

Dear Parents/Carers

INTERNET – ACCEPTABLE USAGE

Your son/daughter..... is making use of the school's internet connection. The purpose of this is to set up e-mail links with pupils around the world and to investigate the World Wide Web (www).

He/she will have the opportunity to correspond by e-mail with other pupils at home or abroad. This means that he/she is acting as an ambassador for the school. Consequently, it is important that certain standards are maintained.

Any mail that he/she sends must not contain any material which could cause offence to any person in this country or the country to which he/she is sending it. In essence, this means that he/she would not be embarrassed if this e-mail were to be read, either by his/her teacher or by yourself. We also ask that if your son/daughter received any offensive mail he/she should report it to us so that appropriate action can be taken.

Equally, if using the World Wide Web, certain conditions apply. Your son/daughter should not visit or attempt to visit any site which could be considered offensive. Again, the yardstick is, would his/her teacher or yourself approve of the material he/she is viewing? The internet service provider we use filters sites very carefully which pupils can visit. However, they cannot offer a guarantee that all offensive sites have been blocked due to the nature of the Internet. We also closely monitor both e-mail and www access through Mirapoint.

May I make it clear that we do not think that your son/daughter is likely to break any of the rules, but we feel that it is important that you stress to him/her the importance of not abusing the trust placed in him/her.

I therefore ask that you sign the following statement to show that you are aware of your son/daughter's involvement in using the school's Internet link, and have reinforced our views. We further ask that your son/daughter signs the statement below to say that he/she will abide by the conditions for Internet use.

In the event of any breach of these conditions, access to the Internet will be withdrawn and, where necessary, the matter may be referred to higher authorities.

The school will attempt to supervise students at all times when using the Internet. Students must not access the internet without permission.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Bruce

Headteacher

INTERNET ACCESS PERMISSION

I am aware that my son/daughter.....(name of student) has been given access to the Internet and I agree with the views contained in this letter and have reinforced them with him/her.

Parental Signature

Date.....

Given access to the Internet, I agree to abide by the school's rules:

- I will not use the Internet/e-mail without the permission of a member of staff;
- It will not attempt to conduct Internet searches for sites containing offensive material and I will not send offensive material by e-mail;
- If anyone sends **me** offensive material, I will inform a member of staff immediately;
- If I know that someone is misusing their Internet access, I will inform another member of staff immediately.

If I keep to this agreement, I understand that I will be allowed frequent Internet access as a learning aid and that I will have my own e-mail address.

If I do not keep to this agreement, I understand that I will have my computer use and my Internet/e-mail access suspended and that parents/carers will be informed. I also realise that, in serious circumstances, other agencies – the LEA or the police – **may** have to be informed.

Student's signature..... Date.....