

MESQUITE WORKs  
Technology Safety Policy at STEAM Center  
Policy 1-2024

GENERAL POLICY:

At our STEAM Center, we recognize the importance of technology in our programs and activities. To ensure the safe and responsible use of technology by participants, we have established a Technology Safety Policy. This policy outlines guidelines and expectations regarding the use of digital devices, online resources, and internet connectivity. Please review and discuss these guidelines with your child before their participation at our center.

Responsible Use of Devices:

Participants are expected to use digital devices provided by the center responsibly and for educational purposes only. This includes following instructions from staff members, using the devices as intended, and refraining from accessing inappropriate content or engaging in unauthorized activities.

Internet Safety:

Participants will be instructed on safe internet practices and the responsible use of online resources. This includes not sharing personal information online, respecting copyright and intellectual property rights, and reporting any suspicious or inappropriate content encountered during internet use.

Privacy and Consent:

Respect for privacy is essential in our technology-related activities. Participants must obtain appropriate consent before taking photos, videos, or recordings of other participants or staff members. Sharing or distributing such content without explicit consent is strictly prohibited.

Cyberbullying and Harassment:

We have a zero-tolerance policy for cyberbullying, harassment, or any form of online misconduct. Participants are expected to treat others with respect and refrain from engaging in any activities that may cause harm or discomfort to others online.

Digital Citizenship:

We strive to foster responsible digital citizenship among our participants. This includes promoting empathy, critical thinking, and responsible decision-making in online interactions. Participants will be encouraged to use technology to create positive and meaningful contributions to their communities.

#### Personal Device Use:

If participants bring personal devices to the STEAM Center, they are responsible for their safekeeping. Staff members will not be held liable for any loss, theft, or damage to personal devices brought to the center.

#### Parent/Guardian Involvement:

We encourage parents and guardians to take an active role in supervising their child's technology use at home and reinforcing the technology safety guidelines taught at the STEAM Center. Regular communication between parents/guardians and staff members is essential to address any concerns or questions related to technology use.

Failure to comply with our Technology Safety Policy may result in consequences, including restricted access to technology resources or temporary suspension from technology-related activities, depending on the severity and frequency of the violation. Our ultimate goal is to provide a safe and productive learning environment for all participants.

Thank you for your cooperation in promoting responsible and safe technology use at our STEAM Center. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our Technology Safety Policy, please do not hesitate to contact us.

ADOPTED:

Chair, Mesquite Works

Secretary, Mesquite Works