



First State Montessori Academy

Internet Safety Policy

Introduction

It is the policy of First State Montessori Academy (FMSA) 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)].

Definitions

MINOR. The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 18 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 libidinous 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.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet and other forms of electronic communications, which may provide 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 that provide an academic benefit outweighing any and all possible harm.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the FSMA online computer network, including the use of 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.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all employees, board members, volunteers, and unpaid staff of the FSMA 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. Online computer network usage and access to the Internet shall not be allowed by anyone not bound by this policy. Online computer network usage and access to the Internet shall not be allowed by minors without the direct supervision of educational staff.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Head of School or designated representatives.

The Librarian or designated representatives will provide developmentally and academically appropriate training for students who use FSMA Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote FSMA's commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the FSMA 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 in an age appropriate manner that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies. Such acknowledgement does not negate the necessity of direct supervision of minors by educational staff during the use of any networked technology.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of First State Montessori Academy at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on January 28, 2016.