Teacher Documents

Overview: Kidblog is designed for K-12 teachers who want to provide each student with an individual blog. Students publish posts and participate in academic discussions within a secure classroom blogging community. Teachers maintain complete control over student blogs and user accounts. For further information please visit: http://kidblog.org/why-kidblog/

Privacy Points for Teachers

(Adapted from the Privacy Policy: http://kidblog.org/home/privacy-policy/ and Terms of Service: http://kidblog.org/home/terms-of-service/)

- Only adults may register to use the Website with full administrative privileges. Use of Kidblog by anyone under age 18 must be done under adult supervision. Kidblog is intended for administrative use by teachers, students, librarians, administrators, parents, and anyone else involved in education as a teaching tool. The adult that registers (or maintaining/moderating) a "class account" (and subsequently creating and/or adding students/users to the account) (a "Member") is responsible for obtaining permission of a parent or guardian of any members under 13 who use the Website through class account. Kidblog does not intend that anyone under age 18 register as a Member. If a user is under age 18 and register as a Member, they are violating the terms.

- All Members of Kidblog shall receive a password and an account. Members are entirely responsible for any and all activities which occur under their account whether authorized or not authorized. The Member agrees to notify Kidblog of any unauthorized use of the Member's account or any other breach of security known to the Member. The Member's right to use Kidblog is personal to the Member. The Member agrees not to resell or make any commercial use of the Website without the express written consent of Kidblog.

- Kidblog's website may include links to other websites on the internet that are owned and operated by third parties. members acknowledge that Kidblog is not responsible for the availability of, or the content located on or through, any third-party website. Members should contact the site administrator or webmaster for those third-party websites if they have any concerns regarding such links or the content located on such sites. Kidblog has no control over any third party websites and they encourage their Members and Users to be careful when visiting other websites.

- Kidblog is operated and provided from their offices in the State of Minnesota. As such, their terms of service are governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota. No conflict of laws provisions of any jurisdiction will apply to their terms. They make no representation that their website or other services are appropriate, legal or available for use in other legal jurisdictions.

Adapted from original document created by T. Cameron. Changes may occur; this document is current as of terms of service on Sept. 8, 2014. Check with your own school to make sure it meets your school's privacy policy. Review completed by Breanne Quist.

- Kidblog respects the intellectual property rights of others, and requires that the people who use their website do the same. It is their policy to respond promptly to any claims that intellectual property rights are being violated via Kidblog. If a member believes that a work that they own or have rights to has been copied and made accessible on kidblog.org in violation of their rights, they may notify Kidblog by providing their copyright agent with the relevant information in writing.

- Kidblog retains the right, at their sole discretion, to refuse service to anyone, for any reason, at any time. Such termination may be effected without prior notice in Kidblog's sole business discretion. Kidblog shall not be liable to any User or other party for any such termination. Kidblog reserves the right to delete or save a User's content upon a termination in its sole discretion.

- By using Kidblog members agree to the collection and use of information in the manner described in their privacy policy. If they make material changes to their policy, they will notify the members via kidblog.org, by email, by means of a notice the next time the member logs in to Kidblog, or by means of a notice on their homepage or main page.

- To make their privacy policy easy to find, they have placed a link to it at the bottom of each page of their website.

- Members are responsible for reviewing http://kidblog.org/home/privacy-policy/ periodically for any modification to their privacy policy. Any access or use of Kidblog by a member after notice of revisions or additions to their privacy policy shall constitute and be deemed to be their agreement to such revisions or additions.
- Members provide personal information to Kidblog when they register to use the services and when they request information from Kidblog. The personal information Kidblog collects from users registering for the service is:

    o Display Name (this name is displayed to other users)

    o Username

    o Password

    o Email Address

    o Class Name (a "class" is a group of users defined by user registering for the Service)

- The user registering for Kidblog can also define the members of a class and grant usage user access to the Service by issuing usernames and passwords to additional users.

- In addition to the personal information members supply, Kidblog may automatically collect non-personal information to evaluate how the Service is used. They collect non-personal data to make their services work better for users. The technologies they use to gather this non-personal information may include IP addresses, web browser cookies, clear gifs, browser detection, and weblog information.

