

Keeping your son Internet safe

Many parents ask the school about the use of the Internet and how they can keep track of their son's use.

The easiest way to see where your son has been is to open your Internet Explorer. Press Control, Shift and H at the same time. This will open a window on the left hand side and show you every site that has been visited over the last few days. Unfortunately if your son can read this, he also knows how to delete the history. Another solution can be to try and prevent your son having access to these sites.

Two programmes that I would recommend are:

NAOMI Filtering Software:

<http://www.softpedia.com/get/Internet/Other-Internet-Related/Naomi-internet-filter.shtml> to download.

Naomi is an advanced internet filtering program, easy to use and totally free, intended for families and parents in particular. Naomi is an internet filter which monitors all internet connections protecting children from inappropriate online material. Naomi does not rely on a simple list of banned sites; instead, it works on META TAGS. The good thing about this is that you do not need to update banned websites, as it examines descriptions embedded in each webpage. If a word is found that should not be there, it will automatically close the Internet page. This software does NOT work very well with Vista, but works well with Windows 98, ME and XP.

Blue Coat K9 Web Protection:

<http://www1.k9webprotection.com/getk9/index.php> to download

This is a free piece of software that filters content for your home computer. This works on other people finding sites that are not appropriate and adding it to a list. There are different categories, language, nudity, sex, violence, gambling, etc. There are 60 categories that you can change and modify. The software updates itself automatically. This software works on Windows 2000, Windows XP or Windows Vista computer.

With regards to Antivirus and spyware, there are many free programs that one can use.

AVG

<http://free.avg.com/download>

This is the free antivirus that is recommended. It has both antivirus, as well as antispyware built in. Virus and spyware protection, as well as phishing and e-mail scam blocking

AVAST

<http://www.avast.com/eng/download-avast-home.html>

AVIRA

http://www.free-av.com/en/download/1/avira_antivir_personal__free_antivirus.html

With regards to antispyware we would recommend the following:

AD-AWARE

http://www.lavasoft.com/products/ad_aware_free.php

SPYBOT

<http://www.safer-networking.org/en/download/>

Both of these programmes have automatic updates. You can install both of these programmes, even if you have antivirus. Each of these programs looks for different spyware.

Please DO NOT install more than ONE antivirus on your computer. See if you have an antivirus before installing another one. You will find all the software mentioned here on the CD that is available from your class rep.

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