

**ST FINBARR'S BOYS' NATIONAL
SCHOOL**

**Internet acceptable use
POLICY**

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to ensure that pupils will benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's Internet and technology resources in a safe and effective manner. If the school AUP is not adhered to, access to technology will be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions – as outlined in the AUP – will be imposed.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.

Broadband access is available to pupils on the Schools Broadband scheme. Access is restricted to the agreed level the NCTE.

Pupil use of telecommunication and electronic information will only be permitted upon submission of agreement forms by parents of pupils and pupils themselves.

SCHOOL'S STRATEGY

The school will employ a number of strategies in order to maximize learning opportunities and reduce risks associated with the Internet. These strategies are as follows:

Safety and Security Measures taken by the school:

- ◆ Broadband is provided by the Department of Education and Skills (NCTE)
- ◆ A Broadband secure Firewall is in place to protect our network.
- ◆ www.scoilnet.ie a website designed to assist schools to access information and resources relevant to the Primary School Curriculum is set as the homepage on all desktop computers. All information and resources available through scoilnet are checked by the National Centre for Technology in Education (N.C.T.E.)
- ◆ Pupils and teachers will be provided with ongoing training in the area of Internet safety.
- ◆ The school will regularly monitor pupils' Internet usage.
Pupils will be instructed regarding the dangers of the Internet and taught appropriate behaviour regarding personal data; and are advised to exit and report to their teacher in the unlikely event of anything unsuitable appearing on screen.

PUPIL RESPONSIBILITIES

- ◆ Pupils are responsible for good behaviour on the Internet just as they are in the classroom or on a school corridor. General school rules apply.
- ◆ Access is a privilege, not a right and that access requires responsibility.
- ◆ You must get the teacher's permission to print or download any text, images or other data from the Internet.
- ◆ Never give out personal information such as home address or telephone number of yourself or anyone else.
- ◆ Be familiar with these rules and how to use the Internet before going online. If you have any questions about these rules, please ask your teacher so you can understand.

- ◆ If any of these rules are broken, it will result in a temporary or permanent ban on Internet and/or computer use.
- ◆ The use of personal floppy discs, CD-ROMs or USB sticks in school is not allowed.
- ◆ Pupils 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.

In the unlikely event of anything undesirable coming on screen the pupils are instructed to close the screen immediately and report it to the teacher.

World Wide Web

- ◆ Pupils will use the Internet for educational purposes only
- ◆ Pupils will visit only internet sites which have been previewed by the teacher
- ◆ Pupils will be familiar with copyright issues relating to the Internet
- ◆ Pupils will never disclose or publicise personal information about themselves or anybody else.
- ◆ Pupils 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.
- ◆ Pupils access information through the Irish portal. www.scoilnet.ie which filters material suitable for pupils.
- ◆ Pupils may only use the following search engine which has been designed for pupils with Internet safety in mind.
 - ◆ www.google.ie (in safe search mode)

iPads

- Each pupils is responsible for the safety of his own iPad.
- Each pupil may only use his own iPad.
- iPads must be in a protective cover with screen protection.
- All content on the iPad must be age appropriate and acceptable to school use.
- Only agreed apps may be downloaded on each iPad. The school provides an initial set up of the iPad at no extra costs to the parents. iPad must remain logged in to School Apple ID. Logging out will lead to removal from the school system.
- The parents are responsible for the insuring of the iPad against loss or damage as the school Insurance Policy does not include the personal property of pupils.
- Pupils are responsible for charging their iPads at home and bring only the iPad in its secure case to school. iPads cannot be used in school without a protective case.
- School Rules apply to the use and content of iPads while in school.
- Parents have the responsibility of ensuring the safe and responsible use of the iPad outside school.
- The school will provide information and support to families in the setting up of family rules around the use and access to technology in the home.
- If a student breaks these rules, his device will be removed from the school network and in serious situations will not be allowed to bring his iPad to school

Inappropriate use of ID will lead to -

- Warning Level – removal for 1 week
- Yellow flag – removal for 1 month
- Red level - removal for the year

Support Structures

Internet Safety advice is available for parents and pupils at www.webwise.ie and www.scoiinnnet.ie

Sanctions

Misuse of the Internet/broadband may result in disciplinary action including:

- ◆ Verbal warning
- ◆ Note to parents
- ◆ Withdrawal of access privileges – short-term/long-term.
- ◆ Any illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management of St Finbarr's Boys' National School on November 14th 2013.

MONITORING/EVALUATION/REVIEW

- It will be reviewed and updated regularly, taking into consideration implementation issues that may arise.

This policy was first drawn up on 19/04/05 and reviewed and updated on

- *17th June 2008*
- *January 2013*
- *November 2013*