THAMES FEDERATION
HIGH EXPECTATIONS | ENRICHMENT | EXCELLENCE

STAFF FACTSHEET

Filtering and monitoring

Learn about our school's filtering and monitoring systems and how you can help to keep pupils safe online. Know what to do if you have concerns about the content that pupils are accessing.

What is filtering and monitoring?

Filtering systems block access to harmful websites and content.

Monitoring systems:

- Identify when someone searches for or accesses certain types of harmful online content on school devices and networks
- Identify who is searching for or accessing the harmful content
- Alert the school about it so we can intervene and respond
- **Don't** block access to harmful content

We're all responsible for filtering and monitoring

No filtering and monitoring software is perfect:

- It might not be aware of all the websites that contain inappropriate content
- Abbreviations or misspellings in a search engine may slip past the software
- Inappropriate content may be found on websites considered 'safe'
- It might not always be able to block inappropriate content generated by artificial intelligence (AI) tools
- Pupils might find ways to get around it

You can help to make sure the internet is used appropriately by:

- Monitoring what pupils are accessing on devices during school hours (e.g. by looking at their screens when using computers during lessons)
- Alerting the Heads of School or Executive Head Teacher if you become aware that content is not being filtered

If you have concerns about what a pupil is accessing online, always raise it with the DSL allocated to each of the settings:

Strategic Designated Safeguarding lead for the Thames Federation (DSL)	**Anne-Marie Strachan**	**astrachan@melcombe.lbhf.sch.uk** **020 8748 7411**
DSL for Bayonne Nursery School	Janice Moore	headofschool@bayonne.lbhf.sch.uk 020 7385 5366
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for Bayonne Nursery School	Paula Casillas	pcasillas@bayonne.lbhf.sch.uk 020 7385 5366
DSL for James Lee School	Janice Moore	jmoore@jameslee.lbhf.sch.uk 0208 741 8877
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for James Lee Nursery School	Isobel Peikazadi	ipeikazadi@jameslee.lbhf.sch.uk 0208 741 8877
DSL for Melcombe Primary School	Lindy Woodcock	mwoodcock@melcombe.lbhf.sch.uk 020 8748 7411
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for Melcombe Primary School	Jamie Denin	jdenin@melcombe.lbhf.sch.uk 020 8748 7411

Inappropriate content includes:

- Illegal content (e.g. child sexual abuse)
- Discriminatory content (e.g. sexist, racist or homophobic content)
- Sites that promote drugs or substance abuse
- Extremist content (e.g. the promotion of terrorism)
- Gambling sites
- Malware and/or hacking software
- Pornography
- Pirated material (copyright theft)
- Sites that promote self-harm, suicide and/or eating disorders

- Violent material

What systems do we use?

Keeping Children Safe in Education states that all schools must have appropriate filtering and monitoring systems in place.

Schools must also make sure that effective filtering and monitoring is applied to any generative AI tools used by pupils.

We have the following systems in place:

- The Thames Federation's filtering and monitoring service is provided by LGfL which includes screening generative AI content
- Filtering and monitoring alerts will be sent to the Heads of Schools and Executive Head Teacher
- Mo Kamara (IT Lead) and Executive Head Teacher is responsible for maintenance and review of the software.
- Devices without functioning filtering and monitoring will be closely supervised if used by pupils. If inappropriate content is seen the member of staff will report it to the IT Lead, Heads of Schools or Executive Head Teacher.

How to raise questions or concerns

Our filtering and monitoring system is designed to protect pupils online. It shouldn't have an impact on teaching and learning or school administration.

Contact Mo Kamara (mkamara@melcombe.lbhf.sch.uk) if you and/or pupils:

- Cannot access content that you need to carry out your work
- Have access to content that should be blocked

If you become aware of pupils accessing concerning content at any time, report this to a DSL listed above as soon as possible.

Sources

This factsheet was produced by The Key Safeguarding**: thekeysupport.com/safeguarding**

- Keeping Children Safe in Education, GOV.UK – Department for Education
  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
- Filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges, GOV.UK – Department for Education
  https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges
- Appropriate filtering, UK Safer Internet Centre *https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/teachers-and-school-staff/appropriate-filtering-and-monitoring/appropriate-filtering*
- Appropriate monitoring, UK Safer Internet Centre *https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/teachers-and-school-staff/appropriate-filtering-and-monitoring/appropriate-monitoring*