

Rationale

The purpose of Internet access in school is to raise educational standards, to support the professional work of staff and eventually to enhance the school's administration systems. Access to the Internet is a necessary tool for staff and pupils. It is a curricular entitlement for pupils who show a responsible approach.

- Access to worldwide educational resources including museums and art galleries.
- Inclusion in government initiatives such as NGfL and the Virtual Teacher Centre.
- Information and cultural exchanges between students.
- Discussion with experts in many fields for pupils and staff.
- Staff professional development - access to educational materials and good curriculum practice.
- Communication with the advisory and support services, professional associations and colleagues.
- Exchange of curriculum and administration data with the LEA and DCFS.

Guidelines

Pupil's Use of the Internet and Social Networking Sites

Our Internet Service Provider is recommended by NYCC and provides a service designed for children. This includes filtering appropriate to the age of pupils. Parents will be informed on entry to school that pupils will be provided with supervised Internet access via a letter. Personal USB drives and other recordable media may not be brought into school without specific permission. Access to social networking sites is not available through school.

Organisation and Management of Internet Use

Internet access will be planned to enrich and extend learning activities. Pupils will be given clear objectives for Internet use. Staff will select sites, which will support the learning outcomes planned for pupils' age and maturity. Approved sites will be bookmarked and some key sites linked to from the school website. In Key Stage 1 children will only use sites the teacher has already accessed for a specific learning objective. During Key stage 2 children will become increasingly independent but will follow the schools Internet rules.

Promoting Safe and Independent Use of the Internet

Pupils will be educated in taking responsibility for their own Internet access. Pupils will be made aware that the writer of e-mail or the author of a Web page might not be the person claimed. Pupils will be encouraged to tell a teacher immediately if they encounter any material that makes them feel uncomfortable. Security issues are regularly discussed with the Local Education Authority.

Children's Use of E-Mail

Children in school must only use e-mail for educational purposes. Pupils will not be allowed to send personal e-mail from the school system without permission. Key Stage 2 pupils may send e-mail as part of planned lessons but will not be given individual e-mail accounts. Messages sent using the school domain name should be regarded in the same way as messages written on school headed paper and should be checked by a child's teacher or designated adult.

Staff Use of E-Mail and the Internet

Staff are actively encouraged to use e-mail and the Internet as methods of communication for professional and curriculum development within and beyond the local education authority.

Legal Issues

In common with other media such as magazines, books and video, some material available via the Internet is unsuitable for pupils. The school will supervise pupils and take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of information available via the Internet, it is not possible to guarantee that unsuitable material will never appear on a computer. Neither the school nor NYCC can accept liability for the material accessed or any consequences thereof. The use of computer systems without permission or for purposes not agreed by the school could constitute a criminal offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990. Any material that the school suspects is illegal will be referred to the ISP (Internet Service Provider) who will pass on to relevant regulatory bodies. Responsibility for handling complaints or incidents of Internet misuse will be given to the head and/or Chair of Governors.

Approved by the Governing Body Summer 2014

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Policy to be reviewed Summer 2017

Signed by: (Governor)