



# Lincoln Charter School

## Internet Safety Policy

---

### **Introduction**

Lincoln Charter Schools believe that technology and its utilization enhances the quality and delivery of education and is an important part of preparing children for life in the 21st century. The community of technology users must understand that the Internet is a global, fluid community, which remains largely unregulated. While it is an extremely valuable educational tool, there are sections that are not commensurate with community, school, or family standards. Lincoln Charter Schools believe that the Internet's advantages far outweigh its disadvantages and will provide Internet filtering that blocks access to a large percentage of inappropriate sites. It should not be assumed that users are completely prevented from accessing inappropriate materials or from sending or receiving objectionable communications.

Additionally, Lincoln Charter Schools consider access to the Internet and computer resources a privilege, not a right. Therefore, users violating the Lincoln Charter School Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) may be subject to revocation of these privileges and potential disciplinary action.

It is the policy of Lincoln Charter Schools to:

1. prevent users from accessing or transmitting inappropriate material over its network via the Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
2. prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
3. prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
4. comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

### **Access to Inappropriate Material**

To the extent practical, technology protection measures including Internet filters shall be used to block or filter the Internet or other forms of electronic communications and access to inappropriate information. EdisonLearning filters Internet access through the use of iPrism Web Security.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA – for more information on the CIPA requirements, please visit this URL: <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act>), blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or to child pornography or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled 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 Lincoln Charter School's 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:

1. unauthorized access, including "hacking," and other unlawful activities; and
2. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

**Training: Student Safety and Digital Citizenship**

To help ensure student safety and citizenship in online activities, students will be educated about appropriate behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyber-bullying awareness and response.

**Supervision and Monitoring**

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Lincoln Charter School staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

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

**Public Review**

The Internet Safety Policy was shared with the school community at a public meeting on Internet safety, following normal public notice, on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Revisions to the Internet Safety Policy will be on an as need basis under the direction of the school's Technology Director with approval.