All USB peripherals such as keydrives (if you allow them) are to be scanned for viruses before use.

Safe Use

Internet – Use of the Internet in school is a privilege, not a right. Internet use will be granted: to staff upon signing this e-safety and the staff Acceptable Use Policy; pupils upon signing and returning their acceptance of the Acceptable Use Policy.

Email – All staff are reminded that emails are subject to Freedom of Information requests, and as such the email service is to be used for professional work-based emails only.

Photos and videos – Digital media such as photos and videos are covered in the schools' Photographic Policy, and is re-iterated here for clarity. All parents must sign a photo/video release slip at the beginning of each academic year; non-return of the permission slip will not be assumed as acceptance.

Social Networking – there are many social networking services available; Eldon Primary School is fully aware of social networking as a tool to engage and collaborate with learners, and to engage with parents and the wider school community. The following social media services are permitted for use within Eldon Primary School and have been appropriately risk assessed; should staff wish to use other social media, permission must first be sought via the e-Safety Officer who will advise the Headteacher for a decision to be made. Any new service will be risk assessed before use is permitted.

- Blogging – used by staff and students in school.
- Twitter – used by the school as a broadcast service (see below).

A broadcast service is a one-way communication method in order to share school information with the wider school community. No persons will be "followed" or "friended" on these services and as such no two-way communication will take place.

In addition, the following is to be strictly adhered to:

- Permission slips (via the school photographic policy) must be consulted before any image or video of any child is uploaded.
- There is to be no identification of students using first name and surname; first name only is to be used.
- Where services are "comment enabled", comments are to be set to "moderated".
- All posted data must conform to copyright law; images, videos and other resources that are not originated by the school are not allowed unless the owner's permission has been granted or there is a licence which allows for such use (i.e. creative commons).

Notice and take down policy – should it come to the schools attention that there is a resource which has been inadvertently uploaded, and the school does not have copyright permission to use that resource, it will be removed within one working day.

Incidents - Any e-safety incident is to be brought to the immediate attention of the e-Safety Officer, or in his/her absence the Headteacher. The e-Safety Officer will assist you in taking the appropriate action to deal with the incident and to fill out an incident log.

Training and Curriculum - It is important that the wider school community is sufficiently empowered with the knowledge to stay as risk free as possible whilst using digital technology; this includes updated awareness of new and emerging issues. As such, Eldon Primary School will have an annual programme of training which is suitable to the audience.

E-Safety for pupils is embedded into the curriculum; whenever ICT is used in the school, staff will ensure that there are positive messages about the safe use of technology and risks as part of the pupil's learning.

As well as the programme of training we will establish further training or lessons as necessary in response to any incidents.

The e-Safety Officer is responsible for recommending a programme of training and awareness for the school year to the Headteacher and responsible Governor for consideration and planning. Should any member of staff feel they have had inadequate or insufficient training generally or in any particular area this must be brought to the attention of the Headteacher for further CPD.

Acceptable Use Policy – Staff

Note: All Internet and email activity is subject to monitoring

You must read this policy in conjunction with the e-Safety Policy. Once you have read and understood both you must sign this policy sheet.

Internet access - You must not access or attempt to access any sites that contain any of the following: child abuse; pornography; promoting discrimination of any kind; promoting racial or religious hatred; promoting illegal acts; any other information which may be illegal or offensive to colleagues. Inadvertent access must be treated as an e-safety incident, reported to the e-safety officer and an incident sheet completed.

Social networking – is allowed in school in accordance with the e-safety policy only. Staff using social networking for personal use should never undermine the school, its staff, parents or children. Staff should not become "friends" with parents or pupils on personal social networks

Use of Email – staff are not permitted to use school email addresses for personal business. All email should be kept professional. Staff are reminded that school data, including emails, is open to Subject Access Requests under the Freedom of Information Act.

Passwords - Staff should keep passwords private. There is no occasion when a password needs to be shared with another member of staff or student, or IT support.

Data Protection – If it is necessary for you to take work home, or off site, you should ensure that your device (laptop, USB pendrive etc.) is encrypted. On no occasion should data concerning personal information be taken offsite on an unencrypted device.

Personal Use of School ICT - You are not permitted to use ICT equipment for personal use unless specific permission has been given from the Headteacher who will set the boundaries of personal use.

Images and Videos - You should not upload onto any internet site or service images or videos of yourself, other staff or pupils without consent. This is applicable professionally (in school) or personally (i.e. staff outings).

Use of Personal ICT - use of personal ICT equipment is at the discretion of the Headteacher. Permission must be sought stating the reason for using personal equipment; a risk assessment will be carried out by IT support and the e-Safety Officer.

