



## E-SAFETY POLICY

### 1. Policy statement (Pol No. 36)

Little Smarties Nursery has a commitment to keeping children safe and healthy and the e-safety policy always operates under the umbrella of the Safeguarding Policy. The e-safety policy is the implementation for the Safeguarding of electronic communications.

We take steps to ensure that there are effective procedures in place to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from the unacceptable use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) equipment or exposure to inappropriate materials in the setting.

#### EYFS key themes and commitments

A unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe	2.1 Respecting each other 2.2 Parents as partners	3.4 The wider context	4.4 Personal, social & emotional development

#### Introduction

The Internet is now regarded as an essential resource to support teaching and learning. Computer skills are vital to accessing life-long learning and employment. It is important for children to learn to be e-safe from an early age and the nursery can play a vital part in starting this process. In line with other nursery policies that protect pupils from other dangers, there is a requirement to provide pupils with as safe an internet environment as possible and a need to begin to teach them to be aware of and respond responsibly to possible risks.

Our designated person responsible for co-ordinating action taken to protect children is: **Ian Pavelin**

### 1. Core Principles of Internet Safety

The internet is becoming as commonplace as the telephone or TV and is an effective use for essential life-skill. Unmediated internet access brings with it the possibility of placing children in embarrassing, inappropriate and even dangerous situations.

### 2. The E-Safety Policy is built on the following core 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 of care to ensure children in the nursery 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 nursery depends on staff, parents, carers and visitors taking responsibility for the use of internet and other communication technologies such as mobile phones. It is the nursery's responsibility to use technical solutions to limit internet access and to monitor their effectiveness.

### **3. Why is it important for pre-school children to access the internet?**

The internet is an essential element in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. The nursery has a duty of care to provide children with quality internet access as part of their learning experience. Pre-school internet access will be tailored expressly for educational use and will include appropriate filtering. Pupils will learn appropriate internet use. Staff will guide children in online activities that will support their learning journeys. The internet is also used in the nursery to support the professional work of staff, to allow effective planning and to enhance the nursery's management information and business administration systems.

### **4. How will filtering be managed?**

The nursery board member responsible for systems support will ensure that the appropriate filters are applied to the PCs in the nursery, iPads and to the PCs in the office. This board member will also review the sites accessed. Staff will monitor the websites being used by the children during nursery sessions. If staff or children discover unsuitable sites have been accessed on the pre-school room PCs, they must be reported to the manager immediately so that filters can be reviewed. The nursery board will ensure there is sufficient funding and time made available for training should it be required.

### **5. 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 nursery address, nursery e-mail and telephone number. Staff or children's home information will not be published. Website photographs that include children will be selected carefully and will not allow individual children to be clearly identified. Children's full names will not be used anywhere on the website/Facebook, particularly in association with photographs. Written permission from parents or carers for featuring their child on the website/Facebook is requested when each child starts at the nursery and parents/carers wishes are followed at all times.

### **6. Communication**

- *Managing e-mail*

Children will not have access to e-mail. Staff using e-mail will use a nursery 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 nursery, other than for business use. 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 nursery. Staff are permitted to use their mobile phones in the office and in the staff room area, but the taking of photographs on mobile phones is strictly prohibited anywhere on the nursery site, unless this is through the nursery phone. Any member of staff using their own laptop must adhere to the e-safety policy in all matters relating to the nursery.

## **7. Parents and e-safety**

Parents attention will be drawn to the nursery e-safety policy.

## **8. Handling Complaints**

Any complaints about the appropriate use of the internet or other technologies will be handled through the complaint's procedure.