

# Sligo Grammar School



## ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USE POLICY

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy is to ensure that pupils will benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's Internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege - the Internet is a valuable Educational Tool. Therefore, if the school AUP is not adhered to this privilege will be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions – as outlined in the AUP – will be imposed.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 ensure that the conditions of use are accepted and understood.

The school will do its best to ensure safe Internet access but, to achieve this, parents will also need to be vigilant and involved in their child's Internet use at home.

.....

### 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

- Internet access is available through the NCTE's Schools Broadband Programme which operates a Web Filtering Service.
- Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted.
- Virus protection software will be used and updated on a regular basis.
- The use of memory keys, DVDs, CD-Roms and other Digital storage media 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 visit Internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.
- Students will use the Internet for educational purposes only.
- Students will not infringe with copyright relating to online learning.
- Students will never disclose or publicise personal information.
- Students will be 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.

# Sligo Grammar School



## Email and Internet Chat

- No personal information about the child, the child's family, teachers or the school is to be disclosed without permission from the teacher supervising the session.
- Any encounter with information or a message that threatens, demeans or otherwise makes the child feel uncomfortable must be reported to the teacher supervising the session and under no circumstances should a response be made to such a message.
- On no account should a child make arrangements for an unsupervised meeting with any other online correspondent without permission.
- If permission is obtained, any planned meeting should be supervised and should occur in a public place.
- Pictures or images which might assist in identifying an individual should not be transmitted without permission.
- Use of a full or last name in online correspondence should not occur without permission.

## School Website

- Pupils may be given the opportunity to publish projects, artwork or school work on the World Wide Web.
- Photographs, audio and video clips of pupils on the Website will not be readily identifiable.
- Personal pupil information will be omitted from school web pages.

## Personal Devices

While the school will make every effort to ensure that pupils do not access inappropriate content when accessing the school's Internet, it cannot control the fact that students do bring their own personal devices (i.e. phones, ipads, ipods etc) to school and access the internet via their own data plan.

As is stated in the Code of Behaviour it is a policy of the school that these devices should neither be switched on nor visible during the school day.

## Legislation

Parents, teachers and pupils should familiarise themselves the following relevant legislation

- Data Protection Act 2018
- Child Trafficking and Pornography Act 1998
- Interception Act 1993
- Video Recordings Act 1989
- GDPR 2018

### ***Support Structures***

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

# Sligo Grammar School



## Sanctions

Misuse of the Internet 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.

This version of the AUP was

1<sup>st</sup> reviewed 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2010;  
Last reviewed and Ratified 18/11/2013  
Last reviewed and Updated 04 March 2019  
Due for review 2022

Policy Reviewed and updated by Board of Management: \_\_\_04 March 2019\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Due for next review: \_\_\_\_\_2022\_\_\_\_\_

# Sligo Grammar School



## PERMISSION FORM

**THE INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.  
PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PERMISSION FORM TO THE FRONT OFFICE.**

Name of Pupil: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Pupil**

I agree to follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy on the use of the Internet. I will use the Internet in a responsible way and obey all the rules explained to me by the school.

Pupil's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent/Guardian**

As the parent or legal guardian of the above pupil, I agree to the Acceptable Use Policy and grant permission for my son or daughter or the child in my care to access the Internet. I understand that Internet access is intended for educational purposes. I also understand that every reasonable precaution has been taken by the school to provide for online safety but the school cannot be held responsible if pupils access unsuitable websites.

I accept the above paragraph  I do not accept the above paragraph   
(Please tick as appropriate)

In relation to the school website, I accept that, if the school considers it appropriate, my child's schoolwork may be chosen for inclusion on the website. I understand and accept the terms of the Acceptable Use Policy relating to publishing children's work on the school website.

I accept the above paragraph  I do not accept the above paragraph   
(Please tick as appropriate)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_