

iAssist Tech Note



Title: Internet safety

Audience: All staff and parents

Author: Simon Potter (IT Manager)

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Preamble:

This note outlines the current arrangements in place to provide a safe internet experience for students whilst connected to the Waverley school network and also provides some advice for parents when students are connected to home networks.

Web safety at Waverley College

At Waverley College the safety of students when they access internet resources whilst on the network is paramount and to ensure this the school uses a set of pre-defined web filters provided by the Cyberhound web proxy product. Waverley College blocks any content that is deemed inappropriate by these filters and in addition can block any content that is deemed inappropriate by staff when requested on a site-by-site basis.

An example of these filters include, but are not limited to the following categories:

- Adult sites (including pornography)
- Aggressive sites
- Children's games sites
- Criminal activities
- Pregnancy
- Gambling and card games
- Malicious (adware, anonymizers, malware, phishing sites)
- Violent sports sites
- Social networking (with some exceptions)
- Text messaging and SMS

It should be noted that not every solution is 'water-tight' but we are confident that when students are accessing content through the College network we intercept and block the vast majority of inappropriate content. However, some students will attempt to bypass these filters and tether to their mobile devices or create virtual private networks and this can circumvent filters. We are seeing an increase in this kind of breach at Waverley College in recent times.

Web safety at home

At home Waverley College does not provide any filtering as the Cyberhound product is limited to traffic whilst students are on the College premises. Students and parents are not granted admin access to their machines and as such are unable to install web filtering agents to these devices. However, we do recommend solutions such as OpenDNS Family Shield or FamilyZone which operate on the home router and provides a method of sanitising all web content in the home.

Details on OpenDNS can be found here:

<https://www.opendns.com/home-internet-security/>

Look at the Free Family Shield option and use the "Choose your devices -- Home Router" option.

Details on FamilyZone can be found here:

<https://www.familyzone.com/au/>

If you have any questions regarding this Tech Note please feel free in contacting iAssist either by email: iassist@waverley.nsw.edu.au or by phone 0293690784