

Online Safety Mark Assessment Feedback



School: Sydenham Primary School

Assessment date: December 13th, 2021 Assessor: Ron Richards

Headteacher: Juliette Westwood Contact Persons: Sharon Madahar

Thank you for your application and for the supporting documents.

The application form, the review and the supporting documents suggest that the school has continued to develop its online safety provision and that the school remains at (and, in places, above) Online Safety Mark benchmark levels. It is good to see a third application from the school, with the first having taken place in 2014.

There are many positive aspects to your review, including:

- Development points suggested by the previous Assessor appear to have been addressed:
 - Policies and training have been enhanced in terms of the security of personal and sensitive data.
 - Online safety links with community groups have been further developed, including links with the Brownies and other groups. It is good that the children themselves have been involved in this work.
- Schools have had to re-consider their provision in the light of the Covid pandemic and “lockdowns”. It is good to hear that you have addressed this and, in particular, through the use of remote learning schemes and the support for parents and carers to help ensure that children have been safe online at home and that home learning has been carried out effectively.
- Staff and Governor training are being effectively carried out. There is good external input from Jane Key and the school has ensured that potential gaps in the training / online safety awareness have been identified through questionnaires.
- The online safety curriculum has been enhanced through the adoption of Project Evolve. Again, there is strong pupil involvement and thorough monitoring of the provision. The new Project Evolve assessment module is being tested and it will be interesting to see the learning that is gained from this.
- As I have mentioned above there is a very strong contribution from the pupils in the Online Safety Group and the Digital Leaders play an important role in the education programme and through the provision of their research and ideas about the online safety experiences of their peers.
- There is much evidence in the review of greater maturity in the online safety provision and it is pleasing to read of the many developments that have taken place.

In terms of development points I would like to suggest:

- To continue to use the [SWGfL Project Evolve](#) programme to aid your online safety curriculum planning and to further extend the range of resources and assessment opportunities. It will be important for schools such as Sydenham to feedback on its use and to help the ongoing development of the tool.
- It is good to see that three aspects have been rated at level 1. While I would not want to see a school choosing level 1 gradings “for the sake of it”, I would hope that at the next assessment, when the school will have been an Online Safety Mark school for over nine years that even more of its provision is rated at this higher aspirational level.

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- It is not clear from the review the extent to which staff now use One Drive to transfer and access documents more securely and whether the previous use of memory sticks is still in place
 - To share the school's good online safety practice with other schools as this will be important in "spreading the message" and creating a strong community wide provision.

In three years time to achieve the award again you would be required to have a full assessment (which would be your third). This would allow the Assessor to have the opportunity to see and to comment on, the many developments that have taken place. On the basis of what I have read in your application form and your review this would be an enjoyable visit and I am sure that the Assessor would be able to report on the continuous improvements in online safety provision.

I am pleased to confirm that the school has been awarded the Online Safety Mark for a further three years.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light yellow background. The signature reads 'R. Richards' in a cursive style.

Ron Richards