Viruses and other malware - any virus outbreaks are to be reported to the Mouchel Helpdesk as soon as it is practical to do so, along with the name of the virus (if known) and actions taken by the school.

e-Safety – like health and safety, e-safety is the responsibility of everyone to everyone. As such you will promote positive e-safety messages in all use of ICT whether you are with other members of staff or with pupils.

NAME :

SIGNATURE : **DATE :**

Acceptable Use Policy – Pupils

Our Charter of Good Online Behaviour

Note: All Internet and email activity is subject to monitoring

I Promise – to only use the school ICT for schoolwork that the teacher has asked me to do.

I Promise – not to look for or show other people things that may be upsetting.

I Promise – to show respect for the work that other people have done.

I will not – use other people's work or pictures without permission to do so.

I will not – damage the ICT equipment, if I accidentally damage something I will tell my teacher.

I will not – share my password with anybody. If I forget my password I will let my teacher know.

I will not – use other people's usernames or passwords.

I will not – share personal information online with anyone.

I will not – download anything from the Internet unless my teacher has asked me to.

I will – let my teacher know if anybody asks me for personal information.

I will – let my teacher know if anybody says or does anything to me that is hurtful or upsets me.

I will – be respectful to everybody online ; I will treat everybody the way that I want to be treated.

I understand – that some people on the Internet are not who they say they are, and some people can be nasty. I will tell my teacher if I am ever concerned in school, or my parents if I am at home.

I understand – if I break the rules in this charter there will be consequences of my actions and my parents will be told.

Signed (Parent) :

Signed (Pupil) :

Date :

Why we Filter the Internet

Introduction

Whilst sometimes seen as one of the more frustrating IT services in schools, Internet filtering is one item in the e-safety toolbox that is of particular importance. When talking about an Internet filter there are two important aspects:

Very broadly speaking

- **Filtering** - this is a pro-active measure to ensure (as much as possible) or prevent users from accessing illegal or inappropriate (by age) websites.
- **Monitoring** - this is a reactive measure and for the most part means searching, browsing or interrogating filter logs (known as the cache) for Internet misuse.

These terms are important; mention to anyone that you are monitoring their Internet use and the immediate vision is of somebody sat at a computer screen watching every move and click; that is simply not the case.

The fact that an Internet filter is in place to filter and monitor activity is of particular importance because you then have questions raised of morality such as, "It's my human right to privacy", "big brother is watching", and others.

I happen to agree with this viewpoint, but at the same time I have no issues whatsoever with any monitoring whether it be online or not - as long as it is a justifiable reason and the expectations of that monitoring are set beforehand.

Consider CCTV at your school; everybody knows it is there because you can see it and there are (or should be) signs telling people that they are being monitored; everybody knows why it is there whether they agree with it or not.....it is justified for the protection and safety of children and staff whilst in school, and also the protection of the building and its contents.

But what about Internet filtering? How many of your parents know that the online activity of their child may be monitored? How many of your staff know? Importantly, do they know why? Whilst the answer should be "yes" to all, I know that isn't the case and normally with good reason; how do you know what you don't know?

As with many things we do in life it is all about managing expectations, commonly known as justifying ourselves. But it is that justification that gives us precedence for doing something that others may deem controversial.

Why do we Filter and Monitor?

Schools filter Internet activity for two reasons:

We filter to ensure

- (as much as possible) that children and young people (and to some extent adults) are not exposed to illegal or inappropriate websites. These sites are (or should be) restricted by category dependent on the age of the user. Exposure would include browsing to

specifically look for such material, or as a consequence of a search that returns inappropriate results.
- (as much as possible) that the school has mitigated any risk to the children and young people, and thereby reduces any liability to the school by making reasonable endeavours to ensure the safety of those children and young people.

We monitor for assurance

- (as much as possible) that no inappropriate or illegal activity has taken place.
- To add to any evidential trail for disciplinary action if necessary.

A right to privacy?

Everybody has a right to privacy, whether adult or child. But in certain circumstances there is a reduced expectation of privacy. In the context of this guide, that reduction is for security and safeguarding. This expectation is applicable whether it is school-owned equipment, or personally owned equipment used on the school network (and in some cases even if that personally owned equipment isn't used on the school network, but is used in school or for school business).

Managing Expectations

It is the expectations of the user that is particularly important; this will include school staff, students and parents/guardians of the students. Consent is not a requirement, however you are required by law (Data Protection Act 1998) to make all reasonable efforts to inform users that you are monitoring them. By making reasonable efforts you are working "with" the students and parents, not just merely telling them.

