

OPIHI COLLEGE



ICT Responsible Use Agreement for Students

When using information & communications technologies (ICT) at Opihi College I will always be a good digital citizen.

This means that I:

Will be a confident and capable user of ICT. I know what I do and do not understand about the technologies that I use. I will get help where I need it.

Will use ICT for learning as well as other activities. I understand that technology can help me to learn. I also know it can also be used to talk to people, to buy and sell things and to have my opinion heard. I know when and where it is OK to do each one.

Will think carefully about whether the information I see online is true. I know that it is easy to put information online. This means that what I see is not always right. I will always check to make sure information is real before I use it.

Will be able to speak the language of digital technologies. When people talk online the things they say can be quite different from a conversation they might have if they were sitting next to each other. I know that I must try to understand what people are saying before I react to them. If I am not sure, I can ask them or someone else to explain.

Understand that I may experience problems when I use technology but that I will learn to deal with them. I understand that there will be times when technology may not work as I expected it to, or that people may be mean or unkind to me online. When these things happen, I know that there are ways I can deal with it. I also know there are people I can go to, to get help if I don't know what to do next.

Will always use ICT to communicate with others in positive, meaningful ways. I will always talk politely and with respect to people online. I know that it is possible to bully or hurt people with what I say and do on the internet. I will think about the effect that my actions have on other people.

Will be honest and fair in all of my actions using ICT. I will never do anything online that I know will hurt anyone. I will make sure what I do is not against the law. I will make sure that my actions don't break the rules of the websites that I use. When I am not sure about what I am doing I will ask for help.

Will always respect people's privacy and freedom of speech online. I understand that some information is private. I will be careful when using full names, birthdays, addresses and photos of other people and of my own. I also know that I will not always agree with what people say online but that does not mean that I can stop them or use it as an excuse to be unkind to them.

Will set aside digital devices when required to by teachers or my peers. I understand that some activities have the best learning outcomes when I am not using a digital device and will set the device aside when asked, without negotiation or argument. If my digital device becomes a distraction to me, or the people around me I understand that I may be asked to surrender it until my parents collect it from school (it will be turned off when surrendered and secured in the office safe).

Will keep my user account private. Your user accounts is provided exclusively for your use. You are responsible for all the activity that is associated with your account. Please don't share your account details with anyone. To help maintain the security of your account please use a strong password. If you suspect that your account details are known by someone else, then please let the school know.

Will help other to become a better digital citizen. Being a good digital citizen is something that we all have to work at. If I know that my friends are having problems online, I will try to help them. If I see that someone is being unfairly treated online then I will speak up rather than just watch it happen.

Responsibilities of the School

In the interest of maintaining a safe environment, the school reserves the right to conduct an audit of its computer network, internet access facilities, computers and other school ICT equipment. This may include any stored content, and all aspects of its use, including email. For this purpose, any electronic data or files created or modified on behalf of the school on any ICT device, regardless of who owns it, is the property of the school.

The school may monitor traffic and material sent and received using the school's ICT infrastructures.

Opihi College believes that ICT is an integral part of teaching and learning, but is aware that when using it we may experience challenges from time to time. To this end the school may deploy filtering and/or monitoring software where appropriate to restrict access to certain sites and data. Filtering should enhance the teaching and learning process rather than restrict it. In situations where this is not the case, you should inform the school rather than attempting to circumvent filtering or monitoring systems.

Breaches of this Agreement

A breach of this agreement may constitute a breach of discipline and may result in a finding of serious misconduct. A serious breach of discipline would include involvement with objectionable material, activities such as abuse or harassment or misuse of the school ICT in a manner that could be harmful to the safety of staff or students or call into question the user's suitability to be in a school environment. If there is a suspected breach of this agreement involving privately-owned or school-owned ICT on the school site or at a school-related activity, the matter may be investigated by the school. The school may request permission to audit that equipment/device(s) as part of its investigation. In addition to any inquiry undertaken by the school itself, it may be necessary to notify an applicable law enforcement agency at the commencement, during or after our investigation.

Student Declaration

I understand that these guidelines for responsible use are to be followed when using any technology whilst at school or whilst on any school activity. I am aware that this may include the use of a device that the school does not own. I understand that if I breach this responsible use agreement, I may lose access to school ICT services including the use of the internet, on school owned devices or any personally owned device used at school.

Parent Declaration I understand that our school is supporting students as they learn the skills required to become successful digital citizens. Our school defines a digital citizen as someone who;

Is a confident and capable user of ICT

Uses technologies to participate in educational, cultural, and economic activities

Uses and develops critical thinking skills in cyberspace
Is literate in the language, symbols, and texts of digital technologies
Is aware of ICT challenges and can manage them effectively
Uses ICT to relate to others in positive, meaningful ways |
Demonstrates honesty and integrity in their use of ICT
Respects the concepts of privacy and freedom of speech in a digital world
Contributes and actively promotes the values of digital citizenship

I understand that the school provides access to the internet and other communications technologies because it believes that they enhance the teaching and learning process.

I understand that the school encourages responsible behaviour by students when using technology to help protect themselves and each other from experiencing harm online. I am aware that this "Responsible Use Agreement" is part of that, and that it encourages students to consider how their actions can affect themselves and those around them.

I understand that student work and images of my child may be used in school sanctioned social media and promotional materials.

I have read the student declaration and have talked with my child about what it means to them. I am happy that my child understands what this means, and that they are capable of working within the guidelines.

I am aware that students can experience challenges when using technology, but that the school makes every effort to support students to manage those challenges effectively. I understand that by learning to deal with them in a safe environment with the appropriate support they will be better prepared to deal with those challenges in the future.

If I have questions or concerns about the way in which technology is being used by my child at school, I know the school is happy to discuss this with me, and I am aware that I am welcome to do this at any time.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____