

## Internet Safety

### Use of the Internet and Email in School

As part of the school's Computing programme, we offer pupils supervised access to the Internet and email. Students should have parental permission to use these facilities.

Please therefore read the "Rules for Responsible Internet Use" and "Use of Internet and Email in School" prior to completing the **Consent Form** given to you on your child's entry to school

### Rules for Responsible Internet Use

These rules will help us to be fair to others and keep everyone safe.

- I will ask permission before using the Internet.
- I will not look at or delete other people's files.
- I will only e-mail people I know, or my teacher has approved.
- I will not use internet chat.
- The messages I send will be polite and sensible.
- I will not give my home address or phone number, or any personal information, or arrange to meet someone.
- I will ask for permission before opening an e-mail or an e-mail attachment sent by someone I don't know.
- If I see anything I am unhappy with or I receive a message I do not like, I will tell an adult immediately.
- I understand that the school may check my computer files and the Internet sites I visit.
- I understand that if I deliberately break these rules, I may not be allowed to use the Internet or computers.

### Use of the Internet and Email in School

***By consenting to allow my child to use the Internet and email in school***

***I agree to the following:***

- I have read and discussed the school rules for responsible Computing use with my child, and as the parent or legal guardian of the pupil signing above, I grant permission for my son or daughter to use the Internet, e-mail and other Computing facilities at school.
- I understand that the school will take reasonable precautions to ensure that pupils cannot access inappropriate materials, including the teaching of Internet safety skills to pupils, but accept that ultimately the school cannot be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed through the Internet.
- I accept responsibility for setting and conveying standards for my son or daughter to follow when selecting, sharing and exploring information and media, and acknowledge that they will be deemed to be accountable for their own actions.

Various projects have proven the educational benefits of Internet and email access, which enable pupils to explore a wide range of information sources, and communicate and collaborate with other learners throughout the world. Although there are concerns about children having access to inappropriate material via the Internet, the school takes a range of measures to minimise these risks. A filtering system is in operation, which restricts access to inappropriate materials, and this is supplemented by an Internet safety programme for all pupils, which teaches the safe and appropriate behaviours to adopt when using the Internet, e-mail and other technologies.

Whilst every measure is taken to ensure the suitability of material, Southampton City Council cannot be held responsible for the nature or content of materials accessed through the Internet. Southampton City Council will not be liable under any circumstances for any damages arising from your child's use of the Internet facilities.

Although Internet use is supervised and filtered within our schools, families should be aware that some pupils may find ways to access material that is inaccurate, defamatory, extremist, illegal or potentially offensive to some people. As with any other area, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

During school, teachers will guide students towards appropriate material. At home, families bear the same responsibility for guidance as they exercise with other information sources such as television, telephones, films and radio. Any incidents in regards to e-safety are recorded and dealt with as appropriate.

If you require further guidance or advice on the use of the Internet, or would like to discuss any other related issues, please do not hesitate to telephone to arrange an appointment.