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Mrs J Nellis  
Headteacher  
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Dear Mrs Nellis

Ofsted survey inspection programme – E-safety

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff, during my visit on 29 June 2009 to look at work in e-safety.

As outlined in my initial letter, this visit looked at:

- the extent to which schools teach learners to adopt safe and responsible practices in using new technologies
- e-safety training for staff.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text. All feedback letters will be published on the Ofsted website at the end of each half-term.

The evidence used to inform the judgements made included interviews with staff and students, scrutiny of relevant documentation and case studies.

The overall effectiveness of e-safety was judged to be outstanding.

Outcomes for learners

Outcomes for students are outstanding.

- Students of all ages and backgrounds are effectively taught to safely handle and manage risk in a rich technology environment. The school nurtures responsible behaviour and attitudes and builds resilience by teaching students what constitutes an unsafe situation and the consequences of ignoring good advice. Students are also given the confidence and skills to resist peer pressure.
- The small number of incidents that have been experienced have been exceptionally well managed by senior leaders and external agencies in

line with the acceptable user policy and established safeguarding and protection practice.

- You have taken regular opportunities to promote e-safety amongst parents and families. Consequently safe practice is regularly followed in the home and outside of school. Parents demonstrate confidence and support for school approaches in their contacts with the college.
- The students are really well protected because they know where the boundaries are for responsible use and activity. They display confidence to cope with risk and keep themselves and their friends safe.

## Quality of provision

The quality of provision is outstanding.

- The school provides an exemplary e-safety curriculum on the school website which enables staff to deliver high quality personal guidance lessons and assemblies.
- In addition, all students from Year 7 to Year 11 have timetabled information and communication technology lessons which are permeated by e-safety. As students move through the school essential skills and understanding are strengthened. This prepares them really well for the next stage of education, training or employment.
- The provision for all students is effectively adapted to meet the needs of age and ability and progressively develops their knowledge and understanding of e-safety as they mature into adults.
- The school makes certain that programmes are flexible so that they can be personalised to take account of individual circumstances, for example students arriving at short notice or those at an early stage of learning English.
- Opportunities are provided before, during and after the school day for those with limited access to new technologies or little experience of more advanced technology.
- Opportunities are also provided to inspire and interest the very able, gifted or talented to use their skills in positive and productive ways.

## Leadership and management

The leadership and management of e-safety are outstanding.

- The school has clear vision for the safe use of new technology and this is reflected in the unambiguous acceptable user policies for both students and staff.
- Senior leaders have established a talented e-safety team comprising e-safety manager, pastoral manager and systems manager. They are reflective, self-critical and pro-active.
- You have created a climate in which all staff have a strong sense of ownership of e-safety practice. This approach is bolstered by explicit and effectively disseminated e-safety action plans.
- Students are very aware of what is expected of them when following user policy good practice. As a result, they are responsible safe users.

- The governing body have ratified all policies and have an identified governor for Child Protection which also includes e-safety responsibilities.
- Parents are active partners in enabling students to stay safe.

### Quality of training

The quality of training is outstanding.

- The e-safety team has established a pattern of high quality training, tailored to needs, for all staff. Robust evaluation of all training and practice ensures that a strong impact is made on the outcomes for students.
- The e-safety team are determined to ensure that training remains relevant and keeps pace with technological advances to ensure that students are effectively protected.
- The expertise and experience of external agencies are successfully used to enhance the quality of staff training.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, included:

There are no areas or issues in the school's provision that require immediate action but it was agreed that:

- the school takes every opportunity to provide the e-safety team with training opportunities and experiences that extend their strategic vision and develop their practice even further.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop e-safety in your school.

As I explained in my previous letter, a copy of this letter will be sent to your local authority and will be published on the Ofsted website. It will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Clive Petts  
Additional Inspector