



مدرسة ام.اس.بي. الخاصه
MSB Private School

Cyber Safety Policy

Purpose:

To meet the changing nature of technology and to ensure that students, parents and staff are aware of the risks attached to overuse and unsafe use of the internet. To ensure that students are able to make educated choices regarding these risks.

Definition:

Cyber (Online) safety refers to time allocated to use of the internet. It incorporates issues of gaming addiction and the issues of safety around the internet - cyber bullying, identity theft, etc.

With the rapid development of technology students are exposed to a wide range of connected electronic devices such as laptops, tablets and smartphones. Through these they have instant access to the internet. These devices are recognised as beneficial educational tools. However, some students are spending large amounts of time using electronic devices and in some cases this leads to reduced time dedicated to sleep, study, classwork, family communication and outdoor activity.

MSB Students of today are growing up in a digital world. They are increasingly using digital technologies to learn, socialise and communicate. At MSB Private School, we recognise that it is essential for our students to be equipped with the skills, knowledge and confidence to navigate the online world safely.

We want our students to make good decisions so they can take advantage of the powerful technology that fills their lives both at school and at home. But in order to make good choices, students must know how the digital world works. The stakes are high because our students' technological abilities can be greater than their maturity and judgement. Having unrestricted access to information and people can result in gaining a wealth of information and experiences. But it can also mean accessing inappropriate content and exposure to risks such as:

- Cyberbullying
- Digital relationships
- Compromising their privacy
- Establishing a damaging "digital footprint"

Parent tips:

- Keep the computer in a high-traffic area of your home.
- Establish limits regarding which online sites children may visit and for how long.
- Create a 'family media agreement'.
- Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, so be sure to monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and laptops.
- Surf the internet with your children and let them show you what they like to do online.
- Know who is connecting with your children online and set rules for social networking, instant messaging, emailing, gaming and the use of webcams.
- Have open and constant dialogue with your children about online safety.

Student responsibilities:

- Protect your identity. Avoid sharing personal information online that could be misused by someone in real life. Check your privacy settings and make sure your account is secure.
- Think before you upload and share photos on public sites of any kind.
- Be careful of requests – only accept 'friend' requests from people you know in real life. This reduces the chance of getting into an unsafe situation.
- Block anyone you have had contact with that was negative or unsafe – this stops them from having contact with you and from seeing your profile.
- Be mindful of what you write to others.
- Do not open an email from someone you do not know.
- Make sure only those web links are accessed which have been directed/instructed by your teachers/parents.
- Always appraise your teacher or an adult if something untoward happens while using the internet.
- Discuss with elders and parents what web links you are accessing and check whether they are safe to use.
- Do not believe in everything that is published online.
- Set time limits for being online.

These principles of safety and responsibility apply to internet and social media use at home and school.