In reality, very few schools actually monitor Internet activity, and neither do local authorities or RBC's (remember, monitor is different to filter). Whether that is right or not is out of scope for this paper, but the fact is you could; in fact Ofsted make clear that schools should be managing their own filter, and this would include monitoring for inappropriate activity, overly-restrictive filtering or otherwise.

Of course, some will disagree with what you are doing, but that is their right and again consent is not a requirement. It is the understanding, not the consent that is important.

Explaining to parents, staff and students

As previously mentioned, it is the understanding that is important, not the consent. It is not appropriate to simply have a sentence in the school e-Safety or Acceptable Use Policy and for that to suffice; privacy is always an emotive issue.

Here are the "must do's":

- Statement in e-Safety Policy, e.g. "All staff, students and parents of students will be informed that Internet activity may be monitored in order to ensure as much as possible that users are not exposed to illegal or inappropriate websites, and to ensure as much as

possible that users do not actively seek access to illegal or inappropriate websites," or words to that effect. You would then briefly explain why.

- Statement in Acceptable Use Policy, e.g. "Users are reminded that Internet activity may be monitored". That's it, you don't need anything more than that. Don't forget, the AUP is simply a concise "cut-out-and-keep" version of the e-Safety Policy containing the rules.
- Explain to staff why monitoring is important, allow them to voice any concerns and set their expectations of how the data can be used.
- Explain to the students as well, allow them to ask questions.
- A letter home to parents, again explaining that the Internet activity may be monitored, and why. Assure the parents that you talk to the students, who are allowed to voice concerns and ask questions. This letter would normally form a part of the term 1 paperwork; ideally it would include the Acceptable Use Policy and a signature sheet. Parents (and students if old enough) should sign the letter to say they understand, not to agree as again, consent is not required.
- Don't forget, Ofsted require that schools engage with parents and students when creating policy.

Summary

- Filtering is different to monitoring.
- You do not require consent.
- But you must tell users if you do monitor, or if you have the facility to monitor.
- Set user expectations; explain under what circumstances it may be a requirement to monitor.
- Ensure you have a good statement in your e-Safety Policy.
- Ensure you have informed users that Internet use "May be subject to monitoring" in your Acceptable Use Policy.
- Ensure parents are informed, the reason why monitoring may take place, and they sign as read and understood.

Sample Letter to Parents:

Dear Parent/Guardian

Use of the Internet in school is a vital part of the education of your son/daughter. Our school makes extensive use of the Internet in order to enhance their learning and provide facilities for research, collaboration and communication.

You will be aware that the Internet is host to a great many illegal and inappropriate websites, and as such we will ensure as far as possible that your child is unable to access sites such as this. We are able to do this using advanced software known as an Internet filter. This filter categorizes websites in accordance with their content; the school allows or denies these categories dependent upon the age of the child.

The software also allows us to monitor Internet use; the Internet filter keeps logs of which user has accessed what Internet sites, and when. Security and safeguarding of your child are of the utmost importance in our school; in order to ensure that there have been no attempts of inappropriate Internet activity we may occasionally monitor these logs. If we believe there has been questionable activity involving your child we will inform you of the circumstances.

At the beginning of each school year we explain the importance of Internet filtering to your child. Furthermore we explain that there has to be a balance of privacy and safety; we also inform them that we can monitor their activity. All children are given the opportunity to ask questions and give their viewpoint. We would like to extend that opportunity to you also; if you have any questions or concerns please contact "head@eldon-pri.lancs.sch.uk"

Yours Sincerely

Mrs A Butt

I have read this letter and understand that my child's Internet access could be monitored to ensure that there is no illegal or inappropriate activity by any user of the school network. I acknowledge that this has been explained to my child and that he/she has had the opportunity to voice their opinion, and to ask questions.

Name of Parent/Guardian –

Name of Child –

Signature - Date

e-Safety Incident Log

Number:	**Reported By:** *(name of staff member)*	**Reported To:** *(e.g. Head, e-Safety Officer)*	
	When:	**When:**	
Incident Description: (Describe what happened, involving which children and/or staff, and what action was taken)			
Review Date:			
Result of Review:			
Signature (Headteacher)		**Date:**	
Signature (Governor)		**Date:**	

Risk Log

(with a couple of examples)

No.	Activity	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Score	Owner
1.	Internet browsing	Access to inappropriate/illegal content - staff	1	3	3	e-Safety Officer IT Support
1.	Internet browsing	Access to inappropriate/illegal content - students	2	3	6	
2.	Blogging	Inappropriate comments	2	1	2	
2.	Blogging	Using copyright material	2	2	4	

Likelihood: **How likely is it that the risk could happen (foreseeability).**
Impact: **What would be the impact to the school (e.g. this could be in terms of legality, reputation, complaints from parents, reporting in press etc.)**

Likelihood and Impact are between 1 and 3, 1 being the lowest.
Multiply Likelihood and Impact to achieve score.

