



PACIFIC MONTESSORI SOCIETY TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Policy Statement:

The Pacific Montessori Society recognizes the educational value of technology for its students and provides students with access to these resources during school hours. Use of computers, SmartBoards and the internet for educational purposes can assist in improving and enriching teaching and learning in the school's classrooms. Access to these forms of technological resources are a privilege, not a right, and therefore carry with it responsibilities for all involved. This policy outlines the proper and acceptable use of all aspects of the Selkirk Montessori technology resources and of personal technology resources that are brought to the school by students for use in the classroom.

Policy:

Computers/Internet

- The use of computers in the school by students is for educational purposes only;
- Students may not change any of the parameters or settings on the school computers, including screen savers or wallpaper;
- Students can only access the internet in the school computer lab or classrooms under the direct supervision of a teacher;
- Students must abide by network etiquette. Be polite and considerate. Use appropriate behavior, language and graphics on computers and the internet;

- Students enter into a safe site, Yahoooligans.com, as Net Nanny software has limitations as to the number of sites it is able to block. Additionally, there are many terms that may be problematic that cannot be blocked because of legitimate educational searches that require specific key words;
- Students may not knowingly access sites on school computers that are pornographic, racist, and/or violent or in any way connected to terrorist activities;
- All school computers must be firewalled to prevent access to unsuitable/inappropriate internet sites;
- Students are not permitted to use the school computers to go into “chat rooms” or to check their email except for the Grade 8 leadership students, who are allowed to access their school Hotmail accounts;
- Students are not permitted to download software (i.e. games, demos, music) on school computers;
- Hacking, including the accessing, storing, transferring, altering, deleting, installing or downloading files without authorization is not allowed;
- Students shall not utilize computers for uses that could cause harm to others or damage property;
- Students must not invade or violate the privacy of another user of the computer systems in the school;
- Students are not to misrepresent oneself as another user on the computers;
- Every user must take responsibility for his or her uses of the network and Internet. The school monitors the online activities of users through direct observation and technological means;
- The school will provide technical support for the repair and maintenance of technology equipment in classrooms.

SmartBoards

- Smart boards are only to be used by teachers in the classroom for teaching purposes;
- Students may use smart boards only with direct supervision of the teacher;
- When the smart boards are not in use by a teacher, they shall not be accessed by students at any time.

Electronic Devices

- Electronic devices, such as cell phones and electronic games are not to be used by students during the school hours 8:45 AM – 3:15 PM and students are required to keep their cellphones shut off during school hours;
- Students are required to leave all electronic devices either safely at home, or in their locked locker;
- Selkirk Montessori school is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices that students choose to bring to the school;
- Electronic devices that are used during school hours will be delivered to the school's office for pick-up at 3:15 PM.

Internet Access

- All internet in the school is accessed via hardwiring in the school classrooms and in the computer lab;
- Selkirk Montessori is considered a “Wifi free” school.