



Ras Al Khaimah American Academy				
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Objectives of the Policy

The online safety is broad concept that is based on reducing the risks online from a range of negative inspirations including incorrect behaviours, abuse, harmful content, identity theft and breaches of privacy. The purpose of online safety education is to empower, build the strength and to affect the positive culture change, while encouraging the development of respectful relationship, safe and long-term behaviours.

Policy Statement

RAKAA feels responsibility to facilitate the safe and responsible use of technology to support learning and sustainability. To educate the school community (teachers, staff, students, and parents) to protect themselves from inappropriate, illegal, and harmful content or contact.

Scope of the Policy

In progressively challenging, connected and promptly changing world, it is critical for every RAKAA community member to develop the skills needed to flourish as healthy, confident, and digitally literate citizens.

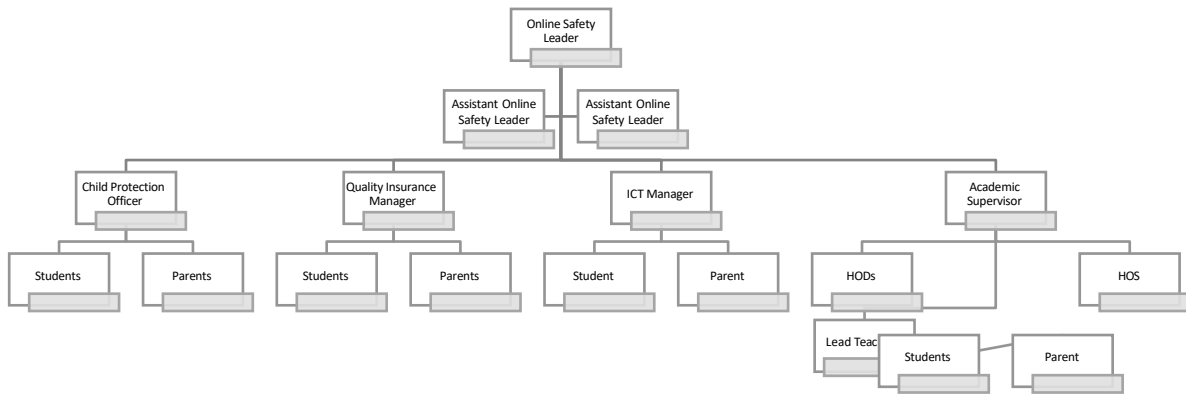
All young people need prospects to develop information and Communication Technology (ICT) capability to operate in an information-rich digital world confidently and successfully. Raising and developing sense of responsivity including respect for others, is crucial for ethical and social engagement when using ICT to explore, create, connect, and collaborate with others.

At RAKAA Online Safety Education is

- To construct knowledge and skills across the curriculum. This involves both interpersonal and technical aspects required to navigate digital environment and develop learning outcomes in practice.
- To teach online safety education to each student, at every level and every stage by using engaging strategies and trustworthy and well-trained educators.
- To have specific lessons focused on online safety education as well as opportunities to build skills into lesson plans across the learning areas for example, teaching critical thinking should include some examples of how this applies in an online context.
- To teach online safety education to support critical thinking and moral education.
- To develop emotional and social learning skills to support students' understanding and management of emotions, respectful online relationship, and resilience.

Structure of OSG

- The school has an active Online Safety Group with comprehensive representation from the Leadership Team, staff (including Child Protection representative) and students.
- OSG has clear lines of responsibility and accountability.



Development and Review of the Policy

This policy is subject of revision and update at least once annually according to the local, national or child protection requirements. The change in technology is considered as well in updating this policy.

The review and updating process of this Online Safety Group Policy is performed for:

- Ensure that the school monitors the use of the internet and its online safety procedures used to ensure that the online safety policy is implemented optimally.

- Strengthen the supervisory role of school principals, where they will be informed with the appropriate precautions for online safety.
- Encourage Online Safety Officer to submit periodic reports to school management about online incidents and its consequences.
- Include online safety issues in school development plans, including online safety education curriculum framework and digital citizenship curriculum framework through an interdisciplinary approach across all subjects
- The school is taking part in the safer Internet Day/Digital Citizenship week by organizing different events and familiarization to school community
- Professional development for OSG
- Identify proper R&Rs & JDS for OSG

Roles and responsibilities

The Online Safety Group specifies a counselling group that has varied representation from the *school* community, with obligation for matters regarding online safety and the observing the Online Safety Policy including the impact of initiatives. Depending on the size or organization of the *school* this group may be segment of the safeguarding group.

The group will also be liable for routine reporting to the *Governing Body / Directors*.

Members of the Online Safety Group will assist the Online Safety Officer with:

- In designing and reviewing the policies
- The monitoring of the school Online Safety Policy documents.
- *The review of the school filtering policy and demands for filtering changes.*
- Mapping and reviewing the online safety curricular provision – ensuring significance, scope, and development.
- Monitoring network incident logs
- Conferring stakeholders – including parents and the students about the online safety provision
- Sharing OSG activities R & R with SLT to keep the efficiency of work up to the mark
- Examining improvement engagements identified through use of the 360-degree safe self-review tool.
- Regular meetings with OSL to share the updates.

Online Safety Group Policy links to other school policies

This online safety policy considers all school other policies along with the national regulations such as:

Online safety policy:

https://rakaa.sch.ae/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/RAKAA_eSafety-Policy_2021-22.pdf

Cyber safety Policy:

https://rakaa.sch.ae/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/RAKAA_Cyber-safety-Policy_Updated.pdf

Anti-Bullying policy: https://rakaa.sch.ae/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/RAK-AA_Anti-Bullying-Policy.pdf

Child protection policy

<https://rakaa.sch.ae/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/RAKAAG-Child-Protection-Policy.pdf>

Acceptable Use policy

<https://rakaa.sch.ae/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Student-Personal-Laptop-Acceptable-Use-Policy-2020-2021.pdf>

Data protection policy:

Safeguarding rights of the children <https://www.tamimi.com/law-update-articles/new-uae-law-safeguarding-rights-of-children/>