

STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERS AND ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL NETWORK, INTERNET, INTRANET AND EXTRANET

INTRODUCTION

One of the major focus areas at Pimlico State High School is teaching students how to use computers to assist them in their studies. Through the curriculum, the school aims to provide all students with computer skills that will assist them in being highly employable, skilled citizens. If students are to have access to this equipment, particularly if they are to obtain access to the internet, they must be prepared to follow school guidelines.

USING THE INTERNET

Access to the internet enables students to explore libraries, databases and bulletin boards and exchange messages throughout the world. The school believes that the benefits for students accessing this information, and the opportunities for collaboration the internet provides, exceed the disadvantages. However, it is the parent's right to set standards and convey these to their own child by giving or refusing their child permission to use the internet. Parents need to be aware that their son/daughter will have access to unseen electronic information which may not have been screened for student use. This school cannot control all of the information found on the internet, or people's actions or the quality and content of information available. We trust our students and staff to know what an appropriate use of the internet is. If a student does not follow the school's guidelines, his/her privilege of using the school's computer equipment will be withdrawn.

USING EMAIL

As part of the student's enrolment at the school, each student will be given an email account. The purpose of this account is to provide students with the ability to work on school files at home, if they wish. This account is monitored by school staff and Education Queensland officers and is not to be used for personal purposes. Inappropriate use of this account will result in the student losing access to it.

CONDITIONS

In order for students to gain access to the computer equipment the school, and/or to obtain access to the school network or to the internet, and to be given an email account, students and their parents/guardian must agree to the following conditions:

Acceptable Use

- The student will use the school's computers only for curriculum-related purposes. Commercial (for profit) or frivolous (game playing) use is not permitted;
- The student will not create or distribute any images, sounds, messages or other material which are obscene, harassing, racist, inflammatory, malicious, fraudulent or libellous. The student will not use the equipment for any activity that may be considered unethical, immoral or illegal.
- System components of the computer, including hardware and software, shall not be destroyed, modified or abused in any way;
- Use of the computers to access, store or distribute obscene or pornographic material, is prohibited;
- Subscriptions to mailing lists, bulletin boards, chat groups and commercial on-line services, must be approved by the student's teacher. Costs incurred for the unauthorised use of commercial services on the internet, will be borne by the student, or for those under 18, his/her parent/guardian.
- Students will not download, email or store executable files (.exe) or zip files on the school's computer network.

Security of Computer Equipment and Software

- The student must not attempt to gain unauthorised access to any computer system, network, data, resources, programs or system privileges;
- The student will not attempt to find or exploit any gaps in computer security. If the user notices any security weaknesses or suspects anyone tampering with system security, he/she must notify the teacher immediately;
- The student will not intentionally seek information about, browse, obtain copies, delete or modify files, passwords or data belonging to other people;
- If the student is using computers attached to the school's computer network, he/she must use their own account, which is given to the student by the school. Students are not to share their login name or password with other students. Students are responsible for all activity under their account name;
- The student is not to encrypt files. School officials may view student files and communications.

Personal Security Issues

- Personal information such as a student's address and phone number should remain confidential when communicating on the Internet. Students should never reveal such information;
- The student will not make appointments to meet people in person who have been contacted on the Internet without permission from parents;
- The student will notify his/her teacher whenever they come across information or messages that are dangerous, inappropriate or make them feel uncomfortable.

Workplace Health and Safety

- Students should never attempt to repair or fix computer equipment. If a problem occurs, students should notify their teachers immediately.

Copyright

- The unauthorised installation, use, storage or distribution of copyrighted software or materials on school computers, is prohibited.