- Kidblog collects personally identifiable information from registered users so that they may have secure access to the website. Users are responsible for safeguarding their own usernames,

passwords, and email addresses. If a user's registration or account information security has been breached, the user can contact Kidblog for assistance.

- Members may modify their browser preferences to accept all cookies, be notified when a cookie is set, or reject all cookies. If a member modifies their browser to reject certain or all cookies, they may not be able to use certain features of Kidblog.

- Access to a member's personally identifiable information and all data they store on kidblog.org is limited to authorized Kidblog staff and is restricted by password protection mechanisms. Although total security does not exist on the internet, Kidblog will make commercially reasonable efforts to safeguard the information that their members submit.

- Kidblog.org is not intended for use by unsupervised children. Only adults are authorized to register and create accounts with administrative privileges. Only accounts with administrative privileges may grant children access to the website.

- Kidblog will not knowingly collect any personally identifiable information from children under the age of 13.

- Kidblog reserves the right to disclose a members personally identifiable information as required by law and when they believe that disclosure is necessary to protect their rights and/or comply with a judicial proceeding, court order, or legal process served on us.

- Kidblog.org does not currently contain links to other websites. Kidblog is not responsible for the privacy practices of any other websites. They encourage their members to be aware when they leave the website, and to read the privacy statements of each website that collects personally identifiable information.

Kidblog, Inc.
2869 W 71 1/2 Street
Richfield, MN 55423
Phone: 612-703-7405.

Parent Documents

Dear parents/guardians,
  I wanted to provide you with further information regarding Kidblog to aid in your decision to give consent for your child to use Kidblog. Please read the following and if possible visit the links provided.

What is Kidblog?

Kidblog is designed for K-12 teachers who want to provide each student with an individual blog. Students publish posts and participate in academic discussions within a secure classroom blogging community. Teachers maintain complete control over student blogs and user accounts. For further information please visit: http://kidblog.org/why-kidblog/
What is blogging? A blog is a website for which an individual or a group frequently generates text, photographs, video or audio files, and/or links, typically (but not always) on a daily basis. The term is a shortened form of weblog. Authoring a blog, maintaining a blog or adding an article to an existing blog is called "blogging". Individual articles on a blog are called "blog posts," "posts," or "entries". The person who posts these entries is called a "blogger."(Wikipedia) Here is an animated explanation and review of safety that students will review at school: http://www.brainpop.com/english/writing/blogs/

Why am I using Kidblog?

Kidblog provides teachers with the tools to help students safely navigate the digital – and increasingly social – online landscape.

Kidblog allows students to exercise digital citizenship within a secure, private classroom blogging space. Kidblog's security features put safety first:

- Teachers have administrative control over all student blogs and student accounts

- Students' blogs are private by default, viewable only classmates and the teacher.

- Teachers can add password-protected parent and guest accounts to the community at their discretion.

- Comment privacy settings block unsolicited comments from outside sources.

- Kidblog is fully Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act ("COPPA") compliant and does not require any personal information from students.

Adapted from original document created by T. Cameron. Changes may occur; this document is current as of terms of service on Sept. 8, 2014. Check with your own school to make sure it meets your school's privacy policy. Review completed by Breanne Quist.

Risks that could arise

While no internet-based experience can ever be 100% risk-free, know that I will take every reasonable measure to manage expected risks.
Please refer to Kidblog's Privacy Policy for further information: Kidblog agrees to treat your personally identifiable information in accordance with the terms of their current privacy policy which is available for review at: http://kidblog.org/home/privacy-policy/

The Privacy Policy will be reviewed and discussed with students prior to using Kidblog.

What's 'personal information'?

"People have different standards of what they consider 'personal' information. Sharing over social media has done a fair bit to reset our expectation. Regardless of personal definition, if the information, data, or content could be used to identify you, it's 'personal information' – though professional or business contact information may be treated separately." [1](Henglstler, 2013). A student's personal information could include: name, date of birth, address, telephone number, email address, educational information, and anything that identifies an individual, including photographs. If any information, data or content could be used to identify you it is then qualified as "personal information".

