

**Sunnybank Primary School**

The Internet

Guidelines for Parents

# Sunnybank Primary School

## The Internet - Guidelines for Parents

This document sets out the benefits, issues and responsibilities associated with student Internet access. Questions regarding the agreement can be directed to the Managed Internet Services Administrator, Mrs Barbara McDade

---

### **Benefits - Why use the Internet?**

Access to services provided through the Internet will enable Sunnybank Primary School to enhance teaching and learning, to support its staff in carrying out their duties, and provide another medium for supplying information to the public.

The Internet provides both information sources and communication with peers or experts. Staff and students may find information, and engage in discussions with others as part of educational activities.

Teachers and students can also use internet-based collaborative learning projects to provide an audience for creative works and as a platform for learning higher order thinking and process skills.

The information provided through the Internet can be the most up to date and relevant available in some areas.

### **Issues - Where do we need to be careful?**

**Organisation** - Unlike the information in a good encyclopaedia, the information on the Internet is not well selected, nor well organised. Time can be wasted both by fruitless searches and by distractions from the task at hand, so we need to make sure student use is well directed and that they get help finding what they need.

**Appropriateness** - A small proportion of the information may be illegal, dangerous or offensive. Inappropriate use of the Internet could leave us open to legal action for breach of copyright, harassment or other issues. We need to have clear guidelines for students, and effective protective measures.

**Protection** - Privacy is not assured in the use of Internet services. Internet traffic can be intercepted and read by both system staff and complete strangers alike. Students need to understand this, and to learn protective behaviours.

**Viruses** - Programs and application files (such as word processing documents) arriving through the Internet often carry computer viruses. We need to protect ourselves with antivirus software and preventative practices.

**Waste** - Computer and network resources can be slowed or stopped by users receiving very large files or large numbers of files. We need clear rules and guidelines for limiting this.

## Responsibilities of Students

**Organisation** - We give students access to the Internet for learning. They need to stay on the task their teacher gives them. Students should make good use of instructions, directions sheets and other resources so they don't waste time.

**Appropriateness** - Students should stay away from material that is illegal, dangerous or offensive. They should be polite in all writing. They should follow the guidelines the teacher gives them about good manners on the Internet.

**Protection** - Even though students might have a password, other people can sometimes see what they publish. Some of those people may be strangers. Students must not give personal details of any person over the Internet or publish anything that is rude or inappropriate. They have guidelines to follow if they come across unsafe material on the Internet.

**Viruses** - There are two ways machines can get infected. One is by running programs and the other is by opening infected attachments. Students may not open any attachment without the approval of their teacher. Students may not run any software except that owned and installed by the school.

**Waste** - The school has to pay for everything students look at on the Internet, so they shouldn't waste resources by sending or downloading large files.

## Responsibilities of the School

**Organisation** - Internet access will be part of deliberate learning activities, rather than free time activity. Teachers will provide support for students with resources such as address lists, search keywords, webquests and hotlists.

**Appropriateness** - All student accounts are filtered through Education Queensland's management software. Anything that escapes this process is reported for inclusion in the filter list. Teachers are provided with guidelines to teach their students about good manners on the Internet and how to behave should they encounter inappropriate material. The school believes it is important for students to learn how to view online resources critically and responsibly. This cannot be achieved by denying student's access to the Internet.

**Protection** - Students are required to respect copyright and intellectual property in their use of online resources. Teachers are provided with guidelines to teach students about the public nature of Internet communication and how to use protective online behaviours.

**Viruses** - The school will protect its resources by employing antivirus software. Teachers are provided with guidelines to teach their students rules regarding downloading files and opening attachments.

**Waste** - Download limits may be applied to individual and group accounts. Individual students who download large files will be considered to have breached the access agreement and may have their access suspended.

## Some Internet Safety Contacts:

### General Internet Safety Help:

NetAlert

Email: [enquiries@netalert.net.au](mailto:enquiries@netalert.net.au)

Web: [www.netalert.net.au/help](http://www.netalert.net.au/help)

Phone: Free Call 1800 800 176 (NetAlert Helpline)

### Inappropriate or illegal content on a web page:

Australian Broadcasting Authority

Email: [online@aba.gov.au](mailto:online@aba.gov.au)

Web: [www.aba.gov.au/internet/complaints/complaints.htm](http://www.aba.gov.au/internet/complaints/complaints.htm)

Phone: Free Call 1800 226 667 (ABA's Complaints Hotline)

### Reporting spam mail:

Australian Communications Authority

Email: [reportingspam@aca.gov.au](mailto:reportingspam@aca.gov.au)

Web: [www.aca.gov.au/consumer\\_infor/spam](http://www.aca.gov.au/consumer_infor/spam)

Phone: 02 6219 5555

### Criminal activity or online scam:

Contact 1: Your Local Federal Police Department

Contact 2: Criminal Investigation Bureau

Contact 3: Australian High Tech Crime Centre

Email: [onlinereport@ahfcc.gov.au](mailto:onlinereport@ahfcc.gov.au)

Web: [www.ahfcc.gov.au/report\\_crime.htm](http://www.ahfcc.gov.au/report_crime.htm)

Phone: Free Call 1800 333 000

From: Australian Government. NetAlert Limited

The document used in the development of the Parent Guidelines was:

Waterford State School: The Internet – Guidelines for Parents