Safeguarding Monitoring Checklist

Over the past year, the education sector has seen new and amended legislation which has prompted schools to add new safeguarding tools to strengthen their safeguarding policies. The two key changes include:

2015 Prevent Duty legislation

In accordance with the 2015 Prevent Duty legislation, schools in England and Wales are required, **"to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering."**

2016 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' statutory guidance

From September 2016, schools are obliged to, **"ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. Children should not be able to access harmful or inappropriate material from the school or colleges IT system."** However, schools will need to "be careful that 'over blocking' does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding."

Based on these, how does your school meet the criteria?

Use the checklist to assess whether your school's monitoring system is 'appropriate' for the task in hand.

Organisation	
Address/Site	
Contact details	
Filtering Software	
Date of assessment	

Inappropriate Online Content

Does your system monitor/manage the following content?

Content	Explanatory notes - Content that:	Y/N	How?
Illegal	Is illegal, for example child abuse images and unlawful terrorist content.		
Bullying	Involves the repeated use of force, threat or coercion to abuse, intimidate or aggressively dominate others.		
Child Sexual Exploitation	Ils encouraging the child into a coercive/manipulative sexual relationship- includes encouraging to meet.		
Discrimination	Promotes prejudicial treatment of people (race, religion, age, sex, disability or gender identity)		
Drugs / Substance abuse	Displays or promotes the illegal use of drugs or substances.		
Extremism	Promotes terrorism and terrorist ideologies, violence or intolerance.		
Pornography	Displays sexual acts or explicit images.		
Self-harm	Promotes or displays deliberate self-harm.		
Suicide	Suggests the user is considering suicide.		
Violence	Displays or promotes the use of physical force intended to hurt or kill.		

N = Tools do not meet requirements. **Y**= Tools sufficient to meet requirements.

Monitoring System Features

Does your monitoring system meet the following principles?

Principle	Y/N	How?
Not over block access, leading to unreasonable restrictions.		
Age appropriate - Ability to implement variable monitoring appropriate to age. This will define which alerts are prioritised and responded to.		
BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) - if the system can monitor personal mobile and app technologies, how is this deployed and supported?		
Data retention - what data is stored, where and for how long.		
Flexibility - schools' ability to amend (add or remove) keywords easily.		
Monitoring Policy - how are all users made aware that their online access is being monitored? Is any advice or guidance provided to support schools?		
Multiple language support - the ability for the system to manage relevant languages?		
Prioritisation - how alerts generated/prioritised to enable rapid response to immediate issues? What measures are in place to facilitate that process?		
Reporting - how are alerts recorded within the system?		

N = Tools do not meet requirements. **Y**= Tools sufficient to meet requirements.

Source: UK Safer Internet Centre

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