École Montessori Casablanca

Online Safety Policy

2026/2027

Nourishing the Human Potential

Online Safety Policy

Aims:

- Protecting and educating pupils and staff in their use of technology.
- Informing teachers and parents/guardians about their role in safeguarding and protecting pupils at school and at home.
- Putting policies and procedures in place to help prevent incidents of cyber-bullying within the school community.
- Having effective and clear measures to deal with and monitor cases of cyber-bullying.

EMC ensures that:

- Pupils will be made aware of acceptable and unacceptable Internet use.
- Pupils will be taught, where appropriate, to be critically aware of the materials/content they access online and be guided to validate the accuracy of information.
- Pupils will be encouraged to report unpleasant Internet content to their class teacher, supervisor.
- The school Internet access is designed expressly for pupil use and includes filtering appropriate to the needs of our pupils.
- Where pupils are allowed to freely search the internet, staff should be vigilant in monitoring the content of the websites they visit.
- All pupils and staff understand the importance of password security and the need to log out of accounts.

Social networking and personal publishing:

The school has a duty of care to provide a safe learning environment for all its pupils and staff and will ensure the following:

- Blocking pupil access to social media sites within school boundaries
- Educating pupils about why they must not reveal their personal details or those of others, or arrange to meet anyone from an online site
- Educating both pupils and staff as to why they should not engage in online discussion revealing personal matters relating to any members of the school community
- Educating both pupils and staff about ensuring all technological equipment is always password/PIN protected
- Informing staff not to accept invitations from pupils or parents/guardians on social media
- Informing staff about regularly checking their security settings on personal social media profiles to minimise risk of access of personal information

Parents/guardians Role at home.

- Keep the computer in a central place, where everyone can see what's on the screen.
- Stay involved (without stepping on their toes constantly) on what they are doing online – especially if it has got to do with searching and looking for new information etc.
- Set time limits. Giving children unlimited access can cause problems for parents/ guardians.
- Explain online habits. Explain strangers often play pretend games and they are not really who they claim to be.
- Remind them that they should not do anything online that they would be ashamed of doing in real life.
- If your children have started to do their homework online, or are gathering information, researching facts etc., explain to them clearly how they should not "copy and paste" (plagiarise) content for their homework, unless they mention sources etc. Their teachers should help them understand this.
- Be involved. Be courteous. Be alert. Show on-going interest in what they are playing, reading, doing online. And always remind them that there is life outside that screen.