

Acceptable Use Agreement for Children

Acceptable use of the internet, our e-learning environment and e-mail is vital for all staff and students to follow to ensure safe use of such facilities. The internet offers both educational and social opportunities for our children and is a central part to our cross curricular learning. Whilst recognising the benefits we must also establish appropriate, effective and safe use of these technologies.

- ALL pupils must obtain the permission of parent(s)/guardians(s) /carer(s) before they can be allowed to use the internet including a virtual learning environment or education e-mail service. The parental permission form MUST be signed and returned to the school.
- Pupils must only use the school computer systems for those activities and services which they have been given permission to use and under the appropriate supervision of a member of staff.
- The internet will be used within school to support children's learning both formally (within taught lessons) and informally (outside taught lessons). Informal use is at the discretion of a member of staff who will set guidelines and rules for its use. Pupils will be taught to be critical and discriminating in their use of internet sites and to evaluate the effectiveness of the information they find online.
- Pupils must only use the user name and password they have been given. Pupils will be taught to respect the privacy of files of other users. They will be taught not to enter, or attempt to enter without permission, the file areas of other pupils or staff.
- Pupils should not download and use material or copy and paste content which is copyright. Most sites will allow the use of published materials for educational use. Teachers will give guidelines on how and when pupils should use information from the internet. No material from home should be used on systems in school unless the media it is on has been virus scanned.
- The Internet access provided in North Yorkshire Primary Schools is filtered to stop access to unsuitable material. As no filtering system can be 100% effective, it is important that parents are aware that users of the system are required to act responsibly. Under no circumstances should pupils attempt to search for, view, upload or download any material that is likely to be unsuitable for children or schools. Pupils have a responsibility to inform the member of staff supervising them if they have accidentally accessed inappropriate content.

- Pupils will be encouraged to maintain a balance between the use of electronic communication and face to face communication with their peers. Pupils will be taught about cyber-bullying and the importance of staying safe online.
- A few social network sites are now available which are appropriate and can benefit primary aged children. Parents should be aware that inappropriate sites are blocked within school and are not suitable for this age range due to the nature of the content. Pupils will be encouraged to discuss their use of social network sites with their parent(s)/guardians(s) /carer(s). Parents are asked to explain the importance to their child of these rules for the safe use of the Internet and to sign and return to the school the parental permission form. Failure to comply with these rules will result in one or more of the following :
 - A ban, temporary or permanent, on the use of the Internet at school.
 - A letter informing parents of the nature and breach of rules.
 - Appropriate sanctions and restrictions placed on future access to school facilities to be decided by the school.
- If you do not understand any part of this “Acceptable Use Policy”, parents should ask a member of staff for guidance. You should only sign the parental permission form when you have read, understood and have explained the importance of these rules to your son or daughter. Further advice is available on the school website.
- Parental Permission for Pupil use of Internet Facilities at School
- The Internet provides information and opportunities for communication and collaboration to support children’s learning. Appropriate behaviour is essential to develop and maintain use of communication tools that are beneficial to learning. As a result of the open and unregulated nature of the internet, there is some material that is unsuitable for viewing by children.
- Therefore, we have introduced procedures that should enable your son/daughter to use the internet facilities safely, responsibly and securely. We will make every effort to ensure that unsuitable material is not viewed by your son/daughter. A member of staff will monitor each session. Each member of staff and parents of each pupil using the internet must agree to the Acceptable Use Policy. This policy sets out the rules that must be adhered to, for the protection of all users.

The form below must be completed, signed and returned to the school for our records. Use of the internet and/or e-learning environment and/or e-mail service will be withheld unless this has been done.

I have read, understood and explained the Acceptable Use Policy to my child:

Pupil Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____ of
class _____

Name of Parent/Guardian/Carer (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian/Carer _____ Date _____