

# Online Safety Rules

The computer system is owned by the school. This Responsible Internet Use statement helps to protect students, staff and the school by clearly stating what use of the computer resources is acceptable and what is not.

- Irresponsible use may result in the loss of Internet access.
- Network access must be made via the user's authorised account and password, which must not be given to any other person.
- School computer and Internet use must be appropriate to the student's education or to staff professional activity.
- Copyright and intellectual property rights must be respected.
- Email should be written carefully and politely, particularly as messages may be forwarded or printed and be seen by unexpected readers.
- Users are responsible for email they send and for contacts made.
- Anonymous messages and chain letters are not permitted.
- The use of chat rooms is not allowed.
- The school ICT systems may not be used for private purposes, unless the head teacher has given permission for that use.
- Use for personal financial gain, gambling, political purposes or advertising is not permitted.
- ICT system security must be respected; it is a criminal offence to use a computer for a purpose not permitted by the system owner.

**The school may exercise its right to monitor the use of the school's computer resources, including access to websites, the interception of email and the deletion of inappropriate materials where it believes unauthorised use of the school's computer system may be taking place, or the system may be being used for criminal purposes or for storing unauthorised or unlawful text, imagery or sound.**

# Student Acceptable Use Agreement

- I will only use ICT systems in school, including the internet, email, digital video, mobile technologies, etc. for educational purposes.
- I will only log on to the school network/Learning Platform, other systems and resources with my own username and password. I will treat my username and password like my toothbrush – I will not share it, nor will I try to use any other person’s username or password.
- I will follow the school’s ICT security system and not reveal my passwords to anyone.
- I will only use my school email address for educational purposes. I will check my email regularly and carry out routine “housekeeping” of my email messages.
- I will not give out my personal information or that of others such as name, phone number or address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher.
- I will make sure that all ICT communications with students, teachers or others is responsible, polite and sensible. I will not use strong, aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will ‘log off’ when leaving a computer.
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using the Internet. This includes resources I access and the language I use.
- I will only save files to the network that are related to schoolwork. I will not use filenames that could be considered offensive.
- I will not deliberately browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If I accidentally come across any such material, I will report it immediately to my teacher.
- I will immediately report any unpleasant or inappropriate material or messages or anything that makes me feel uncomfortable when I see it online.
- I am aware that when I take images of students and/or staff, that I must only store and use these for school purposes and in line with school procedures and must never distribute these outside the school network without the permission of all parties involved, including in school breaks and all occasions when you are in school uniform or when otherwise representing the school.
- I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not cause my school, the staff, students or others distress or bring the school community into disrepute, including through uploads of images, video, sounds or texts.
- I understand that I am responsible for my actions, both in and out of school and that the school has the right to take action against me if I am involved in incidents of inappropriate behaviour that are covered in this agreement when I am out of school and where they involve my membership of the school community (e.g. cyberbullying, use of images or personal information etc.)
- I understand that the school ICT systems are primarily intended for educational use and that I will not use the systems for personal or recreational use unless I have permission to do so.
- I will not try (unless I have permission) to make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.

- When I am using the Internet to find information, I should take care to check that the information that I access is accurate as I understand that the work of others may not be truthful and may be a deliberate attempt to mislead me.
- I will always respect the privacy and ownership of others' work online and will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files without the owner's knowledge and permission. Where work is protected by copyright, I will not try to download copies (including music and videos).
- I understand the risks and will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others, nor will I try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering/security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will only use my personal hand-held/external devices (USB devices) in school if I have permission. I understand that, if I do use my own devices in school, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using school equipment.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software, however this may have happened.
- I will not open any attachments to emails unless I know and trust the person or organisation that sent the email due to the risk of the attachment containing a virus or other harmful programme.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings.
- I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available to my teachers.
- I understand that these rules are designed to keep me safe and that if they are not followed, school sanctions will be applied and my parent may be contacted and any illegal activities will be reported to the Police.

**I have read, understood and agree to follow the terms of this Acceptable Use Agreement when:**

- I use the school ICT systems and equipment (both in and out of school)
- I use my own equipment in school (when allowed) e.g. camera, PDA, USB stick, etc.
- I use my own equipment out of school in a way that is related to me being a member of this school e.g. communicating with other members of the school, accessing school email, VLE, website etc.