

Market Weighton Infant School

POLICY FOR THE ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE INTERNET IN SCHOOL

1. Staff and Pupils

- a. When using the Internet, all users must comply with all copyright, libel, fraud, discrimination and obscenity laws, and all school staff (both teachers and support staff) is expected to communicate in a professional manner consistent with the rules of behaviour governing employees in the education sector.
- b. All staff must sign the 'Acceptable Internet Use for Staff' statement.
- c. Pupils are taught to act in a considerate and responsible manner on the school network. When appropriate, teachers ensure that pupils know and understand the 'Rules for Responsible Internet Use' that are displayed in the classrooms.
- d. While the use of information and communication technologies is a requirement of the curriculum, access to the Internet remains a privilege and not a right. Access must be withdrawn if a child fails to maintain acceptable standards of use.

2. Location and Supervision

- a. Access to the Internet is provided to staff and pupils through the eriding service provider which is a filtered service. Users should be aware that the school can and does track and record the sites visited, the searches made on the Internet and e-mail sent and received by individual users.
- b. Internet access for pupils is available only on computers that are in full view of people circulating in the area.
- c. While using the Internet at school, pupils should, where possible, be supervised. However, when appropriate, pupils may pursue electronic research independent of staff supervision if they have been granted permission.
- d. Pupils are taught to understand how to use the Internet safely and why the rules exist.
- e. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the system responsibly. While normal privacy is respected and protected by password controls, as with the Internet itself, users must not expect files stored on the school server to be absolutely private.

3. Advice for Parents

- a. While in school, teachers will guide pupils toward appropriate materials on the Internet. Outside school, parents or guardians bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they would normally exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio and other media.
- b. Parents of new children are asked to sign a 'Using the Internet at School' permission slip.
- c. Parents of new children are also given advice on rules to help children to stay safe on the Internet. (Think then Click)
- d. Home use of the Internet will be encouraged through the introduction of The Learning Platform, but parents need to be made aware that they are responsible for their children's use of Internet resources at home. An introductory letter will be sent out before children receive their passwords.

Policy author	K Lloyd
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