Why is BC so sensitive to privacy laws regarding data?

"Shortly after the 9/11 attacks on the US in 2001, the American government enacted the United States Patriot Act that allowed the United States government to search private and public data housed on servers on United States soil. At the time, The British Columbia Medical Services Plan was hosting our provincial medical records in the United States. Unions in British Columbia expressed concern over the ability of the American government to search through British Columbian's personal medical records and histories. Ultimately, the rules is: if you transfer or authorize the transfer of your personal information outside of Canada, that data is subject to the laws and practices of the country where it sits – be it the United States, China, or India. (Remember that minors, under the legal care of an adult, cannot authorize such a transfer.) Not all locations have similar notions about your right to privacy. Since cloud computing is a relatively new technology, the laws and best practices governing it are still changing and there is a need to stay current." [1](Hengstler, 2013)

Why is a consent form necessary?

Various provinces in Canada – and other jurisdictions across the world – have enacted laws to protect personal privacy. In BC, the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) covers all independent schools. It is one of the most defined privacy protection frameworks in Canada. PIPA states that 'private bodies' such as independent schools have defined legal requirements for handing your personal information when it is within their 'custody' and 'control'. Generally, private bodies must make sure that your personal information cannot be stored or accessed outside of Canada without your expressed permission – 'consent' (Note: there are certain expectations in the law like data covered by treaties, etc.). PIPA states that your consent must be in writing, state to whom your personal information may be disclosed, and how your information will be used. Also, if you post personal information about others, their permission must also be secured.

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What if I don't want to consent?

You have the right as a parent/guardian to withhold consent to your child using Kidblog. Alternate activities will be provided to students in the event that parents/caregivers choose to withhold consent and that selection of an alternate activity will not affect a student's grade.

While no internet-based experience can ever be 100% risk-free, know that I will take every reasonable measure to manage expected risks.

Further information:

Kidblog Home: http://kidblog.org/home/

Kidblog Terms of Service: http://kidblog.org/home/terms-of-service/

[1] Julia Hengstler is the Educational Technologist with the Faculty of Education at Vancouver Island University & an Instructor in Educational Technology. Please visit this site for more background information about her: http://www.viu.ca/education/faculty/profiles/hengstler_j.asp

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Informed Consent

Kidblog is an Internet based blog site that houses its servers on United States soil. It is a "Fenced" blog site with a limited, bounded set of users. The only users that can participate are the teacher and the students. Kidblog is designed for K-12 teachers who want to provide each student with an individual blog. Students publish posts and participate in academic discussions within a secure classroom blogging community. Teachers maintain complete control over student blogs and user accounts. Students will be assigned a username and password to log into Kidblog.

What is blogging? A blog is a website for which an individual or a group frequently generates text, photographs, video or audio files, and/or links, typically (but not always) on a daily basis. The term is a shortened form of weblog. Authoring a blog, maintaining a blog or adding an article to an existing blog is called "blogging". Individual articles on a blog are called "blog posts," "posts," or "entries". The person who posts these entries is called a "blogger."(Wikipedia) Here is an animated explanation and review of safety that students will review at school (h[ttp://www.brainpop.com/english/writing/blogs/)](http://www.brainpop.com/english/writing/blogs/)

Blogging has become a great way to get students reading and writing. Our blog is going to be used for group discussions and the sharing of learning, ideas, information and resources that focus on school related topics. It is an opportunity for students and teachers to collaborate on assignments. Each child will have a blog page to design and add entries. This page will only be visible to the teacher and students in our class. Students will be shown log on procedures and discuss acceptable use in our computer classes. When writing blog posts students will be responding to questions posed by the teacher and peers. When responding to student blogs it is expected that students respond to blog posts with positive and supportive comments. Blogging provides us with a way to extend our thinking and connect our ideas with each other and students. Students that post inappropriate or negative comments will not be allowed to participate. This will help students learn to be good digital citizens.

Kidblog Terms of Service (http://kidblog.org/home/terms-of-service/)

ACCEPTABLE USE

The purpose of the use of Kidblog is to facilitate communications for education by providing access to unique resources and an opportunity for collaborative work. To remain eligible as a user the use of your account must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives.
Transmission of any material in violation of any Canadian or International regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyright material, threatening or obscene material, illegal material or material protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities is generally not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.

