Dear Parent/Caregiver,

The measures to ensure the cyber-safety of students in every school are based on our core values. To assist us to enhance learning through the safe use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), we are now asking you to read this document and sign the attached Use Agreement Form.

Rigorous cyber-safety practices are in place, which include cyber-safety Use Agreements for staff and students, who have been involved in the development of the agreement. Child protection education, such as the Keeping Safe child protection curriculum, includes information about remaining safe when using new technologies and is provided to all students.

The computer network, Internet access facilities, computers and other ICT equipment/devices bring great benefits to the teaching and learning programs at every school, and to the effective operation of the school. The ICT equipment is for educational purposes appropriate to this environment, whether it is owned or leased either partially or wholly by the school, and used on or off the site.

The overall goal of every school is to create and maintain a cyber-safety culture that is in keeping with our values and with legislative and professional obligations. The Use Agreement includes information about your obligations, responsibilities, and the nature of possible consequences associated with cyber-safety breaches that undermine the safety of the school environment.

All students will be issued with a Use Agreement and once signed consent has been returned to school, students will be able to use the school ICT equipment.

Material sent and received using the network may be monitored, and filtering and/or monitoring software may be used to restrict access to certain sites and data, including e-mail. Where a student is suspected of an electronic crime, this will be reported to the South Australia Police. Where a personal electronic device such as a mobile phone is used to capture images of a crime, such as an assault, the device will be confiscated and handed to the police.

While every reasonable effort is made by schools and DECS administrators to prevent children’s exposure to inappropriate content when using the department’s online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure. In particular, DECS cannot filter Internet content accessed by your child from home, from other locations away from school or on mobile devices owned by your child. DECS recommends the use of appropriate Internet filtering software.


Please contact the Principal, if you have any concerns about your child’s safety in using the Internet and ICT equipment/devices.

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**Important terms:**

- **‘Cyber-safety’** refers to the safe use of the Internet and ICT equipment/devices, including mobile phones.
- **‘Cyber bullying’** is bullying which uses e-technology as a means of victimising others. It is the use of an Internet service or mobile technologies such as e-mail, chat room discussion groups, instant messaging, webpages or SMS (text messaging) - with the intention of harming another person.
- **‘School and preschool ICT’** refers to the school’s or preschool’s computer network, Internet access facilities, computers, and other ICT equipment/devices as outlined below.
- **‘ICT equipment/devices’** includes computers (such as desktops, laptops, PDAs), storage devices (such as USB and flash memory devices, CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, iPods, MP3 players), cameras (such as video and digital cameras and webcams), all types of mobile phones, gaming consoles, video and audio players/receivers (such as portable CD and DVD players), and any other, similar, technologies.
- **‘Inappropriate material’** means material that deals with matters such as sex, cruelty or violence in a manner that is likely to be injurious to children or incompatible with a school or preschool environment.
- **‘E-crime’** occurs when computers or other electronic communication equipment/devices (eg Internet, mobile phones) are used to commit an offence, are targeted in an offence, or act as storage devices in an offence.

Source: www.decs.sa.gov.au