

Acceptable Use Policy for pupils and parents/carers

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy is to ensure that pupils and parents/carers will benefit from learning opportunities offered by Internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

School's Strategy

The school will employ a number of strategies in order to maximise learning opportunities and reduce risks associated with the Internet. These strategies are as follows:

- Internet services will always be supervised by a teacher
- Filtering software and/or equivalent systems will be used in order to minimise the risk of exposure to inappropriate material.
- The school will regularly monitor pupils and parents/carers' Internet usage.
- Students and teachers will be provided with training in the area of Internet safety
- Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted.
- Virus protection software will be used and updated on a regular basis.
- Pupils and parents/carers will observe good 'etiquette' (i.e. etiquette on the Internet) at all times and will not undertake any actions that may bring the school into disrepute.)

World Wide Web

- Pupils and parents/carers will not visit Internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful, otherwise objectionable materials.
- Pupils and parents/carers will not use the computer to do anything illegal including illegal downloading of software, music or movies.
- Pupils and parents/carers will not install software programs.
- Pupils and parents/carers will use the Internet for educational purposes only.
- Pupils and parents/carers will be familiar with copyright issues relating to online learning.
- Pupils and parents/carers will never disclose or publicise personal information.
- Pupils and parents/carers will be aware that any usage, including distributing or receiving information, school related or personal, may be monitored for unusual activity, security and/or network management reasons.

Email

- Pupils and parents/carers will not send or receive any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.
- Pupils and parents/carers will not reveal their own or other people's personal details, such as addresses or telephone numbers or pictures.
- Pupils and parents/carers will never arrange face to face meetings with someone they only know through emails or the internet

Internet Forms

- Usernames will be used to avoid disclosure of identity.
- Face-to-Face meetings with someone organised via Internet chat will be forbidden.

Legislation

- The Data Protection Act 1998: The Act requires, amongst other things, that all personal data should be protected by appropriate security safeguards against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss or destruction or damage

- Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988: All software must be used only in accordance with the terms of the licence. The making of copies is forbidden and is a criminal offence.
- Computer Misuse Act 1989: Identifies three main offences concerning unauthorised access to system, software or data. The punishment depends upon whether the intent of the hacker was merely to gain access, to commit further offences after gaining access or to make a modification to "computer material" e.g. to inject a virus

Sanctions

Misuse of the Internet may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

Child's Name.....

Parent's Name.....

Date of reading.....

Please tick

I have read and understood the above strategies, and agree to abide by Them, in order to ensure the safe and acceptable use of ICT in and around school.

I have read these to my child and we have discussed them.

Parents signature on behalf of child:

..... Date