

# Appropriate Filtering for Education settings

May 2023



## Filtering Integrator Checklist Responses

Schools (and registered childcare providers) 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, it expects that they “assess the risk of [their] children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology”. There are a number of self review systems (eg [www.360safe.org.uk](http://www.360safe.org.uk)) that will support a school in assessing their wider online safety policy and practice.

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 regularly review their effectiveness*” and they “*should be doing all that they reasonably can to limit children’s exposure to [Content, Contact, Conduct, Contract] 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.*”

By completing all fields and returning to UK Safer Internet Centre ([enquiries@saferinternet.org.uk](mailto: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 | Education Lincs Ltd   |
| Address                | 191 Humberston Ave  |
| Contact details        | <a href="mailto:office@education-lincs.com">office@education-lincs.com</a> Tel: 01472813295 |
| Date of submission     | 08/09/23  |

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Filtering System Used/Recommended | Cisco Meraki |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|

Please indicate why this filtering system has been adopted or recommended

We wanted to provide schools with the most secure, flexible and affordable system.

If relevant, please indicate how you enhance the filtering system

We provide full support for the system, including installation and configuration. We configure the system to: an individual user or user groups, appropriate to age and role, (e.g.



individual/class/year group, pupil, teaching staff, admin staff, etc.) With the exception of illegal sites, we can change/apply any policy or group or whitelist or blacklist any site regardless of general policy application as required. We regularly monitor activity within the Cisco Meraki Dashboard and make appropriate changes if/when necessary.

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”*.<sup>1</sup>

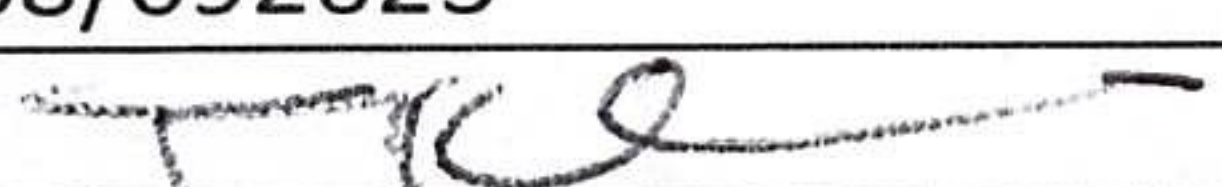
Please note below opportunities to support schools (and other settings) in this regard

We recommend that schools become members of The National College, who have a range of resources aimed at promoting Safeguarding including Online Safety.

#### 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.

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| Name      | Tony Kiddle  |
| Position  | Director   |
| Date      | 08/092023  |
| Signature |  |

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