

Safeguarding & Online Teaching

(Updated January 2026)

Please read this in conjunction with the Elac Safeguarding Policy.

When online, students need to be protected from the increased risks of:

- Online grooming and sexual exploitation
- Online radicalisation
- Access to harmful content
- Online bullying including peer on peer abuse
- Mental health issues for staff and students

A “creeping informality” is to be guarded against through training and the use of our policies, structures and practices.

Online teaching can feel more personal, so it is important that all are aware of the codes of conduct and appropriate use of IT.

Elac has created a Student Code of Conduct and a Staff Code of Conduct which are to be signed and returned to Elac. These can be found in this handbook under the appendices and give guidance to everyone regarding behaviour. Parents are also expected to sign the Student Code of Conduct.

Staff Recruitment and Training

Safer Recruitment procedures still apply to online teaching. All staff involved in online delivery have an induction and training session which covers the technical aspects of the platform e.g., Zoom, how to keep themselves and their students safe, the features of the material to be taught and tips for online delivery.

Staff also need to be aware of their own and students’ mental health, by taking and encouraging appropriate breaks. They also need to warn students about cyber bullying, which can continue after lessons and be anonymous.

Monitoring of Lessons

Elac will monitor some lessons, by checking in during a session. They will also record a selection of lessons, particularly those where there is one-to-one teaching. Students and parents will have given their permission for this. Students will also be monitored in break-out rooms.