

Internet Safety Policy
LEARN DC Public Charter School
Draft Policy
Pending Board Approval at the June 17, 2022 Meeting

Introduction

It is the policy of LEARN DC Public Charter School (LEARN D.C.) to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

CIPA Compliance

LEARN D.C. has and will continue to comply with the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act, as codified at 47 U.S.C. § 254(h) and (l). LEARN D.C. is committed to assuring the safe conduct of all students, while on the Internet, and has a comprehensive policy about the proper use of our technological resources. At the beginning of each school year, students and staff are made aware of the LEARN D.C. Acceptable Use Policies.

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.*

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the LEARN D.C. online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Broadband Data Improvement Act (BDIA)

In compliance with the Broadband Data Improvement Act of 2008, LEARN D.C. will educate students on internet safety including appropriate on-line behavior, interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyber-bullying awareness and response.

Filter Efforts

LEARN D.C. intends to preserve network bandwidth and improve network response times by limiting Internet access to educational-related sites. The filtering device used to block and filter access to the Internet from objectionable and obscene sites is SonicWall NSA 2700; thereby ensuring compliance with charter school policies and maintaining a positive network environment.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the LEARN D.C. staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the LEARN D.C. designated representative(s).

The LEARN D.C. designated representative(s) will provide age appropriate training for students who use the LEARN D.C. network. The training provided will be designed to promote the LEARN D.C. commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the LEARN D.C. Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyber bullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the

training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the school's acceptable use policies.

***CIPA definitions of terms:**

MINOR. The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

HARMFUL TO MINORS. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT. The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy is to be adopted pending approval of the Board of LEARN D.C., at a public meeting on June 17, 2022, following normal public notice. The CIPA compliant policy acknowledges that procedures and technology are used by LEARN D.C. to monitor children, provide cyber-bullying education, and protect them from online material deemed harmful or obscene.