

Heyworth Public Library District Children's Internet Safety Policy

Because the Heyworth Public Library District receives federal funding for public Internet access, the federal law known as the 'Children's Internet Protection Act' (CIPA) found in U.S. C. Title XVII Sec. 1701 et. seq. requires the library to install filtering software on the Library's Internet terminals for protecting against access through the library's Internet terminals to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, or deemed harmful to minors.

The filtering software is inherently imprecise and flawed. It will inevitably block access to a vast variety of constitutionally protected material available on the Internet. Patrons are warned that because of technological limitations of filtering software and constantly evolving Internet technology, filters are incapable of totally protecting against access to Internet material that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.

The library will disable a filter upon request by an adult 18 years of age or older, and enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Patrons using filtered terminals who feel that a filtered website has been erroneously blocked by the internet filtering are encouraged to put the information on a comment card so that the Library Director can review the operation of the filter. If an adult patron has a need to view the blocked website before the Library Director can review the operation of the filter and make any necessary changes, the patron is encouraged to use an unfiltered terminal for the specific purpose of reaching the blocked website.

The Heyworth Public Library District highly recommends as part of its Internet Safety Policy that parents review *Keeping Children Safe Online*, a resource from the U. S. Department of Justice: <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus/keeping-children-safe-online>

Updated: September 12, 2023

Adopted 01/09/2018
Reviewed 04/13/2021
Updated 09/12/2023



President, Board of Trustees



Secretary, Board of Trustees