



E Safety Policy

At the URC the managers have been on E safety training led by the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board. We follow the guidelines relevant to us as set out by Hertfordshire e safety board found at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/policies.shtml>.

The URC preschool 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. It is important for children to learn to be e-safe from an early age and the preschool plays a vital part in starting this process.

At the URC Pre-School we recognise the rapidly changing world of ICT and the role technology plays in our media rich environment. We believe that all the children should be able to access and investigate the Internet in a safe and secure environment, all our lap tops and I-pads are securely locked so that the children are unable to access inappropriate web sites.

The E-Safety Policy is built on the following care 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 children in the preschool 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 in the preschool depends on staff, parents, carers and visitors taking responsibility for the use of internet and other communication technologies such as mobile phones.

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.

The point of contact on the website should be the preschool address, preschool e-mail and telephone number. Staff or children's home information will not be published. Pupils full names will not be used anywhere on the website, particularly in association with photographs. Written permission from parents or carers for featuring their child on the website is requested when each child starts at the preschool and parents/carers wishes are followed at all times.

Communication

Managing e-mails

Children will not have access to e-mail.

Staff using e-mail will use the preschool e-mail address. This address must not be used for personal e-mail.

On-line communications and social networking

On-line chat rooms and social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter will not be used in the preschool.

Staff will not discuss individual children or their setting on Facebook, Twitter or any other social networking site.

Mobile technologies

Mobile phones are not permitted in the pre-school room. Staff are permitted to use their mobile phones in the office and in the staff cupboard, but the taking of photographs on mobile phones is strictly prohibited anywhere on the preschool site.

Any member of staff using their own laptop must adhere to the e-safety policy in all matters relating to the preschool.

Our aims are to carry out this policy by;

- Promoting children's rights to be strong, resilient and listened to by creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop a positive self image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour, ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.

- Promoting children’s rights to be strong, resilient and listened to by enabling children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
- Promoting children’s right to be strong, resilient and listened to by enabling children to have the self confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches.
- Helping children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with their peers and with adults
- Working with parents to build their understanding of and commitment to the principles of safeguarding all our children.

Primary legislation

- The Children Act 1989
- The Protection of Children Act 1999
- Data Protection Act / GDPR 2018
- The Children Act 2004 (Every Child Matters)

Guidance

- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused (2015)
- The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and Their Families (2000)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)
- Early years foundation stage statutory framework (2024)

Secondary Legislation

- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Criminal Justice and Court Services Act (2000)
- Human Rights Act (1999)
- Race Relations (Amendment) Act (2000)

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