



NANPANTAN HALL
Nurture Centre

Filtering & Monitoring
Policy

Filtering & Monitoring

POLICY 23/24

POLICY REVIEW STATEMENT

This policy will be reviewed Bi-annually or earlier should legislative change or other event require it.

SIGNED.....

POSITION: DIRECTOR
for & on behalf of serenity education

DATE: 1st August 2023

REVIEW DATE: 1st August 2024



Key Information

IT Support

- Tim Neville
Black Owl Technologies Ltd
support@blackowl.co.uk
<https://support.blackowl.co.uk>
0330 122 2412
www.blackowl.co.uk

Broadband Provider

- Schools Broadband 01133 222 333
info@schoolsbbroadband.co.uk

Filtering System

- Netsweeper
Weekly Report (FAO - L Furborough)

Other Tests

- SWGL
Weekly free online filtering test
<https://swgfl.org.uk/services/test-filtering/>

Nanpantan Hall Nurture Centre

SUMMARY

This year, we have made changes to reflect trends we have seen over the past year and especially in the light of changes to KCSIE – the most significant change relating to filtering and monitoring, as well as to shorten this document.

The DSL has now been asked to take lead responsibility for webfiltering and monitoring, marking a clear shift. Schools now need to follow the new DfE standards and consider the roles and responsibilities of all staff – for DSLs and SLT, the challenge is to better understand, review and drive the rationale behind decisions in this area. Tech teams and safeguarding teams will need to work much more closely together for this to be possible and technicians will be charged to carry out regular checks and feed back to DSL teams. All staff need to be aware of the changes and renewed emphasis and play their part in feeding back about overblocking or gaps in the filtering provision. Schools will also be reviewing their approaches to monitoring in line with the standards (note that filtering and monitoring are not the same – there is guidance around this for DSLs at <https://safefiltering.lgfl.net>).

AIM

KCSIE makes clear that “the designated safeguarding lead should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety).” The DSL can delegate activities but not the responsibility for this area and whilst subject leads, e.g. for RSHE will plan the curriculum for their area, it is important that this ties into a whole-school approach.

Keeping Children Safe in Education has long asked schools to ensure “appropriate” webfiltering and monitoring systems which keep children safe online but do not “overblock”.

Since KCSIE 2023, in recognition of the importance of these systems to keeping children safe, the designated safeguarding lead now has lead responsibility for filtering and monitoring (see page 1 for the DSL name and the named governor with responsibility for filtering and monitoring).

Schools are also asked to follow the new DfE filtering and monitoring standards, which require them to:

- Identify and assign roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems
- Review filtering and monitoring provision at least annually
- Block harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning
- Have effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs

As schools get to grips with these new standards, the challenge for DSLs and SLT is to better understand, review and drive the rationale behind decisions in this area. Tech teams and safeguarding teams will need to work much more closely together for this to be possible and technicians will be charged to carry out regular checks and feed back to DSL teams.

ALL STAFF need to be aware of the changes and renewed emphasis and play their part in feeding back about areas of concern, potential for students to bypass systems and any potential overblocking. They can submit concerns at any point and will be asked for feedback at the time of the regular checks which will now take place.

Staff will be reminded of the systems in place and their responsibilities at induction and start of year safeguarding as well as via regular training reminders in the light of the annual review and regular checks that will be carried out.

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It is very important that schools understand the difference between filtering and monitoring, the meaning of overblocking and other terms, as well as how to get the best out of systems. There are guidance videos and flyers to help with this at <https://safefiltering.lgfl.net>

At Nanpantan Hall Nurture Centre

- Web filtering is provided by Schools Broadband on school site and for school devices
- Changes can be made by BlackOwl IT services
- Overall responsibility is held by the Head teacher and DSL
- Technical support and advice, setup and configuration are from BlackOwl
- Regular checks are made weekly by the directors to ensure filtering is still active and functioning everywhere. These are evidenced by a print out and logbook held in the main office
- According to the DfE standards, “a variety of monitoring strategies may be required to minimise safeguarding risks on internet connected devices and may include:
 - physically monitoring by staff watching screens of users
 - live supervision by staff on a console with device management software
 - network monitoring using log files of internet traffic and web access
 - individual device monitoring through software or third-party services

Any systems above are centrally managed and administered by the school or authorised IT partner BlackOwl IT services. This is for the mutual protection and privacy of all staff, pupils and parents, supporting safeguarding best-practice, protecting children against abuse, staff against potential allegations and in line with UK data protection legislation.

Use of any new platform with communication facilities or any child login or storing school/child data must be approved in advance by the school and centrally managed.

Any unauthorised attempt to use a different system may be a safeguarding concern or disciplinary matter and should be notified to the DSL (if by a child) or to the Headteacher (if by a staff member).

Where devices have multiple accounts for the same app, mistakes can happen, such as an email being sent from or data being uploaded to the wrong account. If this a private account is used for communication or to store data by mistake, the DSL/Headteacher/DPO should be informed immediately.

Further information can be found on the following websites:

[Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges - Filtering and monitoring standards for schools and colleges - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Safety and Security Online | SWGfL](#)

[Appropriate Filtering and Monitoring - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)