

## INCA and INCC Internet Use Policy

### General Connections Academy Policy

All Connections Academy schools comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Your school handbook supplement provides specific information regarding requirements and your school's obligations under CIPA.

Users should be aware material accessible through the internet may contain items that are illegal, obscene, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. This material may be harmful if accessed by minors. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the internet, which could result in unwanted financial obligations for which the Caretaker would be liable. Connections Academy believes the Users' benefits of information resources and opportunities for collaboration from accessing the internet exceeds the disadvantages. However, all Users must understand and practice acceptable and ethical use.

To help all Users understand acceptable and ethical use, Connections Academy offers an Internet Safety course, which all staff members are required to take. Connections Academy strongly recommends that all Caretakers and Learning Coaches take this course, which is available in the To Do section of the Caretaker and Learning Coach's Home Page. Caretakers and Learning Coaches may review all internet sites their student(s) visit in each course by selecting the "backpack" icon. While Connections Academy has carefully screened these sites and believes they are appropriate for students, this tool makes it easy to review all links. Caretakers and/or Learning Coaches who are uncomfortable with any of the linked sites should contact their child's teacher to discuss alternatives.

Connections Academy also strongly recommends that Caretakers and Learning Coaches monitor their student's internet time and activity. To assist Caretakers in ensuring safe and appropriate use of the internet, and in accordance with CIPA requirements, Connections Academy provides the following:

- CIPA compliant filtering software to restrict access to inappropriate and harmful information and materials online. Please be aware that internet filtering software, while potentially very helpful, is imperfect and may block some educational or other

appropriate content in addition to blocking potentially inappropriate or offensive content.

- An Internet Safety Course, which all Learning Coaches are urged to complete. A link to the course is provided on the Learning Coach Home Page at the beginning of the school year (or when the student first enrolls) and is always available to Learning Coaches through the Virtual Library. Connections Academy will provide age-appropriate internet safety training for students to address appropriate online behavior, specifically on social networking websites and in chat rooms, in electronic communications, as well as training in recognizing and reporting cyberbullying.

Internet activity on Connections Academy issued computers will be monitored as required by state and federal law.

## Indiana Connections Academy and Indiana Connections Career Academy Policy

It is the policy of INCA and INCC (the “School”) to:

- prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
- prevent unauthorized access to and other unlawful online activity related to inappropriate material via the Internet;
- prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information;
- comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”) (Pub. L. No.106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h)).

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be made available for all computers accessible by students and placed on the computers located at the school site locations. As required by CIPA, this blocking technology is applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography or any other material deemed to be harmful to minors.

Technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

To the extent practical, the school takes steps to promote the safety and security of users of Connexus when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and any other form of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by CIPA, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

To the extent practical, the school, through its handbooks, the Connexus Terms of Use and its staff, is committed to educating, supervising and monitoring the appropriate usage of Connexus and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, CIPA, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

The school will provide age-appropriate training for students who use Connection Academy's Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote Connection Academy's commitment to the standards and acceptable use of Internet services, as set forth in the School's handbooks and the Connexus Terms of Use; and Student safety with regard to safety on the Internet; appropriate behavior while online, on social networking websites, and in chat rooms; and cyber bullying awareness and response.

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of Indiana Connections Academy at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on June 10, 2013.