



# INTERNET

## POLICY

### Rationale:

- The internet provides students with unprecedented opportunities to obtain information and communicate in a global environment, and to increase their skills, knowledge and abilities.

### Aims:

- To improve student learning outcomes by increasing access to information and resources made available via the school's network and the internet.
- To develop skills in accessing, interpreting and analysing information.
- To develop skills in appropriate network, email and internet usage.

### Implementation:

- Our school actively supports access by students to the widest variety of information resources available, accompanied by the development of the skills necessary to filter, analyse, interpret and evaluate the information encountered.
- All students and staff at our school will have censorship filtered internet and email access.
- All students and staff will have their own password protected internet account and log on. Such access is a privilege that infers *responsibility*, and *not simply a right to be expected*.
- The ICT coordinator will liaise with staff and the technical support technician to manage all email access, maintenance of the school's web site, web filters, and all other issues related to internet access by students.
- The school undertakes to ensure that information published on the internet by students or the school, is of a high standard, and meets legal requirements and standards of general practice within the community in relation to copyright, safety and decency.
- Students email access will be through a class mailbox under teacher supervision.
- All email accounts will be password protected and users will be responsible for clearing their mailboxes regularly.
- Defined user levels will have differing access rights. Restricted access shall be available to guest users for specific purposes only.
- All students shall be responsible for notifying their teacher of any inappropriate material so that access can be blocked.
- All staff shall be responsible for notifying the ICT coordinator of any inappropriate material so that access can be blocked.
- Consequences for publishing, accessing or failing to notify the coordinator of inappropriate material shall include the removal of access rights.
- Signed parent and student consent is required to be completed in order to gain access to the internet, or to publish work, photos or videos on the internet.
- Privacy of students, staff and parents must be recognised and respected at all times.
- Teachers shall be responsible for making sure all work is screened for accuracy, appropriateness, grammar and spelling prior to publishing.
- Costs associated with personal internet usage will be borne by students, staff and parents.

### Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the school's regular review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in May 2010 (**review 2011 after Ultranet**)