LEGEND/SCORE: 1 – 3 = Low Risk
4 – 6 = Medium Risk
7 – 9 = High Risk

Owner: **The person who will action the risk assessment and recommend the mitigation to Headteacher and Governing Body.**
Final decision rests with Headteacher and Governing Bod

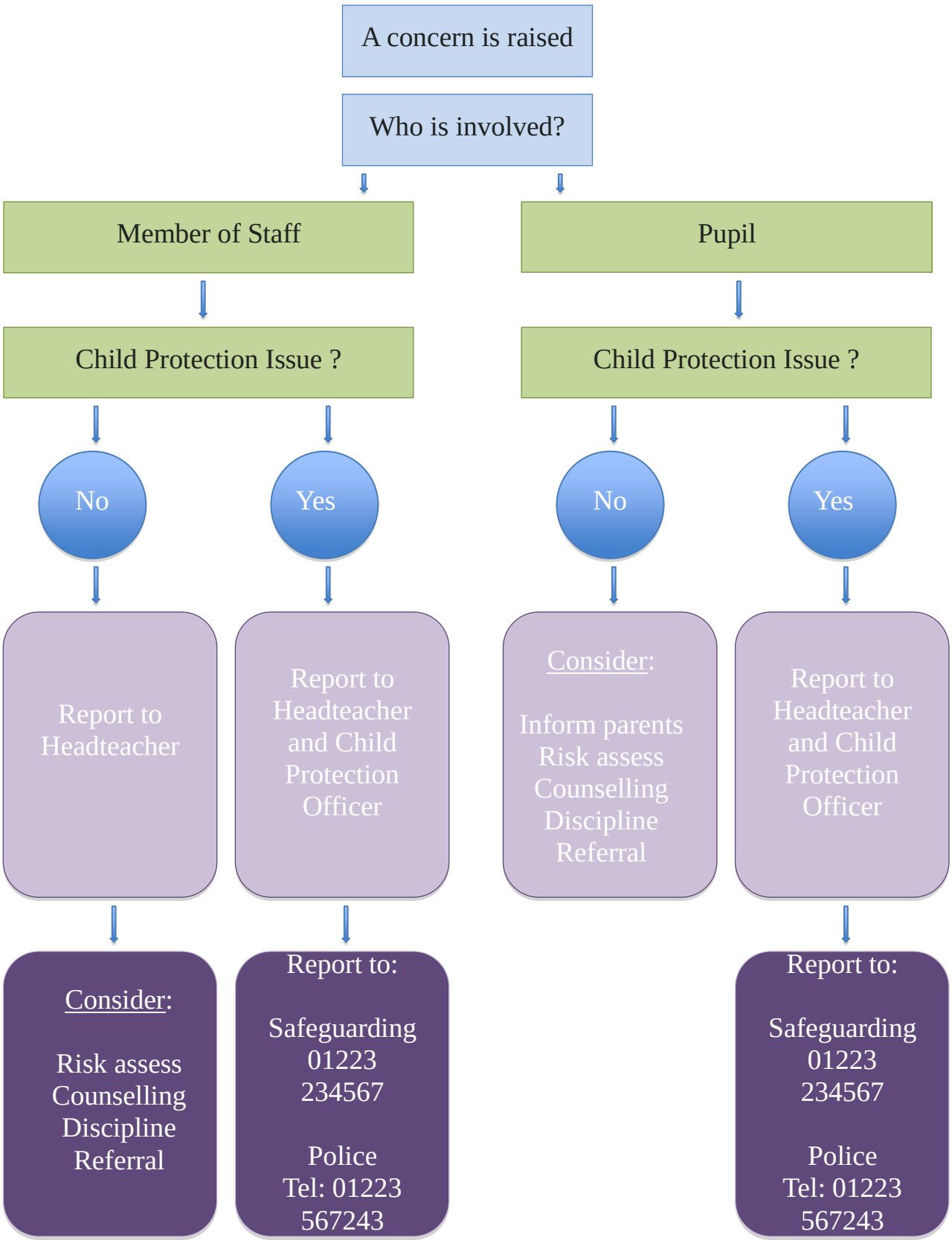
Risk Assessment

Risk No.	Risk
LIkelihood	
Impact	
Risk Assessment	
Risk Owner/s	
Mitigation	

Approved / Not Approved (circle as appropriate) **Date:**

Signed (Headteacher) : **Signed (Governor) :**

Inappropriate Activity Flowchart



If you are in any doubt, consult the Headteacher, Child Protection Officer or Safeguarding

Illegal Activity Flowchart