



Network and Internet Acceptable Use

Corfe Hills School is pleased to offer students access to email and the Internet. Whilst both have become part of everyday life, we feel it is appropriate to ask:

- students to sign an agreement about email and Internet use
- parents to give permission before we allocate an account

In this way we are recognising the responsibility that accompanies the opportunities provided. In general, this means making efficient, ethical and legal use of the resources. If a student violates any of these provisions, his or her future access could be denied. Should a parent prefer that a student not have e-mail and Internet access, use of the computers is still possible for other purposes such as word processing.

Whilst the school has selected an Internet provider which is designed to filter out any unsuitable material, families should be aware that some material accessible through the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. Despite this, we believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet in the form of learning resources significantly outweigh the disadvantages.

Terms and Conditions

- 1. Acceptable Use** - The use of the Internet using school computers must be in support of educational research and consistent with the educational objectives of Corfe Hills School. Transmission of any material in violation of any UK laws is prohibited. This includes copyrighted material and threatening or obscene materials. If a student is unsure whether or not a web-site should be used, s/he should check with a member of staff.
- 2. Privileges** - The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in access being withdrawn. A log of all Internet access and activity is monitored throughout the day by the technicians and misuse of the system can be identified and dealt with. Note that e-mail is not private. System operators have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- 3. Network Rules** - Students are expected to abide by the following rules:
 - a) Do not damage the computer or the network in any way
 - b) Do not view, send or display offensive text, messages or pictures
 - c) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Be polite. Do not be abusive in your messages to others
 - d) Illegal activities are strictly forbidden. Do not violate copyright laws
 - e) Do not reveal the address, phone number or any personal information about other students or staff
 - f) Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt its use by other users
 - g) Do not trespass in another person's folders, work or files
- 4. Social Networking** - Whilst the school believes in the value of collaborative online working and has set up the capability for students to blog or use discussion forums, students must not use their own social networking sites / pages for recreational use during the working day.
- 5. Security** - Security on any computer system is a high priority. Students must not use another person's account. If they find a security problem with the school's computer systems, they should tell a member of staff immediately so that this can be dealt with.
- 6. Vandalism** - Vandalism will result in an account being withdrawn. Vandalism is defined as any malicious or deliberate attempt to destroy computer hardware, software or to view, change, or harm another user's data. This includes the creation or uploading of viruses.