



## Scoil Mhuire, Cloonanaha

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### Acceptable Use Policy for Internet Usage

#### Introduction.

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy is to ensure that pupils will benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege. Therefore, if our Acceptable Use Policy is not adhered to this privilege will be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions as outlined will be imposed.

It is envisaged that school and Board of Management Representatives will revise this policy in line with departmental directives. This policy should be read carefully to indicate that the conditions of use are accepted and understood.

This version of Acceptable Use Policy was created in November, 2006.

By  
The Staff of Cloonanaha N.S.

#### School Strategy:

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

#### General:

- . Internet usage will always be supervised by a teacher.
- . Filtering systems will be used in order to minimise the risk of exposure to inappropriate material.
- . The school will regularly monitor pupil's internet safety.

- . Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted.
- . Virus protection software will be used and updated on a regular basis.
- . Pupils will observe good “netiquette” (etiquette on the internet) at all times and will not undertake any actions that may bring the school into disrepute.

### **World Wide Web:**

#### **Pupils:**

- . Pupils will not visit internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.
- . Pupils will use the Internet for educational purposes only.
- . Pupils will be familiar with copyright issues relating online learning.
- . Pupils will never disclose or publicise personal information.
- . Pupils will be aware that any usage, including distributing or receiving information may be monitored for unusual activity, security or networking management reasons

### **E-mail:**

- . Pupils will use only approved class e-mail accounts under supervision and with permission from a teacher.
- . Pupils will not send or receive material that is illegal, obscene, defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.
- . Pupils will not reveal their own or other pupil's personal details, such as addresses, telephone numbers or pictures.
- . Pupils will never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone.
- . Pupils will note that sending and receiving e-mail attachments is subject to permission from their teacher.

### **Legislation:**

Teachers, students and parents should familiarise themselves with:

- . Child trafficking Pornography Bill 1997.
- . 1993 Interception Act.
- . Video Recordings Act 1989.
- . The Data Protection Act 1988.

**Santions:**

Misuse of the Internet may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access and privileges. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

**Roles and Responsibilities.**

The School Safety Officer is Alan Foudy.  
School Safety Representative is Sean O Grady.

Action considered appropriate by the Board of Management will be taken – advice, support and referral to the relevant agencies, namely Gardai Siochana and Mid-West Health Board Personnel.

**Success and Monitoring.**

The policy is being implemented through the SPHE programme since October 2002. It is being revised and updated at present.

The teaching staff will monitor the efficacy of the policy taking into account the responses of the wider school community.

On-going review and evaluation will take cognisance of changing information, legislation, developments in the school-based programme and feedback from parents/guardians, teachers and students.

Mary Crawford  
**Chairperson**

**Review Date:** 09/12/20

Signed: .....  
Mary Crawford (Chairperson)