INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USAGE GUIDELINES – STUDENTS

Benefits

1. Access to services provided through the Internet will enable students at Mount Isa Central State School to access information from alternative sources and provide information to the public regarding the school.
2. The internet provides both information sources and communication with other students or experts. For a work task you have to perform you may find information on how to do it, materials that help you to do it, and discussions taking place with others whom are doing it.
3. Students can also use the Internet collaborative learning projects to provide an audience for creative works and as a platform for learning research skills
4. The information provided through the Internet can be the most up to date and relevant available in some areas.

Risks

1. Unlike the information in a good encyclopaedia, the information on the Internet is not well selected, nor well organised
2. The information provided may sometimes be illegal, dangerous or offensive. Issues of sexual harassment and copyright violation can arise from the use of material available on the Internet without appropriate warnings.
3. Time can easily be wasted both by fruitless searches and by distractions from what you are doing.
4. Privacy is not assured in the use of Internet services. Internet electronic mail can be intercepted and read by complete strangers. Other users of your computer, teachers, and staff at the web server provider can all find out what information you have accessed from the World Wide Web.
5. Delivery of Internet electronic mail cannot be guaranteed. A proportion is delayed, misdelivered or destroyed.
6. Programs and application files (such as word processing documents) arriving through the Internet could carry computer viruses. **Before viewing any e-mail or files from the Internet they must be scanned using the Symantec Anti-virus software provided.**
7. Computer and network resources can be slowed or stopped by users receiving very large files or large numbers of files. Students are **not, under any circumstances, to down load files from the Internet.**

Responsibilities of Users

1. Internet access is being provided to students for educational purposes. Private usage should be arranged elsewhere.
2. It is important for users to:
    a) Focus on the task at hand to avoid wasting time and other resources by becoming distracted by the wide variety of materials available;
    b) Avoid inappropriate content, especially material that is illegal, dangerous or offensive; and
    c) Be courteous in their communications with others. Without voice or body language cues, words that might be meant to be taken light-heartedly may give offence in text.

3. Users should:
    a) Regard any mail sent to an Internet electronic mail address as potentially a public document, even if it has been sent from a secure electronic mail service; and
    b) Remember that their Internet usage impacts upon others sharing the resource. For example, sending or retrieving large files, or large numbers of files, restricts the access of others. Send electronic mail only to people who really require it and ignore any e-mail which requests that you send it to as many people as possible.
    c) Only use the provide web-mail email service, that is MIS (Managed Internet Services).
    d) Use appropriate e-mail etiquette when using the provided e-mail service.

INTERNET ACCESS AGREEMENT STUDENT

I understand that the Internet can connect me to much useful information on computers around the world.

While I have access to the Internet:

I will use it only for educational purposes.

I will only use the e-mail service provided by Education Queensland and no other on-line e-mail service.

I will use appropriate e-mail etiquette when using the e-mail service provided by Education Queensland.

I will not look for anything that is illegal, dangerous or offensive, I will
   a)   Clear any offensive pictures or information from my screen; and
   b)   Immediately, quietly, inform my teacher.

I will not reveal home addresses, email addresses or phone numbers – mine or anyone else's.

I will not use the Internet to annoy or offend anyone else.

I understand that if the school decides I have broken these rules, appropriate action will taken. This may include loss of my Internet access for some time.

_____ (Student's name)

_____ (Student's signature)

_____ (Date)

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

I understand that the Internet can provide students with valuable learning experiences.

I also understand that it gives access to information on computers around the world; that the school cannot control what is on those computers; and that a very small part of that information can be illegal, dangerous or offensive.

I accept that, while teachers will always exercise their duty of care, protection against exposure to harmful information should depend finally upon responsible use by students.

I give _____ (name of student) permission to access the Internet under the school rules.

_____   (Parent or guardian's name)

_____ (Parent or guardian's signature)

_____   (Date)