Friendly WiFi has been involved in the education sector from its creation.

One of its key roles is to enable discussion between educators and parents about online safety - and it has the support of the industry in this mission.

When Friendly WiFi launched in 2014, Kodo Education was an early partner. Kodo provides resources for teaching e-safety as well as online training for teachers and others in the education sector.

Kodo’s E-safety Support service promotes Friendly WiFi to its 15,000 members. They provide factsheets and information which helps schools to introduce the difficult topic of online safety to staff, parents and children.

“One of the inventive things teachers do is ask students to look out for the colourful Friendly WiFi symbol when they’re out with their parents,” said Tina Elson of Kodo.

“Conversations around online safety have to be had with parents and children. It’s essential they’re held in a constructive environment.

“Having the partnership with Friendly WiFi has meant thousands of teachers have had the security of a government-initiated online safety programme to base those conversations on.

“It’s been a very valuable partnership, and one we look forward to growing.”

Besides the outreach activity, Friendly WiFi accredits WiFi provision in several UK schools and colleges.

Director Bev Smith said: “Being the catalyst for informed, valuable discussion between educators, students and parents is a role we’re proud to fill.

“Online safety - particularly in relation to predatory behaviour - is a topic only adults can fully understand. But it directly affects children. That makes our role as the recognised safe WiFi symbol all the more valuable.”
ENDS