



## **Adventure Playgrounds Online Safety Policy**

The online safety report was reviewed by Danny Taber/Operations Lead Officer  
20.06.23

The implementation of this policy will be the responsibility of the Operation Lead officers/Danny Taber and Mathew Steadman

The online safety policy will be reviewed annually or more regularly in the light of significant changes or use of new technologies. Anticipated review date will be 19.06.24

**Should serious online safety incidents take place, the following people should be informed:**

- **Danny Taber – Operations Lead officer for Adeyfield & Bennetts End Adventure Playgrounds**
- **Mathew Stedman – Operations Lead Officer for Grovehill & Chaulden Adventure Playground**
- **Joe Guiton – Team Leader Community Safety & Children’s Services**
- **Sue Warren – Safeguarding Lead Officer**
- **Police**
- **Herts Safeguarding Board – Protective Referrals**
- **LADO**

### **Playground Operations Lead Officers**

- Takes day to day responsibility for online safety issues and has a leading role in establishing and reviewing the playgrounds online safety policies
- Ensures all staff are aware of the procedures that need to be followed in the event of an online safety incident taking place.
- Provides advice for staff
  - Liaises with local authority and external agencies
  - Reports any incidents to Lead Safeguarding Officer

## **Designated safeguarding Officers/Playground Assistants**

Playground staff are all suitably trained to level 3 in safeguarding and are aware of the potential for serious child protection / safeguarding issues to arise from:

- Sharing of personal data
- Access to illegal / inappropriate materials
- Inappropriate on-line contact with adults / strangers
- Potential or actual incidents of grooming
- Online-bullying

## **Users of the Adventure Playgrounds Computers & Network**

- Educated in understanding the importance of reporting abuse, misuse or access to inappropriate materials and know how to do so. SMART & CEOP posters available
- Will be expected to understand the playgrounds terms of usage and mobile phone policies
- Should understand the importance of adopting good online safety practice when using digital technologies when at home.

## **Internet Safety Policy**

### **Introduction:**

It is the policy of Adeyfield Adventure Playground to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorised access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorised online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with The Protection of children Act 1978 and the sexual offences Act 2003.

### **Access to Inappropriate Material**

To the extent practical, internet filters along with Anti Spam and Firewalls are in place to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information specifically, as required by the protection of Children's Act, blocking has been applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

**Current protection used in our setting is K9 and filters inappropriate web pages, provides safe search and allows supervisor control such as adding time restrictions for internet usage.**

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

### **Inappropriate Network Usage**

To the extent practical, steps have been taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Adeyfield Adventure playgrounds online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

**It is not permitted for users of the playground to have access use our business network, including wireless access for mobile and console usage such as online gaming.**

### **Education, Supervision & Monitoring**

It shall be the responsibility of all members of Adeyfield Adventure Playground staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the protection of children's Act 1978, The sexual Offences Act 2003 & The Internet Watch Foundation.

**Children are given supervised 15 minute timeslots for both Pcs and game consoles and activities are closely monitored to prevent inappropriate usage.**

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Danny Taber or Ilana Petit

**Children who use Adeyfield Adventure playground have been educated to understand the importance of e-safety. Our e-safety policy along with safeguarding notices such as Be Smart Stay safe and links to report abuse are clearly visible and accessible to all children, parents/carers and staff for educational, information and disclosure purposes.**

### **Acts Relating to E-Safety**

#### **Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006**

It is a criminal offence to threaten people because of their faith, or to stir up religious hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Other laws already protect people from threats based on their race, nationality or ethnic background.

## **Sexual Offences Act 2003**

The new grooming offence is committed if you are over 18 and have communicated with a child under 16 at least twice (including by phone or using the Internet) it is an offence to meet them or travel to meet them anywhere in the world with the intention of committing a sexual offence.

Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act is illegal, including looking at images such as videos, photos or webcams, for your own gratification. It is also an offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in sexual activity with any person under 18, with whom they are in a position of trust. Schools should already have a copy of "Children & Families: Safer from Sexual Crime" document as part of their child protection packs. Communications Act 2003 (sec. 127)

Sending by means of the Internet a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or sending a false message by means of or persistently making use of the Internet for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety is guilty of an offence liable, on conviction, to imprisonment. This wording is important because an offence is complete as soon as the message has been sent: there is no need to prove any intent or purpose.

## **The Computer Misuse Act 1990 (sections 1 – 3)**

Regardless of an individual's motivation, the Act makes it a criminal offence to gain:

- Access to computer files or software without permission (for example using another person's password to access files)
- Unauthorised access, as above, in order to commit a further criminal act (such as fraud)
- impair the operation of a computer or program

UK citizens or residents may be extradited to another country if they are suspected of committing any of the above offences.

## **Malicious Communications Act 1988 (section 1)**

This legislation makes it a criminal offence to send an electronic message (email) that conveys indecent, grossly offensive, threatening material or information that is false; or is of an indecent or grossly offensive nature if the purpose was to cause a recipient to suffer distress or anxiety.

## **Public Order Act 1986 (sections 17 – 29)**

This Act makes it a criminal offence to stir up racial hatred by displaying,

publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Like the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 it also makes the possession of inflammatory material with a view of releasing it a criminal offence.

### **Protection of Children Act 1999 (Section 1)**

It is an offence to take, permit to be taken, make, possess, show, distribute or advertise indecent images of children in the United Kingdom. A child for these purposes is anyone under the age of 18. Viewing an indecent image of a child on your computer means that you have made a digital image. An image of a child also covers pseudo-photographs (digitally collated or otherwise). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison.

### **Protection from Harassment Act 1997**

A person must not pursue a course of conduct, which amounts to harassment of another, and which he knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other.

A person whose course of conduct causes another to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be used against him is guilty of an offence if he knows or ought to know that his course of conduct will cause the other so to fear on each of those occasions.

## **Acts Relating to the Protection of Personal Data**

### **Data Protection Act 2018**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-protection-act-2018>

### **The Freedom of Information Act 2000**

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/>

### **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Prevent), Anti-Radicalisation & Counter-Extremism Guidance**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-extremism-in-schools-and-childrens-services>

### **Helpful links**

- [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk) - Here you will find e-safety tips, advice and resources to help children and young people stay safe on the internet.
- [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com) - An organisation working directly with children, parents and

teachers to ensure that the issues of online child protection and the safe and positive use of the internet are addressed.

- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) - The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre has set up its own website which has been designed and written specifically for children, young people, teachers, parents and carers.
- [www.kidsmart.org.uk/](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/) - Kidsmart is an award winning internet safety website for parents and those working with children. It has been developed by the children's internet charity Childnet International and has excellent information on many of the technologies used by children, with guidance on how to 'stay safe' online.
- [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk) - One in five young people have experienced bullying by text message or via email. This web site gives advice for children and parents on cyberbullying.
- [www.chatdanger.com/](http://www.chatdanger.com/) - This website is about the potential dangers with interactive services online like chat, IM, online games, email and on mobiles. It provides information, advice, true stories and games. The resource page also contains a number of links to other useful websites.
- <http://parents.vodafone.com/> - Being very accessible, this provides information and guidance to parents to help under the digital world. There is also an online test to see how much you know.
- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org) - Lots of guidance and articles for parents about keeping their children safe online.
- [www.digizen.org](http://www.digizen.org) - A website designed to strengthen awareness and understanding of what digital citizenship is. It encourages users of technology to be and become responsible DIGItal citiZENS.

