
What Every Teacher Needs to Know About Friendly WiFi



E-safety Support



Friendly WiFi Factsheet for parents and teachers

What is Friendly WiFi?

Friendly WiFi is the world's first accreditation scheme designed to keep children and young people safe online when they use public WiFi. The scheme has been set up to check that UK venues who offer their guests or customers WiFi, have the right filters in place, to block people from viewing child abuse websites and pornography.

The scheme was developed after David Cameron announced that a commitment had been made with the UK's main WiFi Providers that their standard public WiFi offering would automatically filter child abuse websites known to online charity the IWF (Internet Watch Foundation) and also block pornography.

What do the filters do?

These filters are placed at source by your WiFi provider (in most cases you already have them), which means that whoever accesses public WiFi is automatically blocked from getting onto specific URL's and websites. These websites will remain blocked and anyone attempting to access these types of sites will be stopped from entering them. The main aim of the scheme is to make sure that children are not exposed to inappropriate material online by approving your WiFi and letting you display the colourful Friendly WiFi symbol

How do we accredit venues offering public WiFi?

Any venue wishing to join the scheme goes through a verification process so we can check to see if the public WiFi they offer complies with our scheme specification. Once completed we allow scheme members to display the 'Friendly WiFi' logo to make it easy for families, children and young people to navigate their way through the high street or other Public WiFi venues and give them the option to choose and use a 'Friendly WiFi' venue or location, to ensure that the public Wi-Fi that they are accessing is filtered and independently accredited.

So, you've seen a venue that displays a friendly WiFi sticker – what does this mean?

For children and young people; Friendly WiFi means you are able to make a smart choice about your own online safety. Wherever and whenever you see the colourful Friendly WiFi logo displayed on the high street, whether it's in your favourite café, restaurant, shop, or even at your local school or academy, you can be assured that the public WiFi that they provide has been checked and verified so that pornography and child abuse websites are blocked.



For parents; Friendly WiFi offers you peace of mind and a helping hand in the sometimes confusing digital world. Make sure your kids stay safe online when they're out and about by working with us to help educate them to always make the right choice and only use public WiFi services which display the Friendly WiFi logo. If a shop, restaurant, café or other Public WiFi venue display the logo then you know that inappropriate websites that contain pornography and child abuse images and videos have been blocked.

For teachers; the colourful 'Friendly WiFi' logo is a simple and straight forward educational and navigational tool that allows you to demonstrate to children and young people the best ways to stay safe when connected. The Friendly WiFi team are working in partnership with educational bodies in the UK to develop literature to be used in schools and colleges.

For schools and academies; Friendly WiFi accreditation is available for Public or Guest WiFi in educational establishments and is a great tool to educate children and young people to create awareness of the scheme and help them look out for the logo when visiting other Public WiFi venues in the UK.

Some of our latest members;

