

Sperrin Integrated College
Parent/Guardian Guidance Notes
Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy



Sperrin Integrated College values the importance of ICT to aid both learning and teaching within the school. The school aims to provide pupils with access to computer based systems when required for educational purposes. With this, access to the internet is also available via the C2K network. C2K provides filtered access to all facilities of the internet.

During school teachers will guide pupils towards appropriate materials via our internet service provider which employs the relevant protection against access to inappropriate materials. However outside of school it is the parent/guardians responsibility for supervision of your child using the internet.

The school's Acceptable Use Policy has been drawn up to protect all parties: the pupils, the staff (teaching and non-teaching) and the school. It is recommended that you read this document with your child so you have an agreed understanding of what is permitted while using the internet in Sperrin Integrated College and also the sanctions for failure to comply with the rules set out in this policy.

- ***All pupils must sign the Internet Responsibility Contract and return to the school.***
- ***Access will only be made available to those pupils who have signed the Internet Responsibility Contract.***

Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy

To achieve the most success from the use of our ICT systems staff will provide the following for pupils:

- Lessons on how to use the Internet in a positive and safe manner.
- Ensure all Internet activity is appropriate to the student's education.
- Activity that threatens the integrity of the school ICT systems, or activity that attacks or corrupts other systems, is forbidden and so will be dealt with accordingly.
- Copyright of materials must be respected.
- Use of the network or Internet to access, copy or print inappropriate materials such as pornographic, racist or offensive material is strictly forbidden and will be dealt with immediately.

Pupils are responsible for good behaviour on the Internet just as they are in the classroom. General school rules apply. In addition, a number of rules relating to use of the Internet also apply.

Sperrin Integrated College implements a filtered Internet and e-mail service provided by C2K (NI managed service). This email service is provided to all Key Stages.

Students at Sperrin must know and understand that no Internet user is permitted to:

- Create, retrieve, send, copy or display offensive messages or pictures.
- Use obscene or racist language.
- Harass, insult or attack others.
- Damage computers, computer systems or computer networks.
- Violate copyright laws.
- Use another user's password.
- Trespass in another user's folder, work or files.
- Intentionally waste resources (such as on-line time and consumables)
- Access websites that are blocked through the C2K filtering service.

The school reserves the right to examine or delete any files that may be held on its computer system and to monitor any Internet sites visited.

Violation of the Internet Responsibility Contract will be deemed as gross misconduct and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Examples of Acceptable and Unacceptable Use

On-line activities, which are encouraged, include, for example:

- The use of email and computer conferencing for communication between colleagues, between pupil(s) and teacher(s), between pupil(s) and pupil(s), between schools and industry.
- Use of the Internet to investigate and research school subjects, cross-curricular themes and topics related to social and personal development.
- Use of the Internet to investigate careers and Further and Higher Education.
- The development of pupils' competence in ICT skills and their general research skills.
- Access to the school VLE – My School and Fronter.
- Access to Google Classroom or other requested learning environment.

On-line activities, which are not permitted, include, for example:

- Searching, viewing and/or retrieving materials that are not related to the aims of the curriculum or future careers.
- Copying, saving and/or redistributing copyright protected material, without approval.
- Subscribing to any services or ordering any goods or services, unless specifically approved by the school.
- Playing computer games or using interactive 'chat' sites, unless specifically assigned by the teacher.
- Publishing, sharing or distributing any personal information (such as: home address; email address; phone number, etc).
- Using or sending bad, threatening language which may incite hatred against ethnic, religious or other minorities.
- Attempting to search for or gain access to inappropriate material.
- Accessing social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and any other non-educational page.
- Any activity that violates a school rule.

Unacceptable on-line behaviour has an off-line consequence.

Mobile Phone Policy

For child protection purposes it is strictly forbidden to use the photographic facility on a mobile phone while on the school premises.

Due to the advances in technology mobile phones now have both photographic and recording facilities which can cause a serious threat to child protection. Sperrin Integrated College is keen to ensure that the use of these devices will not risk the procedures of these policies and so requires all students to adhere to the following regulations:

- Pupils must switch off their phones on entering the school grounds in the morning.
- Phones must be kept in the inside blazer pocket throughout the school day.
- If for any reason a pupil needs to contact home, they may speak to their Form Teacher or Head of Year and arrangements will be made with office staff.
- If parents wish to contact their child please do not hesitate to contact the school office and leave a message which will be conveyed to the pupil.
- If a pupil is caught using their mobile phone during the school day anywhere in the building or grounds it will be confiscated and the parent/guardian will be asked to collect it from the school office.

These actions are designed in the best interest of your child's safety and the safety of other pupils

Sanctions:

Violation of any of the above regulations from both the Acceptable Use of the Internet and Mobile Phone policies may result in one of the following sanction:

- Immediate confiscation of device.
- Temporary or permanent ban on the use of the internet and electronic mail.
- Additional disciplinary action keeping in line with the schools Child Protection and/or Anti-Bullying Policy.
- If applicable, Police or local authorities may need to be contacted.

Please complete the attached 'Internet Responsibility Contract', signed by both pupil and parent/guardian and return to the school office.

Internet and Mobile Phone Responsibility Contract

I wish to register as a user of Sperrin IC Computer Network and Internet facility.

Yes

No

I undertake to ensure that I will only make such use of the facility as is consistent with the school's aims for use with the Internet.

Yes

No

I have read, understand and will abide by the School's Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy that details the use of the school's facility.

Yes

No

I have read, understand and will abide by the School's Mobile Phone Policy.

Yes

No

I understand that violations of these guidelines may constitute a criminal offence. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action taken and/or appropriate legal action pursued.

Yes

No

Name of pupil:..... Form Class:.....

(please print)

Signed:.....(Parent/Guardian)

Date:.....

Please return this sheet to the School Office