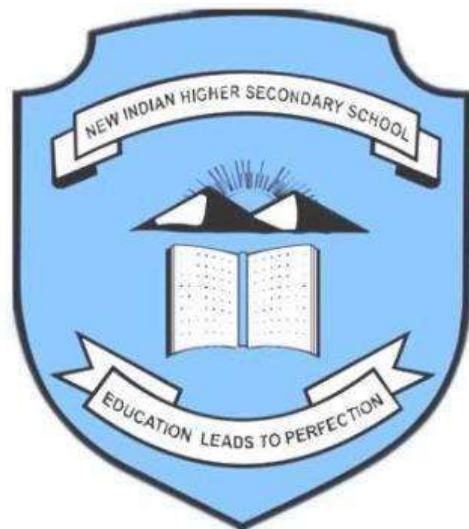# NEW INDIAN SCHOOL
RAS AL KHAIMAH

INTERNET FILTERING POLICY

Signed:

Principal: **Date:04/04/2022**

ICT Co-Ordinator: **Date:04/04/2022**

INTERNET FILTERING

Opponents to the Act argue Internet filtering in schools blocks access to valuable educational and social information, and creates a digital inequality between those who have unfiltered Internet access at home and those who don't.

Despite these objections, twenty-four states have also enacted legislation to implement school Internet filters in publicly-funded institutions. This has prompted more criticism from opponents to Internet filtering in schools, who claim that blocking content does not teach students how to effectively, respectfully, and responsibly use the Internet.

Fortunately, school Internet filters have evolved since 2000. They now have the versatility and features required to ensure every student can get access to age-appropriate information without schools violating CYBER LAWS. They have also become easier to use, and school administrators should have no difficulty in setting acceptable filtering parameters and adjusting them as required.

Effective technical security depends not only on technical measures, but also on appropriate policies and procedures and on good user education and training. Our school will be responsible for ensuring that the school infrastructure/network is as safe and secure as is reasonably possible and that:

- Users can only access data to which they have right of access
- No user should be able to access another's files (other than that allowedfor monitoring purposes within the school's policies).
- Access to personal data is securely controlled in line with the school'spersonal data policy
- Logs are maintained of access by users and of their actions while usersof the system
- There is effective guidance and training for users
- There are regular reviews and audits of the safety and security of schoolcomputer systems
- There is oversight from senior leaders and these have impact on policyand practice.

Safe And Secure Surfing

Internet filters in a school assure a safe and secure web surfing. When the school authorities implement a strict internet policy, it prevents students from accessing

content which is inappropriate for that age group. Blocking such content give teachers the confidence that their students can use internet without encountering any harmful content.

Internet Filters Help Schools Get E-Rated Funding

The schools that have implemented internet filters, i.e. the schools qualify as e-rated schools get discounted communication technologies from federal authorities. All CYBER LAWS regulated schools must adopt Internet filter policies to monitor minors internet activities. The schools who fail to do so, will not receive and e-Rate assistance.

Accessing Other Websites is Affected As Well

In a study it was found that Internet filtering software implement in schools also blocked many other websites which did not contain any harmful or inappropriate content. The same study found that many websites related to state curriculum were also blocked by these internet filters. This strict over-blocking limit Internet access for students and teachers as well.

Biased blocking

The following categories are blocked by their chosen web filtering solution:

- Websites that promote discrimination on the grounds of age, sex, race, and religion.
- Websites displaying or promoting the use of narcotics and/or substance abuse.
- Websites promoting acts of terrorism or terrorist ideologies, intolerance, or violence.
- Websites or tools that enable anonymous browsing of the Internet.
- Sites hosting malicious content.
- Webpages promoting hacking or the compromising of computer systems.
- Webpages containing pornographic images or displaying sexual acts.
- Websites promoting or enabling copyright violations or Internet piracy.
- Sites displaying or promoting acts of violence with intent to harm, maim, or kill.
- Sites promoting self-harm or displaying acts of self-harm, including eating disorders and suicide.

YouTube filtering in schools and Parents Guide on SafeYouTube

There are many things on YouTube and watching anything educational is one of the last things anyone would want to do. Content on YouTube is very interesting and entertaining. An article recently written revealed the most popular type of videos on YouTube.

1. Product Review Videos; people resort to YouTube before buying anything hence making this the most popular kind of videos on YouTube
2. How-To Videos; the bread earning videos for beauty bloggers and influencers. Many channels are devoted solely to these kind of videos and have millions of subscribers.
3. Vlogs; these videos are again garnering the views of hundred and millions of people. Influencers and many other celebrities have channels dedicated to this and most of their viewers are mostly teenagers.
4. Gaming Videos; video game lovers throughout the world watch videos by many of their favorite gamers.
5. Comedy and skits; these videos fall into the category of the viral videos because people always love to laugh!
6. Haul Videos; incredibly popular among the youth. Many brands rely on these to introduce their new products. Beauty Influencers make these videos have millions of subscribers.