Internet Safety Handout

Agreeing to allow your child to use the library's public computers includes access to the Internet. Please be aware that as stated in the service policy, "children ages 7 and younger should be accompanied by their care provider at all times." This policy remains the same regarding computer use.

Also, you, as the parent or guardian must be aware that not everything on the Internet is good. The Internet allows the user to make contact with universities, libraries, special interest groups and organizations, and with individual internet users from all over the world. There is no central organization that sets rules for everyone using the Internet. This means it is impossible to predict, or totally control, what your child may find while exploring the Internet.

Although Liberal Memorial Library does have filtering software in place, filtering software is not fool-proof and your child may be exposed to inappropriate information or visual materials not suitable for young children. Please talk to your child about appropriate types of information. You are the one responsible for monitoring your child's use of the library's public computers and the Internet, not the library staff.

Whether information posted on the Internet is accurate, unbiased, or up-to-date depends in the people who entered the information onto a web page. You and your child should evaluate information from the Internet just as you would information form any other source.

Using the Internet can be a fascinating and rewarding experience, both for adults and children. By agreeing to allow your child to use the library computers, you agree that your child may use the Internet, that you will be the sole supervisor of your child's use of the Internet, and that you and your child have read the "Rules for Online Safety" on the back of this form.

If you have questions, please contact the library.

My Rules for Online Safety

- I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number without my parents' permission.

- I will tell my parents right away if I come across something that makes me feel uncomfortable.

- I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring a parent along.

- I will talk with my parents about posting pictures of myself or others online and not post any pictures that my parents consider to be inappropriate.

- I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away.

- I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online and using a mobile phone. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.

- I will not give out my passwords to anyone (even my best friends) other than my parents.

- I will check with my parents before downloading or installing software or doing anything that could possibly hurt our computer or mobile device or jeopardize my family's privacy.

- I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law.

- I will help my parents understand how to have fun and learn things online and teach them things about the Internet, computers and other technology.

For further information on child safety visit https://connectsafely.org, or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at https://www.missingkids.org.