Online Safety Policy

2022-2023

Date reviewed:
March 2023

To be reviewed:
August 2023

<u>Mission statement</u>

Since 1972, we have established a welcoming and inclusive community. Our diverse cultures and languages drive all our learning experiences.

We nurture creativity and curiosity to stimulate deep thinking. We foster insight, compassion and resilience to enable us to play a meaningful part in a changing world.

<u>Vision statement</u>

We celebrate our stories, our worth and our purpose to make a difference in a shared world.

At the International School of London, we believe in:

Empowering students to maximise their learning opportunities and to fulfil their potential.
Actively integrating cultural diversity in the curriculum.
Creating inclusive, vibrant and innovative learning communities.
Offering a diverse and extensive international programme that supports personal, social and professional growth.

This policy should be read alongside the International School of London policies and procedures on child protection and safeguarding. More information about safeguarding and child protection can be found at *learning.nspcc.org.uk/key-topics/safeguarding-and-child-protection.*

The purpose of this policy statement:
The International School of London works with children and families as part of its activities, to:

- ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices
- provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety
- ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices.

The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, children and young people and anyone involved in any International School of London activities.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. Summaries of the key legislation and guidance are available on:

- online abuse *learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse*
- bullying *learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying*
- child protection *learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system*

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure children are kept safe at all times

We recognise that:

- the online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however, it can also present risks and challenges
- we have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online
- we have a responsibility to help keep children and young people safe online, whether or not they are using ISL's network and devices
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- appointing an online safety coordinator – at ISL, this is the Designated Safeguarding Lead, supported by the Deputy SLs, Principals, the MYP Heads of Year and the Diploma College Head of Student Well-being
- providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online through our behaviour code for adults
- supporting and encouraging the young people using our service to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others
- supporting and encouraging parents and carers to do what they can to keep their children safe online
- developing an online safety agreement (ISL Acceptable Use Guidelines/Policy) for use with young people and their parents/carers
- developing clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person
- reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly

- ensuring that user names, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively
- ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely and shared only as appropriate
- ensuring that images of children, young people and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given
- providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety
- examining and risk assessing any social media platforms and new technologies before they are used within the organisation.

In the PYP:
- To ensure that students are not exposed to inappropriate online material, we do not allow them to use personal electronic devices during the school day from 8:10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ISL supplies electronic devices for learning where all students are supervised when devices are in use.
- PYP students that use the bus service are not allowed to use personal electronic devices while on bus transport. ISL is not able to supervise how students are accessing content on devices as no ISL staff are present for supervision.

If online abuse occurs, we will respond to it by:
- having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse (including online abuse)
- providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying/cyberbullying, peer-on-peer abuse, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation
- making sure our response takes the needs of the person experiencing abuse, any bystanders and our organisation as a whole into account
- reviewing the plan developed to address online abuse at regular intervals, in order to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

Related policies and procedures
This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:
- ISL Child Protection Policy
- KCSIE 2022
- ISL Complaints Policy
- ISL Anti-bullying Policy
- ISL Staff Handbook
- ISL Acceptable Use Guidelines/Policy
- Photography and image sharing guidance - Parent and Student Handbook

At ISL London, Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all practitioners should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child.

Contact details

Online safety co-ordinator

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