

## **Internet Safety Policy**

Fiddlehead School recognizes that Internet access is essential to the mission of the School. That access also brings access to information that is contrary to the mission of the School. The School Network: computers, network and Internet (the "Network") brings many resources to our school communities, and allows communication on a previously unheard of scale. The Network is a resource from which all users: students, staff, parents and community members, will pursue learning with the same set of standards for behavior and intellectual effort.

At the same time, the unregulated availability of information and communication on the Internet requires that the District establish reasonable controls for lawful, efficient and appropriate use of this technology.

To minimize risk of harm to Network users, the School is implementing a policy to:

- i. Prohibit access by users to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web through the use of filtering software;
- ii. Promote the safety and security of users when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- iii. Prohibit unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking", and other unlawful activities by users online;
- iv. Prohibit unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding users; and
- v. Promote measures designed to restrict users' access to materials harmful to minors.

To minimize risk of harm to Network users, the School shall provide the following:

1. **Supervision:** Whenever possible, classroom, library and lab computer screens should be visible to the teacher if students are using them for Internet or e-mail access. All lab computers should be visible from the front of the room. In classrooms, where computer placement is more difficult, teachers should develop procedures so students know the teacher could be walking by at any moment.

**FIDDLEHEAD SCHOOL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ADOPTED: 9-20-2016  
REVIEWED:**

2. **Training:** A staff development program will be established to ensure staff members are current on Internet policy and use. The primary focus will be for staff to assist students in achieving the School's mission. Students will be trained in appropriate use, as well as provided with strategies to evaluate the material they locate on the internet, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, cyberbullying awareness, and response.
3. **Internet Acceptable Use Policy:** All Network users are required by policy to read and abide by our Internet Acceptable Use Policy. This places the responsibility for abuses on the shoulders of the abuser, rather than the teacher or the school, but does not remove the need for adequate supervision.
4. **Internet Filtering:** The School will employ an Internet security appliance with the content filtering subscription which will at minimum filter 1) visual depictions of obscenity, (2) visual depictions of child pornography, and (3) materials otherwise harmful to minors.

The Head of School will designate an authorized person(s) to disable the blocking or filtering measure during any use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purpose on a single machine.

Legal References: Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)