



HRCS Internet Safety Policy

Purpose and scope

High Rockies Community School (HRCS) provides internet access and technology resources to support learning, research, and communication. All users—students, staff, and visitors—must use HRCS technology safely, responsibly, and for educational purposes. HRCS will implement and enforce an internet safety policy consistent with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and other applicable laws

Technology protection measures and monitoring

HRCS uses technology protection measures (internet filters) that, for minors, block or filter visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, and addresses access by minors to inappropriate matter online. Filters and monitoring apply to HRCS networks and school-managed devices; they may be disabled for adults only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes, consistent with law. HRCS will monitor the online activities of minors to promote safety and ensure compliance with this policy.

Public notice and hearing

Before adopting or materially amending this Internet Safety Policy, HRCS will provide reasonable public notice and hold at least one public meeting or hearing.

Education and digital citizenship

HRCS will provide developmentally appropriate instruction that educates minors about appropriate online behavior, including safe interactions on social networking sites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Acceptable and unacceptable use (students)

Students will use HRCS technology for school-related work; respect others’ privacy and intellectual property; refrain from accessing or distributing inappropriate or harmful content; avoid harassment, bullying, or hate content; and never share personal identifying information online without staff approval. Violations may result in loss of access, restorative interventions, and disciplinary action under HRCS policies.

Data privacy and student information

HRCS protects education records under FERPA and complies with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) for certain surveys, as well as the Colorado Student Data Transparency and Security Act. Online services directed to children under 13 or that knowingly collect information from them must comply with COPPA; HRCS will work with providers to ensure necessary notices and consents are obtained where applicable

Personal devices and off-campus use

This policy applies to any device connected to HRCS networks and, when feasible, to school-managed devices used off campus. Users must follow this policy and related HRCS policies when using school accounts, services, or devices away from school.

Reporting and incident response

Users are expected to promptly report security concerns, suspected breaches, inappropriate content, or misuse to HRCS staff. HRCS will take reasonable steps to investigate, mitigate risk, and, when required, notify families and/or authorities. Reports involving cyberbullying will be addressed under HRCS bullying and discipline policies; emergencies or threats of harm will be escalated immediately.

Enforcement and consequences

All online activity on HRCS systems may be monitored to ensure compliance with this policy and with CIPA. Violations may result in access restrictions, restorative responses, and disciplinary action pursuant to HRCS policies and law; unlawful activity may be referred to law enforcement.

Roles and responsibilities

The Head of School or designee oversees implementation, staff training, procurement and configuration of filtering/monitoring, required public notice and hearings, and (if applicable) E-Rate certifications. Site staff supervise student use and reinforce safe, responsible digital citizenship. Families are encouraged to discuss online safety at home.

Legal References

47 U.S.C. § 254(h)–(l) (Children’s Internet Protection Act; Internet safety policy, filtering, education, and monitoring requirements).

47 C.F.R. § 54.520 (CIPA certifications and compliance for E-Rate).

FCC Consumer Guide: Children’s Internet Protection Act (public notice/hearing; policy requirements).

USAC E-Rate: CIPA overview (applicant compliance and certification).

FERPA, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (student education records and privacy).

PPRA, 20 U.S.C. § 1232h; 34 C.F.R. Part 98 (student rights in surveys and related activities).

COPPA, 15 U.S.C. § 6501 et seq.; 16 C.F.R. Part 312 (collection/use of personal information from children under 13).

Colorado Student Data Transparency and Security Act, C.R.S. 22-16-101 et seq. (state student data privacy requirements).