Responsible Use of the Internet

As part of the school's development of computing skills, we offer pupils supervised access to the internet. Pupils will research information from museums, libraries, news providers and suitable websites as part of their programme of learning.

Before being allowed to use the internet, all pupils must obtain parental permission. You should sign the appropriate section on the Admissions/Emergency Contact Form. The Rules for Responsible Internet Use are set out below. **Please read these rules with your child and ensure your child signs (on the contact form) to confirm he/she agrees to comply with the school rules on this matter.**

Although there have been concerns about pupils having access to undesirable materials, we are taking positive steps to reduce this risk. The school operates a filtering system that blocks access to known inappropriate materials. All our screens are in public view and, as stated above, access will be supervised. However, the nature of the internet makes it impossible to ensure that all inappropriate material is blocked.

Rules for Responsible Internet Use At School

In school computers and laptops are installed with internet access to help our learning. These rules will keep us safe and help us to be fair to others.

- I will not access other people's files.

- I will use the computers/laptops for school work and homework.

- I will not bring in data from outside school unless I have been given permission.

- I will ask permission from a member of staff before using the internet.

- I will only use my school email when working within school.

- I will report any unpleasant material or messages sent to my school email. I understand this report would be confidential and would help protect other pupils and myself.

- I understand that posting anonymous messages to others is forbidden.

- I understand the school may check my computer files and will monitor the internet sites I visit.

Rules for Responsible Internet Use When At Home

You must keep your personal information private online

- Only share it with people you know like your friends and family. Ask a trusted adult (your teacher or family member) to help change your privacy settings.

You must speak politely and be kind to others when you speak to them online

- Treat others the same as you would in real life and always remember your manners.

You must tell a trusted adult if you are being bullied online

- If a person is sending you nasty messages online, do not reply. Speak to a trusted adult, they will be able to help you.

You must use passwords to protect your personal information

- Ask a trusted adult to help you create a password that you can easily remember but will not be guessed by other people. Do not share your passwords with friends or anyone online.

You must always check with a trusted adult first before using a device or downloading a new app

- This is important so that they can check that it is safe for you to use and make sure the correct privacy settings are in place.

You must tell a trusted adult if you see something online which you do not like

- This can include anything that upsets you, makes you feel sad or which you are unsure about. It is always best to check with an adult.

You must never arrange to meet someone or given any personal information over the internet

- You should only meet up with friends or family and always have a trusted adult with you at all times.

You must not share pictures or information about others

- You must always ask for permission before sharing details of others. This includes photos of you that have other people in them and other people's names.

If you intend to develop a website of your own, or you already have one, you must make sure the content is checked by your parents or carers and by school staff.

- This is important to make sure the correct privacy settings are applied and keep you safe online.

Mr Callum Donnelly
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