



# CRONULLA SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

## Internet Acceptable Use Policy

As was indicated in the Director-General's memorandum on *Student Access to the Internet* of 18 July 1997, use of the Internet in schools should focus on improving student learning experiences in purposeful curriculum-specific contexts. It also acknowledged that while much of the information available on the Internet was suitable for use in schools, some material was inappropriate for use by students.

All data that passes to the screen via the World Wide Web is filtered by the NSW Department of Education and Training proxy server however, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials. Therefore children using the Internet have certain responsibilities regarding its appropriate use.

- The primary purpose of the school's Internet connection is educational. It is essential that everyone who uses this connection understand this purpose.
- Students are responsible for good behaviour on the Internet just as they are in classrooms. General school rules for behaviour and communication apply.

Teachers' duty of care requires that they remain vigilant in regard to restricting student access to inappropriate web-based material at school. Staff who come into possession of explicit, offensive and potentially pornographic material from student-accessed websites should notify the principal who will consult with the Child Protection Investigation Directorate. Internet sites which they consider to be inappropriate will be reported to the Department's Help Desk on 1800 338 483 or by email to [ITHelp@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ITHelp@det.nsw.edu.au)

### Code of Behaviour

It is the school's policy that ALL internet access is to be for educational purposes only. The following outlines the school's code of behaviour.

Students are responsible for appropriate behaviour on the school's computer network just as they are in a classroom or on a school playground. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behaviour and communications apply. It is expected that users will comply with the specific rules set out below. The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if abused. The user is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources.

The students are advised never to access, keep, or send anything that they would not want their parents or teachers to see.

- What are the rules?

**Permission** - Students will not access the Internet without first asking the supervising teachers permission.

**E-mail** - Students are not permitted to access the school's email account. Nor are they permitted to set up or access private e-mail accounts from the school network.

**Privacy** - Students are not permitted to give out personal information across the Internet.

**Storage capacity** - Users are expected to remain within allocated disk space and only delete their own files.

**Copyright and copying** - Students must never claim ownership of another person's work. Digital information is still property. Users should never download or install any commercial

software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have permission from a teacher. Nor should students copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.

**Inappropriate materials or language** - No profane, abusive or impolite language should be used to communicate nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behaviour.

**A good rule to follow is never view, send, or access materials which you would not want your teachers and parents to see. Should students encounter such material by accident, they should report it their teacher immediately.**

(These rules should be on display and discussed as part of class/library/computer lessons)

### **The Consequences**

Breaches of the Code of Behaviour will result in loss of access to the internet or as specified in the School's Discipline Policy.

Students and parents are to be given an "Acceptable Usage Agreement" to be signed annually. Students who do not return this form will not be allowed to access the internet.