Online Safety Mark Desktop Assessment Feedback

School: Mersey Park Primary School

Assessment date: October 20th, 2022   Assessor: Ron Richards

Headteacher: Mrs M Thomas   Contact Person: Victoria Inman

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 improve its online safety provision and that the school remains at (and in many places, above) Online Safety Mark benchmark levels.

Your review and application form illustrate many positive aspects of your provision, including (but certainly not exclusively):

- The school appears to have addressed the development point raised by the previous Assessor, with regard to the online safety curriculum and, in particular, the coverage of commercial aspects and fake news.
- Leadership of online safety is strong with a well-established team and supportive governors. All staff are aware of their shared responsibilities in terms of teaching children about online safety.
- Online Safety is embedded across the curriculum and there is good use of resources from Be Internet Legends, Barefoot Computing, and Jigsaw. The school has begun to use the Project Evolve resource and is planning to extend its use. Previous gaps have been identified and the delivery of the online safety messages is now based more on pupil / group needs, rather than generically.
- There is an active and effective E-Safety Cadets Group which meets regularly and has the opportunity to check and to contribute to the development of the online safety policies. The pupils promote online safety, engage in debates and discussions about current trends and will be working with parents.
- There are good training systems in place for staff and for governors. The need for further training is identified through a "quiz".
- Looking at the website, there is a lot of valuable online safety information available to the parents.
- Three years on from your previous assessment the review and application indicate that online safety is now more embedded across the school.

In terms of development points I would like to suggest:

- As you have indicated in the application and in the review, you are beginning to use the Project Evolve Knowledge Maps in your evaluation and planning. The knowledge maps will help you evaluate pupil understanding and the effectiveness of your online safety education programme.

- To further develop the parent/carer online safety sessions after the disruption of such activities caused by the pandemic. To also use the e-safety cadets to deliver much of this provision – as it is likely to encourage parental engagement.
- To use the school's online safety knowledge and experience to support community groups with their provision and help other schools improve their online safety programmes – perhaps to encourage and support another school with an Online Safety Mark application.

To receive the award you are required to meet the benchmark levels and it appears that the school continues to do so, improving the provision along the way.

In three years time to achieve the award again you would be required to have a full assessment. This would allow the Assessor to have the opportunity to see and to comment on, the many developments that have taken place. Your review suggests that this would be an enjoyable visit.

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

Ron Richards