



## ICT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

Hodgson Academy has a comprehensive ICT Network and Infrastructure that allows Access to the Internet. We also provide a Virtual Learning Environment for students to access anytime anywhere learning through the Internet. Before the Academy allows students to use the ICT network and the Internet, they must obtain parental permission.

**Both the parent and the student must sign the necessary consent as part of our Data Collection procedures. This serves as evidence of your approval and acceptance of the rules on this matter.**

Various projects have proven the educational benefits of Internet access, which will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and bulletin boards. They will be able to exchange messages with other learners and teachers throughout the world. Although Internet use is closely supervised in our academySchool, families will wish to be aware that some students may find ways to access material that is inaccurate, defamatory, illegal, or potentially offensive to some people. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. However, as with any other area, parents and carers of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. The Academy therefore supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

During school-academy time, teachers will guide students towards appropriate material. At home, families bear the same responsibility for guidance as they exercise with other information sources such as television, films and radio.

If your child is found misusing their access to the academy ICT Network, Internet or the Virtual Learning Environment we will deal with the incident in an appropriate manner. You will of course be notified of these breaches and the actions taken, which can, depending on the seriousness of the situation, lead to temporary exclusions.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of Internet use then please contact the school at any time asking to speak Mrs S Khan, Senior Assistant Principal, who takes responsibility for on-line safeguarding.

The computer system is owned by Hodgson. Our Academy Internet Access Policies are drawn up to protect all parties – the students, the staff and the Academy.

The Academy reserves the right to examine or delete any files that may be held on its computer system and to monitor any Internet sites visited.

### The following rules must be strictly adhered to

- All Internet activity should be appropriate to the student's education.
- Access should only be made via the authorised account and password, which should not be made available to any other person.

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- Screens must be locked when students are away from their computers to prevent their account being misused.
- Activity that threatens the integrity of the Academy's [Academy](#) ICT systems, or activity that attacks or corrupts other systems, is forbidden.
- Users are responsible for all e-mail sent and for contracts made that may result in e-mail being received.
- Use for personal financial gain, gambling, political purposes or advertising is strictly forbidden.
- Copyright of materials must be respected.
- Posting anonymous messages and forwarding chain letters is strictly forbidden.
- As e-mail can be forwarded or inadvertently be sent to the wrong person, the language and content should be appropriate as for letters or other media.
- Use of the network to access inappropriate materials such as pornographic, racist, sexist or offensive material is strictly forbidden.
- Chat rooms are not to be used under any circumstances.
- The Virtual Learning Environment collaboration tools must only be used for educational purposes and the language and content should be appropriate as for letters and other media.

**June 2019**