



E-Safety Software Protects Leicester City's Pupils In School And At Home From the Misuse Of Computers And Dangers On The Internet

20 May 2008, e-safety software is now available to secondary school pupils in Leicester City using school-owned laptop computers purchased through the Government's Computers for Pupils scheme, at home.

Leicester City Council, using funds also provided through the Government scheme, is purchasing the e-safety software on behalf of schools and pupils. In fact, it is one the first local authorities in the UK to ensure pupils using school-owned laptop computers purchased through the Government scheme, receive protection at home.

Separately, the e-safety software is already in use at 14 of Leicester City's 17 secondary schools successfully preventing computer misuse in school and protecting pupils, teachers and administration staff from dangers on the internet.

The e-safety software monitors for computer misuse only - such as pupils attempting to access inappropriate gaming or pornographic websites and for external threats to any computer user, for example by a paedophile or cyber-bully. The e-safety software monitors Internet, Virtual Learning Platform, email, Instant Messaging and chat room activities and, importantly, offline activities such as pupils using Microsoft Word or Excel.

"Schools in Leicester City are already successfully using the e-safety software in school to protect computer users," says Chris Smith, ICT Curriculum Adviser, Learning Services, Children and Young People's Services, Leicester City Council.

“However, misuse of computers and dangers on the internet do not stop at the school gates. Therefore, we are equipping all laptop computers owned by schools through the Government’s Computers for Pupils scheme, and in use by pupils at home, with the e-safety software too.”

The e-safety software, Policy Central Enterprise (PCE), is owned and continually developed by Forensic Software Ltd.

Demonstrating the success of PCE in schools, a February 2008 survey of 9 secondary schools in Leicester City by Leicester City Council found: 80 per cent of schools ranked the PCE software as either ‘Excellent’ or ‘Good’ with 66 per cent more aware of pupils’ behaviour on computers in school because of PCE’s sophisticated monitoring capability.

For more information or an interview with Forensic Software, Leicester City Council or a local school, please contact:

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