



Internet Acceptable Use Policy

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy is to ensure that pupils will benefit from opportunities offered by the schools Internet resources in a safe and effective manner. Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege. Therefore, if the school AUP is not adhered to this privilege will be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions as outlined in the AUP will be imposed.

It is envisaged that school and parent representatives will revise the AUP annually. Before signing the AUP should be read carefully to indicate that the conditions of use are accepted and understood.

School's Strategy

The school will employ a number of strategies in order to maximise learning opportunities and reduce risks associated with the internet. These strategies are as follows:

General

- In the classroom Internet sessions will be supervised by a teacher.
- Filtering software and/or equivalent systems will be used in order to minimise the risk of exposure to inappropriate material
- The school will regularly monitor pupils Internet usage
- Each student has a personal user logon to the system. It is his/her responsibility to log off their computer after use to prevent others using their account.
- Students and teachers will be provided with training in the area of internet safety. Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted.
- The use of personal USB keys, CD-ROMS or other storage devices in school requires a teacher's permission.
- Students will observe good "netiquette" (i.e., etiquette on the Internet) at all times and will not undertake any actions that may bring the school into disrepute.

World Wide Web

- Students will not intentionally visit internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials or attempt to circumvent protective software.
- Students will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials.
- Students will use the internet for educational purposes only.
- Students will not copy information into assignments and fail to acknowledge the source (plagiarism and copyright infringement).
- Students will never disclose or publicise personal information.
- Downloading materials or images which are not relevant to their studies is in direct breach of the school's AUP.
- Students will be made aware that any usage, including distributing or receiving information, school-related or personal, may be monitored for unusual activity, security and/or network management reasons.

EMAIL/INTERNET COMMUNICATION (to be read in conjunction to the student email usage policy)

- Students will not use school email addresses for personal reasons. Email which is used for educational purposes will use approved email addresses and will be supervised or authorised by a teacher.
- Students will not send or receive any material that is illegal, obscene and/or defamatory, or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.
- Students will not reveal their own or other people's personal details, such as addresses or telephone numbers or pictures.
- Students will never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they only know through emails or other online communication.
- Internet chat/social networking sites: students will only have access to chat rooms, discussion forums, messaging or other forms of electronic communication that have been approved by the school.
- Where appropriate, usernames will be used to avoid disclosure of identity.

School Website

- Students will be given the opportunity to publish projects, artwork or school work on www.hrc.ie in accordance with this policy and approval processes regarding the content that can be loaded to the school's website.
- The website will be moderated to ensure that there is no content that compromises the safety of students or staff.
- The publication of student work will be co-ordinated by a teacher and authorised by the school.
- Students' work will appear in an educational context. Students will continue to own the copyright of any work published.
- The school will endeavour to focus on group activities when using digital photographs, audio or video clips. Content focusing on individual students will not be published on the school website without parental consent.
- Personal student information including home address and contact details will be omitted from school web pages.

Student Personal Devices

This section refers to personal devices such as: phones, iPods, cameras, dictaphones, game consoles, PSPs, etc.

Students' personal devices, unless authorised by a teacher, are not to be used during class. Each student must ensure all his/her devices are SWITCHED OFF during the school day.

Mobile phone usage is not permitted in the school during the school day.

Note: Devices in 'Silent' or 'Vibrate' mode are not considered 'off'.

The unauthorized capture of images, video or audio is in direct breach of the school's AUP.

Connecting or attempting to connect to the school's network system (wired or wireless) without authorisation is in direct breach of the school's AUP.

Sanctions

Misuse of ICT and internet resources may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

Legislation

The school will make available, information on the following legislation relating to use of the Internet which teachers, students and parents should familiarise themselves with:

Data Protection Act 1988 (and Amendment Act 2003)

<http://www.dataprotection.ie/>

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1988/en/act/pub/0025/index.html>

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2003/en/act/pub/0006/index.html>

Child Trafficking and Pornography Act 1998

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1998/en/act/pub/0022/index.html>

Interception Act 1993

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1993/en/act/pub/0010/print.html>

Video Recordings Act 1989

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1989/en/act/pub/0022/index.html>

Support Structures

Where appropriate, the school will inform students and parents of key support structures and organisations that deal with illegal material or harmful use of the Internet.

Holy Rosary College has adopted the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ as part of its child protection policy. This policy has been made available to the Parents’ Council and is available to all parents on request.

DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON (DLP) Mr Tom Crehan (Principal)

DEPUTY LIAISON PERSON Mr. Martin Tierney (Deputy Principal)

Approval

This Acceptable Usage Policy was adopted by the Board of Management on __12/10/2020__ [date].

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____

Date: _____