

RAKAA Cybersafety Policy

Rationale

RAKAA has a statutory obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment, and a responsibility to consult with the community. In addition, RAKAA maintains a zero-tolerance policy to the bullying of students and staff.

Policy

RAKAA will develop and maintain rigorous and effective cybersafety practices which aim to maximise the benefits of the Internet and ICT devices/equipment to student learning and to the effective operation of the school, while minimising and managing any risks.

These cybersafety practices will aim to not only maintain a cybersafe school environment, but also aim to address the need of students and other members of the school community to receive education about the safe and responsible use of present and developing information and communication technologies.

Important terms used in this document:

- a) The abbreviation 'ICT' in this document refers to the term 'Information and Communication Technologies.
- b) 'Cybersafety' refers to the safe and responsible use of the Internet and ICT equipment/devices.
- c) The term 'ICT equipment/devices' used in this document, includes but is not limited to, computers (such as desktops, laptops, PDAs), storage devices (such as USB and flash memory devices, CDs, DVDs, iPods, MP3 players), cameras (such as video, digital, webcams), all types of mobile phones, video and audio players/receivers (such as portable CD and DVD players), Gaming Consoles, and any other, similar, technologies as they come into use.

Implementation:

Being involved in online spaces requires students to behave responsibly- for themselves and others.

This includes:

- The language they use and the things they say
- How they treat each other's
- Respecting people's property
- Visiting appropriate sites.

Behaving safely online means:

- Protecting their own privacy and personal information.
- Selecting appropriate sites to work and contribute.
- Protecting the privacy of others (Sharing personal information or Images)
- Being proactive in letting a parent/guardian or teachers know if something is inappropriate.

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

RAKAA school will:

- Provide students with an awareness of the benefits and risks of using ICT devices.
- Integrate Cyber safety education into the curriculum with other school safety issues.
- Promote staff awareness of the professional responsibilities for students' safety in cyber safety.
- Provide professional learning in regarding the cyber safety issues.
- Provide information for parents through newsletter and school websites.

Students Responsibilities:

- To sign an agreement to abide by the Internet access agreement form, that aims to prevent bullying and harassment.
- Ensure that all material being accessed on the internet is appropriate.
- Seek clarification about accessing websites or other sources of information where they may be unsure of content.
- Ensure that students communications with other students, staff members and members of outside community do not harass, vilify or attack personally other individuals. This includes, but is not limited to, written words and the posting of images.
- Report any communication which are inappropriate by means of ICT equipment devices which are used in or out of school time to parent/guardians or teachers.

Parent Responsibilities:

- Support the school in encouraging responsible communication using ICT equipment and devices. Provide Online tools which control your kids' access to adult material and help protect them from Internet predators.
- To explain the internet use permission for their child/Children.

School Responsibilities:

- Promote safe and responsible use of ICT devices.
- Investigate and act upon all cases of misuse of ICT equipment and devices.
- RAKAA aims to protect children from obscene or harmful content on the Internet. They have an Internet safety policy that blocks or filters access to only preapproved Websites.

Supporting Document:

RAKAA ICT Blog for cyber safety:

<https://RAKAAict.wordpress.com/blogging/cyber-safety/>

Rules for acceptable internet use:

<https://RAKAAict.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/pupilsrulesforacceptableinternetuse.pdf>

Internet access Permission-Students internet agreement form:

<http://RAKAA.sch.ae/files/InternetAgreement.pdf>

RAKAA Facebook and other social media policy:

<http://RAKAA.sch.ae/files/RAKAA%20SOCIAL%20MEDIA%20POLICY.pdf>

The office portal of UAE government site on Cyber safety and digital security:

<https://government.ae/en/information-and-services/justice-safety-and-the-law/cyber-safety-and-digital-security>

Newsletter on school website: <http://RAKAA.sch.ae/files/InternetSafetyNewsletter.pdf>

Anti-bullying Policy: [https://rakaa.sch.ae/files/RAK%20AA Anti-Bullying%20Policy.pdf](https://rakaa.sch.ae/files/RAK%20AA%20Anti-Bullying%20Policy.pdf)

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