

AHLCON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
MAYUR VIHAR PH -1; DELHI – 110091
MIDDLE SECTION
CYBER SECURITY ADVISORY (2017 -18)

Circular No. AIS/Middle/2017 – 18/

Date: 21/08/2017

Dear parents,

Greeting from Ahlcon!

We at Ahlcon, have consistently been working towards widening our horizons. We adopt new and innovative methodologies of learning and evolving programs and practices to fulfil all the educational needs of our students. Nowadays the children are active netizens in the current high-tech world. They know the internet is a magical entity capable of answering obscure questions, providing printable templates of pretty much any animal to colour in and serving up endlessly-repeatable videos of DIYs (Do-It-Yourself), music/dance tutorials etc. What they don't know (or have very little knowledge) is about viruses, online privacy, phishing, social networking etiquette, and other internet safety and/or security issue. These might include cyber bullying, the pressure to take part in sexting, inducement to self-harm, viewing pornography, along with various others. It has also been observed that students are getting involved in certain undesirable activities even after constant counselling and reminders. In order to understand what the child is going through, parents and schools have a vital role to play. They need to spend more time with the child and keep an eye on their online activities.

In order to deal with these challenges, we request you to be our partners and keep a close track on their actions as well as guide them about the harmful effects of such disparaging activities. We are hereby sending a Cyber Safety advisory to be followed by the parents.

What can you do to protect your children?

- Keep the computer in the family room or another location where you can see what your child is doing.
- Use Parental Controls to limit the sites your child can access.
- Limit the amount of time your child uses the computer.
- Talk to your child about cyber safety and cyber bullying.
- Remind your children:
 - Not to befriend any unknown person in the virtual world.
 - Never arrange to meet someone in person whom they have met online.
 - Never give personal information such as name, birthday, address or phone number.
 - Never download pictures or documents from strangers.
 - Not to share accounts and passwords. They should not watch videos/serials/movies which are inappropriate for their age group.
 - To remove undesirable applications/accounts on dubious sites.

- Make sure age appropriateness of an online activity before joining.
 - Inform you (when at home) or their teachers (when in school), if anything they see or read online worries them.
- Ask your child what they are doing online. It's important you understand what websites, apps, and social media platforms they are on.
 - Make sure they know when and how to report and block any malicious or inappropriate messages or posts.
 - Be careful about over-sharing personal information such as your school, telephone number or anything that identifies where you might live. Consider not using your full name for your profile.
 - Have regular conversations with your children about the risks they may be exposed to and how to deal with them, such as cyber bullying and grooming, and ensure they feel able to come and talk to you if they see anything upsetting.
 - We request you to discourage your ward from such activities and be on board with us in curbing these adolescent issues.
 - Install Antivirus, Desktop Firewall solutions against malware and unauthorized access popular vendor as it is very important to have a reliable security solution on your computer system, which should include real-time scanning, automatic update and also firewall functionality, which can control unauthorized activity.
 - Keep your internet browser up-to-date. Use a modern browser and add-ins with features such as ad-block or pop-up blocker.
 - Change your passwords often. Be alert to unusual computer activity or problems.
 - Beware of links sent via instant messaging and e-mail attachments. Download and install software from trusted sources only.
 - It is informed that carrying electronic communication devices including those that can store/record/play audio-visual content; transmit or receive images; or provide unfiltered connection to the Internet such as iPads, DVD/CD players, game consoles, handheld PC, smart phones, laptops, tablet or any other gadget with similar capabilities of data storage/transmission is not permitted in school and school bus without prior permission and verification of school authorities.

For further details visit the link: http://cbseacademic.in/32_Circular_2017.pdf

We will be conducting various individual and group activities to create awareness in our students about the issues related to cyber safety. Some of them are:

- Talks by Cyber Experts
- Formation of Cyber Wellness Club
- Assembly on Cyber Awareness
- Video and discussion
- Poster making on the theme "Cyber Security"
- Display board activity

- Slogan writing
- Quiz and survey

Cyber world has provided infinite learning opportunities and has made the whole world a global village. However, the dark side of this revolution is that cyber-crime has also increased exponentially. Our children as young netizens are vulnerable to the internet threats such as identity theft, cyber bullying, dangerous online games etc. We need to stay alert and keep ourselves and our children well-informed about such issues. We need to work together in our endeavour to keep our children safe and secure in both real and virtual world.

Looking forward to your kind cooperation.

Warm Regards
Ms. Dimple Puri
Incharge Middle Section