iPad Filtering at Home

Internet Filters

Internet filters provide a way to secure an internet connection and prevent access to restricted web sites. When someone tries to access a web page, the request first goes through the filter. It is then checked against a list of websites that are blocked. If the site is not on this list, the page is displayed to the user. If the websites is on the list, the website is blocked and cannot be accessed.

Please Note: Although filters constantly use powerful algorithms and searches to work out, update and block inappropriate sites, on occasions inappropriate sites may be still be accessed and viewed. The nature of the internet, (new sites created each day, sites changing names etc.) means that blocking every inappropriate sites is very difficult to achieve.

Following are internet filters you may wish to add to your home network and/or your iPads.

Home Internet Filters

Open DNS

- OpenDNS provides parents a way to secure their internet connection and prevent access to restricted web sites. The advantage for parents is that this can be applied to ALL devices in the home.
- More information and set-up can be found at: OpenDNS
A Wi-Fi ADSL2+ modem router purchased from cybersafe247 that connects home devices to the Internet like any wireless modem router does, however, the parental control system allows you to view real-time reports of home Internet usage and then set rules to manage its access.

The user friendly interface is completely flexible allowing you to either block certain websites or schedule when the Internet can be accessed, with an option of applying your rules to the whole house or individual devices.

More information, purchasing and set-up can be found at: http://www.cybersafe247.com/

iPad Content Filtering Browser Apps

Mobicip

The purpose of this browser is to limit internet access for students to sites which have been filtered for their age group. This is not to say that all web sites will be blocked. The nature of the internet means that this is very difficult to achieve. However we have found some browsers to be particularly good in reaching this goal. One such browser is called Mobicip.

Mobicip is not free. Its cost is listed below:

The App costs AUD $5.49 (November 2012)

To access the premium features of the Mobicip browser, an additional cost of $9.99 (USD) is payable yearly per device it is used on.

How to set it up:

1. From the iPad purchase and download the Mobicip App.
2. Launch the Mobicip App. If this is the first time you have used the App, select Create New Account.
3. Enter the details requested. We recommend using a parents email address and a password that only the parents know here. You also need to click on the 'Accept' panel to agree to the terms and conditions. Then select 'Continue'.
4. You will then be shown the following screen. This screen provides you with the instructions on how to adjust your iPads restrictions. It is recommended that you switch OFF the Safari browser, and if accessible Youtube (the YouTube option is not available on iOS 6 devices).
5. Using a computer, visit Mobicip.com and login using the email address and the password you have just set up as the parent account.
Once logged in you will be able to set up additional features.

Mobicip currently includes:

- Intelligent real-time filtering
- Data encryption for privacy
- 3G, EDGE and WiFi Support
- Preconfigured filtering levels

You are also able to purchase the following addition features annually per device:

- Browser-based parental controls
- Category blocking
- Website Whitelists and Blacklists (This allows you to enable and disable specific websites)
- Email reports
- Activity reports
- Time Limits

To adjust these extra settings:

Under Web Monitor-> Settings, add the users you want to protect and select the filtering level. There are three levels available. Elementary, Middle and High School levels.
Under the devices Tab, you are able to select the devices and upgrade the account to a premium account if you wish to. This is done using the Green buttons. This costs $9.99 USD per device per year. Be aware that this auto renews each year.
If you have upgraded your accounts:

1. From the iPad, run Mobicip and select the cog from the top of the screen.

2. Ensure you have the correct profile selected. The profile adjusts the security level you have on the iPad.

3. Select the iPad name (at the top of the list) and select Sync Now. If you have purchased an upgrade, this will adjust the setting for the iPad from Basic to Premium.

e.g.
Back at the computer, browse to Categories. If you have purchased a premium account you are able to specify different categories to allow and block here. (This page may take a moment to load). Browse through the categories to add different options as required.

Under the Websites Tab, you are able to block (using the blacklists option) or allow (using the Whitelists option, specific sites as required per user.)
Under the Time Limits Tab, you are able to restrict access per user to different times of the day. Make sure you have set this up correctly as you may block access during school hours is adjusted the wrong way.
Under Email Reports you are able to add an email address and select the frequency with which the reports will be sent through.

Finally, under Web Monitor -> Reports You are able to view reports on sites visited by the devices.