



## Winchester Public Schools

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### WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND GAGGLE SAFETY MANAGEMENT FOR G SUITE

Winchester Public School's has partnered with Gaggle to help provide a safe digital environment for students to learn. Winchester Public Schools uses Gaggle Safety Management for G Suite to help keep students in grades 5-12 safe when using the G Suite for Education platform from Google and to further promote student and educator productivity in a safe and controlled environment.

Gaggle Safety Management combines industry leading technology with expert Safety Representatives, who review content 24/7 to assure students are safe. Gaggle identifies inappropriate words and images in Gmail, Google Drive, Google Docs and more. Trained professionals then apply consistent, school- or district-approved policies for positive intervention, alerting Winchester Public Schools administrators if there is an imminent threat to a student.

Gaggle uses a safety management response rubric which categorizes all recorded items according to the nature and severity of the content in question. Their Safety Management Team determines where the content falls on the rubric and takes appropriate action. Their response rubric categorizes incidents as either 1) violation 2) questionable content 3) possible student situation. The table below provides additional details.

<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Violation</b>	These items typically include situations where a student used minor profanity, insulting language or attempted to save or send provocative or inappropriate (but not pornographic) images. These are items that would typically result in a student warning. Administrators are alerted of these findings. High school students receive a message directly from Gaggle for their first and second violation and school administrators are included on any violation thereafter.
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Questionable Content (QCON)</b>	These are items that would typically give cause for concern and need to be brought to the attention of a school administrator, but are not believed to reveal an immediate threat to a student. Email and/or text notifications are sent to the appropriate school and/or division



		<p>personnel. Items in this category can include, but are not limited to: cyberbullying; professional pornography; graphic, violent, or sexual stories; references to suicide or self-harm that do not include specific plans or a time-frame; past drug use; or references to potential physical altercations that do not mention specific plans or a time frame.</p>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Possible Student Situations (PSS)</b>	<p>These are items that reveal an immediate threat to the student, including but not limited to: violence, suicide, self-harm, pornography, rape or harmful family situations. Detected items in this category result in direct personal notification by telephone to the appropriate school and/or district personnel.</p>

“As we provide students with technology and digital resources I believe that we have an obligation to help keep them safe while using it. Gaggle affords us the opportunity to have deeper insight into student activity in the G Suite platform, which can be beneficial in discovering a potential threat or self-harm situation before it happens. It also helps identify some of the more minor, potentially objectionable activity which creates the opportunity to engage with the student in a learning experience. As we teach our students to be good digital citizens Gaggle becomes an additional resource for that, in addition to performing its main function of helping to protect students from self-harm, cyberbullying and other harmful situations.” – Aaron McBride, Director of Technology

Gaggle has been providing safe online learning products and solutions to the K-12 market since 1999. The company’s focus remains on student safety so educators can have the confidence to allow learners to take advantage of current technology for communication, collaboration, and learning.

To find out more about Winchester Public Schools Gaggle implementation, please contact your school administrator or the Technology Department at the Central Administrative Office, or visit the Gaggle Safety Management page on our website at: <https://www.wps.k12.va.us/gaggle>