

# 360 degree safe



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 360safe website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, Overview, Review, Accreditation, and Contact Us. Below this is a main content area with a green header titled 'AN INTRODUCTION TO THE 360 DEGREE SAFE SELF REVIEW TOOL'. It includes a welcome message, information about the tool's purpose, and a call to action for schools to register and review their e-safety. There are also sections for 'About the E-Safety Mark' and 'Latest News'.

## Putting the 'ease' into 'e-safety'...

### Online safety and Schools

A safe environment is a basic right and a responsibility that we all share, not only within the physical world, but increasingly within the online world where many children, young people and adults work and play. Online technologies have allowed school boundaries to stretch way beyond the school gate and, whilst we know this offers huge potential for new teaching and learning experiences, it brings with it a different set of responsibilities and issues that are often hard to understand, track and manage.

Over the last few years, schools have increasingly been on the "front line of being online": managing the fallout from online disputes; tackling cyberbullying; managing the right response to inappropriate and illegal content; dealing with threats to the safety of their staff and students and maintaining their safeguarding obligations. The reduction in the capacity of advisory services traditionally offered by Local Authorities, along with more

schools choosing Academy status, has meant that it has become increasingly difficult to obtain high quality advice and support for these issues.

The recent DfE White Paper "The Importance of Teaching" references clear reforms around safeguarding and behaviour that will have significant implications for schools and their online safety strategy. In particular:

- Strengthening Heads' authority to deal with incidents and maintain discipline beyond the school gate, including powers to confiscate items such as mobile phones.
- Strengthening schools' stand on all forms of bullying, including online bullying.
- Focusing Ofsted inspections more strongly on safety and behaviour.

Defining a strategy for online safety from scratch that meets these criteria (or even reviewing an existing one) is daunting and can represent a huge amount of work. Writing a policy? Forming an action plan? What do you include? What are your priorities? How well are you doing? How can you involve people in your wider vision?

360 degree safe has been designed to support schools through that process, defining strategy, raising standards and celebrating success.

## What can 360 degree safe do for my school?

- **Progress.** Provides a summary record of school improvement in online safety that can be immediately be made available to inspection teams or any other external agencies
- **Resources.** Provides clear advice at every stage on how to make the next step, the evidence you might use and provides the resources to make that improvement. These include templates, matrices and plans produced by a team of safety experts from a wide range of disciplines
- **Engagement.** Any number of users can be registered to contribute to the review, widening the number of stakeholders, improving ownership and involvement and ensuring those who are best placed to offer judgements can do so.
- **Access.** It's online, in one place and can be used wherever there is an internet connection.
- **Benchmarking.** Provides clear and constant feedback on your current progress by benchmarking your school's progress in comparison with other schools using the tool
- **Action Planning.** Records and reports actions that inform the school development plan
- **Reports.** Gives immediate access to a wide range of summary reports that can be output in Word, PDF or Excel format and used in Reports to Governors, Parents or School Improvement Partners.
- **Celebrates.** As soon as your school registers with 360 degree safe, you can print out your first certificate of "Commitment to E-safety" to display and share.
- **Accredits.** Once your school reaches the required standards, you can apply for an external evaluation to receive the eSafety Mark

## What is 360 degree safe?

Designed by the internationally renowned SWGfL E-Safety Team, 360 degree safe is a free online self-review tool with over 1700 registered establishments from more than 130 Authorities that helps schools manage their approach to Online Safety. Since its launch in 2009, its value has been recognised and is

being adopted internationally by organisations such as IKeepSafe in the USA, being embedded into their brand new 'Generation Safe' and is helping to define the standards for safer online schools across the world.

It allows schools to review and record their current online safety provision on a five-point scale. It covers twenty eight separate aspects of online safety, arranged into easy-to-manage groupings that cover:

- Policy and Leadership (responsibilities, policies, sanctions and reporting)
- Infrastructure (filtering, security, passwords and devices)
- Education (Students, Staff, Parents and Community)
- Standards and Inspection (Monitoring and Impact).

## Where can I find 360 degree safe?

360 degree safe can be found online at <http://www.360safe.org.uk/> where you can try out the tool, watch short demonstration videos and download additional information.

Registration is simple, free and validated. You can register any number of people to access the tool from your school once you have chosen an administrator. All your data is online and secure.

## How can I found out more?

Visit <http://www.360safe.org.uk/> where you will find advice and links on;

- Arranging a 360 degree safe awareness / training session for staff
- Requesting a consultancy visit
- Arranging an assessment for the E-safety Mark

If you have any further questions on 360 degree safe then contact South West Grid for Learning on **0844 8002382** or [360safe@swgfl.org.uk](mailto:360safe@swgfl.org.uk)

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**www.360safe.org.uk**