

Appropriate Filtering for Education settings

June 2021



Filtering Integrator Checklist Responses

Schools in England (and Wales) are required "to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering". Furthermore, the Department for Education's statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' obliges schools and colleges in England to "ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place" and they "should be doing all that they reasonably can to limit children's exposure to the above risks from the school's or college's IT system" however, schools will need to "be careful that "over blocking" does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding."

Included within the Scottish Government national action plan on internet safety, schools in Scotland are expected to "have policies in place relating to the use of IT and to use filtering as a means of restricting access to harmful content."

By completing all fields and returning to UK Safer Internet Centre (enquiries@saferinternet.org.uk), the aim of this document is to help filtering integrators illustrate to education settings (including Early years, schools and FE) which filtering solution they utilise/recommend and what additional services they provide that enhance the filtering system to support schools. Fully completed forms will be hosted on the UK Safer Internet Centre website alongside the definitions

It is important to recognise that no filtering systems can be 100% effective and need to be supported with good teaching and learning practice and effective supervision.

Company / Organisation	Alwell Ltd.
Address	54 Newpool Road, Knypersley, Staffordshire, ST8 6NS
Contact details	Matthew Gibson, 01782405744
Date of submission	9/1/21

Filtering System Used/Recommended	Flashstart
-----------------------------------	------------

Please indicate why this filtering system has been adopted or recommended

Cloud based, multiple profiles for Staff, Students, etc. Malware protection, DNS Based filtering
--

If relevant, please indicate how you enhance the filtering system

Profiles are developed to allow exceptions to be only available to those who require it, i.e. Admin staff, SEN Staff, Students remain unaffected by Staff requirements. Website activity is also monitored. Profiles are monitored and updated in line with any relevant guidance, i.e. Prevent, Safeguarding in Schools, Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Our product is also able to enforce safe google searches blocking potential harmful responses. Internal systems are in place to ensure that exceptions to filtering are agreed by both the schools SLT with guidance from our experts. Threats can be responded to rapidly to ensure that potentially harmful content which is not filtered can be blocked quickly.

Filtering systems are only ever a tool in helping to safeguard children when online and schools have an obligation to *“consider how children may be taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum”*.¹

Please note below opportunities to support schools (and other settings) in this regard

We recommend that schools utilise the National Online Safety guides as posters in school and within newsletters and assist with ensuring that the content of these are appropriate to the audience. These guides are regularly checked by our staff and if appropriate distributed or schools advised what content is available. When requested we work with schools on appropriate connect to ensure that curriculum content is delivered appropriate and current.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

INTEGRATOR SELF-CERTIFICATION DECLARATION

In order that schools can be confident regarding the accuracy of the self-certification statements, the supplier confirms:

- that their self-certification responses have been fully and accurately completed by a person or persons who are competent in the relevant fields
- that they will update their self-certification responses promptly when changes to the service or its terms and conditions would result in their existing compliance statement no longer being accurate or complete
- that they will provide any additional information or clarification sought as part of the self-certification process
- that if at any time, the UK Safer Internet Centre is of the view that any element or elements of a provider's self-certification responses require independent verification, they will agree to that independent verification, supply all necessary clarification requested, meet the associated verification costs, or withdraw their self-certification submission.

Name	Matthew Gibson
Position	Director
Date	9/1/21
Signature	