

Dear parent / responsible person

Our school provides access to online services provided by the Department of Education. These increase the range of teaching tools available to staff and enhance the learning opportunities available to students.

I am writing to you to seek approval for your child to be given access to these online services. This will involve the school using the student's full name, preferred name, class and year to access their unique online services account.

The Department's online services currently provide:

- individual email accounts for all students and staff;
- access to the Internet, with all reasonable care taken by schools to monitor and control students' access to web sites while at school;
- access to the online teaching and learning services such as web-conferencing, digital resources and online learning activities;
- access to online file storage and sharing services; and
- access to Portal services from home if the home computer is connected to the Internet.

If you agree to your child using these online services, please complete the permission slip attached to this letter and have your child sign the Acceptable Usage Agreement form. Please go through and explain all of the dot points in the Acceptable Usage Agreement to ensure that your child understands the content before the permission slip is signed. Both signed documents should be returned to school so that an online services account can be verified for your child.

Please note that while every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content when using Department provided online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure.

You should be aware that the Department has the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose messages created, received or sent over Department online services. Logs of email transactions and Internet access data are kept for administrative, legal and security purposes and may be monitored. Similar to other corporate records, emails and Internet access records are discoverable in the event of legal action and are subject to provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.

You should also be aware that general Internet browsing not conducted via the Department's network is **not** monitored or filtered by the Department. The Department encourages close family supervision of all Internet use by children in locations other than school, and strongly recommends the use of appropriate Internet filtering software.

In addition to the Acceptable Usage requirements, we have updated the attached Media Consent form to align with the Department's *Students Online in Public Schools Guidelines* and ask that this form also be completed and returned. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely



Robyn Crump
Principal

Online Rules: Year 3 – Year 6 (Please complete and return to front office)

If you use the online services of the Department of Education you must agree to the following rules:

- I will use the school computer only with the permission of a teacher.
- I will follow all instructions from teachers when using school computers.
- I will not let anybody else know my password.
- I will not let others logon and/ or use my online services account unless it is with the teacher's permission.
- I will not access other people's online services accounts.
- I know that I am responsible for anything that happens when my online services account is used.
- I will tell my teacher if I think someone is using my online services account.
- I know that the school and the Department of Education may see anything I send or receive using email or online file storage services.
- I will make sure that any email that I send or any work that I wish to have published is polite, carefully written, well presented and is not harmful to other students (i.e. it does not contain material that is pornographic, racist, sexist, inflammatory, hateful, obscene or abusive nature or which promotes illegal activities or violence).
- If I use other people's work (including items taken from the Internet) as part of my own research and study I will always acknowledge them.
- I will obtain permission from the copyright owner for the use of their works if I included them as part of a portfolio for employment, entry for a competition or any other uses other than for private research and study.
- If I find any information that is inappropriate or makes me feel uncomfortable I will tell a teacher about it. Examples of inappropriate content include violent, racist, sexist, or pornographic materials, or content that is offensive, disturbing or intimidating or that encourages dangerous or illegal activity.
- I will not reveal personal information, including names, addresses, photographs, credit card details and telephone numbers of myself or others.
- I will not damage or disable the computers, computer systems or computer networks of the school, the Department of Education or any other organisation.
- I will be mindful of the possible problems caused by sharing or transmitting large files online, and for sharing other people's copyright online e.g. music and video files.

I understand that

- I will be held responsible for my actions while using online services and for any breaches caused by allowing any other person to use my online services account;
- the misuse of online services may result in the withdrawal of access to services and other consequences outlined in the School's policy; and
- I may be held liable for offences committed using online services.

I agree to abide by the *Acceptable Usage Agreement* for school students. I understand that if I am given an online service account and break any of the rules in the agreement that the principal may take disciplinary action in accordance with the Department's *Student Behaviour in Public Schools Policy and Procedures*.

Name of student: _____ Year / Room: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office use only: Date processed: / /

Processed by (initials):