TET Task 1: Ethics

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The topic of this paper is internet safety for adult learners in an instructional setting.

Instructional Setting

The instruction for this will be completed online due to the distance and availability of the learners. The content area of focus is building a virtual classroom community. Learners will access the coursework through the internet using their computer. They will interact with each other through online discussions and be able to interact with the instructor through the board, reflections or by email.

Learners in the Instructional Setting

The learners are public school teachers in the United States who want to improve their virtual classroom community. The learners teach a variety of subjects but the common theme between them is that they are all teaching virtually currently. They all have previous experience teaching; ranging from 2 years to 30 years. The learners were identified from a Virtual Teaching Facebook group and expressed interest in the training after completing a needs identification survey.

Appropriate Protective Measures

In this section you will describe how to protect electronic resources from three threat situations. Threat situations can include hackers, viruses, cyberbullying, fraud, inappropriate content, online predators, plagiarism, etc.

Safe Practices and Procedures

When using computers and especially the internet we must be careful to avoid spam, viruses and spyware. Learners should also be careful to avoid identify theft.

Most adults are aware of spam and expect our email accounts to naturally filter out any potential spam emails. With this instruction the learners are potentially interacting with other learners and the instructor that they do not know outside the virtual course. The instructor and learners need to be cautious about opening emails attachments from unknown senders. With new email addresses it is easier for a spam email to slip through because the learner is looking for emails with instructions in them (Luminet, 2016).

Viruses and spyware can be attached to downloads and usually go unnoticed by the victim until their computer is infected. With this course learners will be expected to download resources from an instructor's email or course website. Learners will need to take care to check where they are downloading from and ensure they have proper antivirus software on their devices. Learners should inform the instructor if they notice anything strange during downloads, if they start receiving pop up ads, or if their computer seems slower afterwards (Luminet, 2016).

With any online based instruction, learners should be careful about what information they are sharing on the internet to prevent identity theft. Interactions within the program should remain professional and learners should avoid sharing purely personal information that could be visible to anyone. Learners naturally want to share their previous experiences and insights but should remain cautious about sharing specifics such as students names, their specific school, etc. (Kaspersky, 2020).

Establishing Learner Behavioral Expectations

Prior to the beginning of instruction, the instructor should review internet safety precautions by email, at the start of the course and listed in the directions of any online discussions. The instructor should give clear instruction on what kinds of downloads are expected of the learner and where the downloads should be coming from (ie. email or course

website). If any learner decides to share personal information, the instructor can follow up with

an email reminding the learner of safety concerns of sharing their personal information on the

internet.

References

Kaspersky. (2020, March 31). *Top 10 Internet Safety Rules & What Not to Do Online*.

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