The School reserves the right to review any material on user accounts and to monitor file server space in order to make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are inappropriate.

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SECURITY

- Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. A user must never allow others to use his/her password.   Users should also protect their passwords to ensure system security and their own privileges and ability to continue use of the system.

- If you feel you can identify a security problem on Kidblog you must notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users.

- Attempts to log on to Kidblog as a teacher/administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges.

- The teacher/site administrator will deny any user identified as a security risk for having a history of problems with other computer systems to Kidblog.

- *Kidblog's Privacy Policy:* http://kidblog.org/home/privacy-policy/

ENCOUNTER OF CONTROVERSIAL MATERIAL

Users may encounter material, which is controversial, and which users, parents, teachers or administrators may consider inappropriate or offensive. However, on the Internet it is impossible to control the content of data and a user may discover controversial materials. It is the user's responsibility not to initiate access to such material. The School shall not be held liable for any decision to restrict or regulate access to Internet materials.

ETTIQUETTE

All communications and information posted on Kidblog via the Internet should be assumed to be the private property of those who posted it. All users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

A.   All users are expected to behave as they would in any other environment where they represent their school. It is important that users conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner in accordance with the standards of propriety in the District.

B.   Users may not:

- use abusive, vulgar, profane, obscene, harassing, or other inappropriate language;"

- criticize the spelling, writing or keyboarding of others;

- re-post personal electronic mail received to public forums without the permission of the author.

- share password(s) with others;

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- distribute or use anyone else's account name and password;

- reveal your personal address or phone numbers of students or colleagues.

- transmit or post threatening, abusive, obscene or harassing material

-

Please keep page 1-3 for your records and complete page 4 to be sent back to me for my records. Thank you.

Teacher Name

Contact Information

I, _____, agree that my child, _____, will adhere to the expectations, terms and conditions attached as **"Specific Expectations, Terms and Conditions of Students Using Technology"** when using the above-named technology for a class assignment. I realize that if my child does not abide by these terms and conditions they may expose theirs or other people's personal information to unauthorized third parties, leading to an invasion of their or other people's privacy.

I, _____, agree to the collection, use, disclosure and storage of my child, _____'s, personal information inside or outside of Canada while using the technology described above for the purposes of engaging in classroom activities. I am aware of, and understand the identifiable privacy risks as described above.

I, _____, **do not give consent for my child**, _____, to participate in any activities using Kidblog. I understand that my child will be given alternate assignments similar to those that use Kidblog.

We understand the privacy risks and management strategies as they have been shared with us.

_____   _____

Parent / Guardian Signature   Date

_____   _____

Student Signature   Date

Received by teacher on: _____

Metadata

Tool / Resource Name: KidBlog

URL: www.kidblog.org

LMS or Web 2.0 Tool: Tool

Location of Reviewer:

British Columbia, Canada

Reviewer affiliation:

Public School	
Independent School	X
Public Organization	
Private Organization	
Other	

Enrollment Requirements:

First name	X
Last name	
User name	X
Email address	X
Country	
Street address	
Postal code	
Phone number	
School / Organization	X

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Age	
Birth date	
Password	X
Gender	

Required user information that is displayed

User name	
Email	
Name	X
Avatar	
Location	

Tool Category:

Instructional	X
Informational	X
Presentation	X
Storage	
Game	
Other	

Grade level:

Primary (K-3)	X

Kidblog

Intermediate (4-6)	X
Middle School (7-9)	X
High School (10-12)	X

Subjects / Courses:

Math	
English	X
Science	
Social Studies	X
PE	
Health and Careers	X
Fine Arts	
Applied Skills	X

General information

Open / Closed	Closed
Server location	US.
Tool privacy policy URL	http://kidblog.org/home/privacy-policy/ Last updated May 16, 2012
Tool terms of service URL	http://kidblog.org/home/terms-of-service/ Last updated May 16, 2012
Minimum age requirement	N/A
iOS app	X

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Android app	X