e-Safety Policy

To be reviewed Annually.
Policy Agreed January 2015. To be reviewed January 2016.

'We use E-Safety, and related terms such as 'online', 'communication technologies', and 'digital technologies' to refer to all fixed and mobile technologies that children may encounter, now and in the future, which might pose e-safety risks'.

E-Safety is one aspect of an ever-widening safeguarding agenda. The development of effective policies and practices in this area should be embedded within the safeguarding agenda with the purpose of helping to protect children and staff from E-Safety risks, and promote safe and responsible use of technology wherever it occurs.

In order to fully meet the requirements of EYFS, schools and regulated childcare settings use a variety of technologies to support children's learning and development as they negotiate the vast array of electronic and digital equipment that shape their environment. However, beyond their immediate learning, their environment is also shaped by use of controlled security systems – fob, finger pad, electronic or video camera security, computers – for use by both staff and children, laptops – used for storing images and details of observations used in planning and assessments, pen drives, digital cameras and mobile phones. Staff also manage a range of sensitive data including child and family information, names, addresses and other personal information related to health and welfare.

Given the wide range of benefits technologies can offer, there is a need to ensure that any potential risks related to new technologies have been identified and that steps have been taken to minimise such risks by ensuring that relevant safeguards are in place. Trying to keep with the pace and development of 'emerging' devices will be a constant challenge and the resulting influence these devices have within our social and professional communities.

The Internet, whether accessed from a computer, mobile phone or other device, has become embedded within modern family life. It is used to buy and sell goods, online banking, finding information and socialising. It can also have a darker side with cybercrime, inappropriate material and illegal activity taking place online affecting both adults and children. E-Safety is concerned with the safeguarding of children and young people in the "digital" world and ensuring they feel safe when accessing new technology. It is also concerned with ensuring that the adults working to support and care for our children and young people are supported and able to follow established codes of conduct outlining clear professional boundaries. This includes the use of mobile phones and cameras within the Nursery School.

In light of this at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre have compiled a set of documents, which highlight different areas:

Acceptable Usage Policy

This policy outlines the children's use of digital equipment and ICT resources.

An overview of the use of our vision and approach to E-safety

This is provided in the school home visit pack for Parents/Carers to sign before their child starts at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre.

Acceptable Usage Policy for Staff, Volunteers and Governors

A policy that has been developed to ensure that staff, volunteers and governors are fully aware of both their safety and their professional conduct.

Data Protection Policy

This policy contains information about the use and storage of information about children and their families.

Code of Conduct

A document that is displayed throughout the school/centre, which explains the expectations at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre.

This policy was reviewed by the EYFS Committee on 22nd January 2015 and agreed by the Governing Body of Everton Nursery School and Family Centre on 29th January 2015.