



# SOLIHULL

## ICT Acceptable Use Policy

**Owner:** Senior Deputy Headmaster  
**Reviewer:** Assistant Head: ICT  
**Last Reviewed:** September 2017

Version 4

As a member of the Solihull School community, you should be familiar with these rules, and agree to be bound by them. It must be noted that all of the rules below apply whether a user is logged on to the network or using a stand-alone machine, or using any other ICT equipment, including that not belonging to the school but on the school's premises.

## 1. Responsibilities

- You should not reset machines unless you are told to do so by a member of staff.
- **No games** are to be installed on any machine, except with the express permission of the Assistant Head: ICT or one of the Deputy Headmasters. Do not bring games or any other copyrighted material into school.
- **No eating or drinking** is allowed in any area containing computers. Pupils who disobey this rule will be told to vacate the computer immediately.
- Pupils can bring **mobile phones** to school, though usage (below the Sixth Form) is not allowed between 0840 and 1610 on site unless directed otherwise by a member of staff (6<sup>th</sup> Form pupils can use mobile phones in the Cooper Building). Mobile phones must NOT be visible and be switched off during these times unless directed/approved otherwise by a member of staff. Prior to 0840, mobile phones can ONLY be used in the form room and the designated social area, when a pupil is seated, though the video/camera facility must never be used. The above applies on trips and visits though leaders will have discretion to allow use when/if appropriate. They will also have the flexibility to collect in/return at certain times during the day/night. Any pupil using a mobile phone against the regulations will have it confiscated until the end of the day and an appropriate sanction issued.
- Any problems with the hardware or software should be reported to your class teacher, a member of the Technical Support Team, Head of Computing and Information Technology or the Assistant Head: ICT.
- You must not create, display, copy or otherwise distribute offensive material. Offensive material could involve, but is not limited to, racism, pornography, bullying, radicalisation propaganda, and criminal skills including hacking. In cases of any doubt, please ask any member of staff. Do not store executable files (.exe files) or other copyrighted material such as MP3 files, wallpapers, movie clips and other picture formats or movie clips in your user area.
- Pupils must not use social networking sites in school.
- You CAN access your Solihull School email from home by going to [www.solsch.org.uk](http://www.solsch.org.uk) then clicking the link and entering your email address in the space provided; the password field is your normal logon password. Alternatively, you can access your email at [www.office365.com](http://www.office365.com) and entering your email address ('@solsch.org.uk' after your username) and password once redirected.
- The content of each student's user area is exclusive to the owner as far as other students are concerned. Members of staff have the right to add files, and the ICT staff regularly check the user areas for copyrighted, offensive or otherwise unsuitable materials.
- You should treat **ALL** ICT resources responsibly, and avoid waste by not sending documents to print unless you have first previewed them, and are sure they are in a final draft form. Colour printing is only permitted with the permission of a member of staff. Pupils are expected to use this facility sparingly and not print off web pages unless absolutely necessary.

## **2. Unauthorised Access**

It is a **serious offence** to use the username and password of another user. Users should not reveal their password to any other user, not even an administrator or member of staff.

Users whose accounts have been disabled by an administrator must see an administrator to have it enabled at times when it is needed for lessons. Impersonation of another user via e-mail is a serious offence.

It is a serious offence to attempt to bypass the filters put in place by the school which restrict access to unsuitable material on the internet, for example, using technologies such as; online proxies or VPN.

All of your files should only be saved in your **own** area.

## **3. Plagiarism**

Pupils should not share or distribute their work to other users unless directed to do so by a member of staff. To pass the work of another off as that of your own is a serious offence, particularly when related to coursework for examinations and may result in disqualification from all exams in that series. It may also represent a breach of copyright (see 5, below).

## **4. Unauthorised Modification**

It is a serious offence to destroy work (files) of another user, create or introduce a virus or other malicious code to cause a system malfunction. Users must not attempt to reconfigure the computer, place shortcuts, aliases, software or clip art on to any local hard disk. Program files must not be downloaded from the Internet. **Application software** must not be brought into school. However, it is permitted to access work on any compatible medium (eg USB pen drives, memory sticks, OneDrive, Google Drive or any other cloud-based storage).

## **5. Copyright**

Many of the programs and files which you access on the local hard disk, over the network and over the Internet, are subject to copyright. In case of any doubt, you should seek permission from the owner of the material before using it. This includes images, audio and video.

## **6. Criminal Justice Act**

It is illegal to store and/or transmit pornographic or offensive material, using technologies including but not restricted to, email, WAP enabled telephone, digital camera, digital media etc. If in any doubt, please seek advice from a senior member of staff.

## **7. Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015**

It is imperative that we are all watchful and aware of the potential for ICT to be used to radicalise and draw people into terrorism. If in any doubt, please seek advice from a senior member of staff.

## **8. Legal Responsibility**

Solihull School accepts no responsibility for the malfunctioning of any ICT equipment, and any subsequent losses. However, every care is taken to ensure the highest quality of service. Please ensure that you have back-up copies of any valuable files before bringing them in to school. The School makes back-ups of user areas every evening. Users should be aware, (as mentioned under Section 1 point 9), that staff have access to their user areas. Electronic mail is monitored manually on an ad hoc basis for suitability, and you are advised that by signing the Acceptable Use Policy form, you agree to this action. This notification is required by the Data Protection Act and Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act. All incoming and outgoing e-mail is scanned for viruses automatically.

## **9. Disciplinary Action**

Users who breach these conditions will be warned of the unacceptable nature of their actions. The specific offence will be made known to the user, and a record will be kept electronically. Further or serious breaches may be dealt with by the Senior Leadership.

## **10. Disciplinary Measures**

The measures taken will depend upon the seriousness of the offence. Normally, a verbal warning will be issued for a minor misdemeanour, but further sanctions may be taken against those who repeatedly offend, or where the nature of the offence is more serious. These sanctions include banishment from using the network for a time, or permanently. In serious cases, the matter will be referred to the Deputy Headmasters or Headmaster. If a pupil, parents will be notified of instances of accessing unsuitable material and in the most serious cases; it may be that exclusion (see Exclusion Policy) and/or police involvement follows.