The Blyth School
Community College

Student Internet, Network and Laptop – Acceptable Use Policy

As part of The Blyth School, Community College's commitment to education, students are required to use computers, the network and the Internet. Students are required to be responsible for their own computer use. As part of our commitment to providing a safe learning environment, we provide a filter service to try and prevent any unsuitable material appearing on the school computers. Using these methods, we are as safe as we could possibly be. To ensure that this safety is not compromised:

You should:

- ✓ Use the computers to enhance your own learning;
- ✓ Treat the ICT equipment with care;
- ✓ Use your time on the computers effectively;
- ✓ Use ICT to capture your imagination;
- ✓ Keep your password safe and report any password that is compromised;
- ✓ Only store coursework / classwork in your user area.

You should NOT:

- Access or try to access chatrooms, forums, messaging, pornography social networking or gambling sites;
- Access or try to access any illegal material;
- Download non-coursework/classwork files without permission;
- Actively bypass school security measures including the use of proxy bypass websites;
- Use or amend images or text that may cause distress or offense;
- Bring material into school that has not been virus checked;
- Use any ICT equipment to harass, bully, abuse or otherwise distress any individual inside or outside school;
- Use VLE/email to share/distribute files or information that is illegal, pornographic or may cause offense or distress;
- Plug in or unplug any computer cables or accessories at any time including MP3 players and mobiles phones;
- Log into the network / internet / VLE / email with a user name or password that is not your own;
- Use another persons account at any time;
- Store files on your user area that are not related to classwork or coursework;
- Use ICT equipment / Internet for recreational use without permission from a member of staff;
- Use material for classwork / coursework without permission from the copyright holder / owner;
- Use ICT equipment for fraudulent purposes;
- Use images or information on weapons or drugs at any time unless specifically for coursework/classwork;
- Use ICT equipment to buy goods online;
- Deliberately damage the computer equipment or use the network in a manner that will prevent other using it.

You should be aware that:

- ✓ We will check your user area regularly to ensure correct and appropriate usage;
- ✓ You have a responsibility to use the facilities in an appropriate manner;
- ✓ You are totally responsible for your own user space AND any unsuitable material found in your user area is your responsibility;
- ✓ Any material in your user area that is not coursework / classwork can be deleted at any time

Consequences of violations:

- ✓ Violations of the above rules will result in a temporary or permanent ban of Internet and/or network;
- ✓ Additional disciplinary action may be added in line with existing practice on inappropriate behaviour;
- ✓ When applicable parent / carer, police or local authorities may be involved.

Reporting of violations:

- ✓ ALL violations witnessed should be discussed with Year Team Leader;
- ✓ Students are required to sign and abide by this Acceptable Use Policy
- ✓ Students in violation of Internet or network rules will be required to read, sign and abide by a contract of use BEFORE being given access again;

This policy may be updated during your time in school.

Please sign and return to your child's form tutor.

I support the school in the actions they are taking to provide safe network / internet access

	Please sign	Please print name	Date
Parent / Carer	_____	_____	_____

I agree to abide by the rules set out in this Acceptable Use Policy

	Please sign	Please print name	Date
Student	_____	_____	_____