# Web Filtering categories

**N4L's Web Filtering is fully funded as part of your Managed Network connection and is one of the tools available to help create a safer online environment for your students and staff. Our filtering can block categories, websites and apps, but not specific content within a website. For example, YouTube is widely used to support learning. Schools can currently either allow YouTube, or block all access to it - it cannot filter out individual YouTube videos.**

**Our Web Filtering should always be used in conjunction with your school's own digital citizenship policy and acceptable use procedures. It's also important to remember that no filtering system is able to provide 100% protection from inappropriate content.**

## Recommended blocked categories

Websites categorised below are blocked as part of our Safe & Secure Internet service. To unblock any of these will require the school to go through an opt-out process. In addition to these categories, schools can also ask us to block individual websites.

### Child Abuse
Websites that have been verified by the Internet Watch Foundation to contain or distribute images of non-adult children that are depicted in a state of abuse.

### Illegal or Unethical
Websites that feature information, methods, or instructions on fraudulent actions or unlawful conduct (non-violent) such as scams, counterfeiting, tax evasion, petty theft, blackmail, etc.

### Crypto Mining
Websites that provide Crypto Mining tools, Mining pools, pooling of resources by miners, who share their processing power over a network.

### Spam URLs
Websites or webpages whose URLs are found in spam emails. These webpages often advertise sex websites, fraudulent wares, and other potentially offensive materials.

### Discrimination
Websites that promote the identification of racial groups, the denigration or subjection of groups, or the superiority of any group.

### Other Adult Materials
Mature content websites (18+ years and over) that feature or promote sexuality, strip clubs, sex shops, etc. excluding sex education, without the intent to sexually arouse.

### Explicit Violence
This category includes websites that depict offensive material on brutality, death, cruelty, acts of abuse, mutilation, etc.

### Peer-to-peer File Sharing
Websites that allow users to share files and data storage between each other through services such as BitTorrent.

### Drug Abuse
Websites that feature information on illegal drug activities including: drug promotion, preparation, cultivation, trafficking, distribution, solicitation, etc.

### Phishing
Counterfeit webpages that duplicate legitimate business webpages for the purpose of eliciting financial, personal or other private information from the users.

**Proxy Avoidance**

Websites that provide information or tools on how to bypass internet access controls and browse the web anonymously, includes anonymous proxy servers - which are sometimes referred to as VPNs (Virtual Private Networks). For example, Express VPN, Hot Spot Shield.

**Potentially Unwanted Program**

Sites using technologies that alter the operation of a user's hardware, software or network in ways that diminish control over the user experience, privacy or the collection and distribution of personal information, includes adware, spyware, browser hijackers, unwanted pop-ups and typo-squatting domains.

**Hacking**

Websites that depict illicit activities surrounding the unauthorised modification or access to programs, computers, equipment and websites.

**Pornography**

Mature content websites (18+ years and over) which present or display sexual acts with the intent to sexually arouse and excite.

**Malicious Websites**

Websites that host software that collects information and monitors user activity, and those infected with destructive or malicious software, specifically designed to damage, disrupt, attack or manipulate computer systems without the user's consent, such as virus.

**Terrorism**

Websites containing content depicting terrorism-related acts which are, or appear to be, illegal in the jurisdiction of the originator of the rating, or sites which illegally incite the recruitment of individuals into terrorist organisations.

**Extremist Groups**

Websites that feature radical militia groups or movements with aggressive anti government convictions or beliefs.

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## Optional categories

Below are additional categories that your school can choose to block. The description for each of these categories can be found here.

**Additional categories N4L recommends blocking**

Alcohol
Dating
Domain Parking
Dynamic DNS
Gambling
Lingerie and swimsuit
Marijuana
Meaningless Content
Newly Registered Domain
Nudity and Risque
Tobacco
Weapons (Sales)

**Categories that are up to you to block at your own discretion**

Abortion
Alternative Beliefs
File Sharing and Storage
Freeware and Software Downloads Games
Instant Messaging
Newly Observed Domain
Remote Access
Search Engines and Portals
Sex Education
Social Networking
Sports Hunting and War Games
Web Chat
Web-based Email

**Categories you can choose to block, but you shouldn't need to**

Advertising
Advocacy Organisations
Armed Forces
Arts and Culture
Auction
Brokerage and Trading
Business
Charitable Organisations
Child Education
Content Servers
Digital Postcards
Dynamic Content

Education
Job Search
Medicine
News and Media
Newsgroups and Message Boards
Online Meeting
Personal Privacy
Personal Vehicles
Personal Websites and Blogs
Political Organisations
Real Estate
Reference

Restaurant and Dining
Search Engines and Portals
Entertainment
File Sharing and Storage
Folklore
General Organisations
Global Religion
Government and Legal Organisations
Health & Wellness
Information and Computer Security
Internet Radio and TV
Internet Telephony

Secure Websites
Shopping
Society and Lifestyles
Sports
Streaming Media and Download
Travel
Web Analytics
Web Hosting
Web-based Applications

If you would like to block any of these categories or specific websites for your school or kura, please call our Customer Support team on **0800 LEARNING (0800 532 764)** or email support@n4l.co.nz.