



Policy

Internet and Electronic Mail Acceptable Use

Rationale

The internet is a valuable resource that can facilitate learning through accessing and processing information and communicating with others. Our aim is to encourage responsibility for learning in a responsible manner.

Purposes

1. To use the internet and electronics mail to encourage a global perspective and to bring the world to the classroom and to transport the learner out of the classroom, making learning more relevant.
2. To provide learners with increased opportunity to select, summarize, synthesise information and apply critical thinking skills to collaboratively solve problems and process their findings.
3. To encourage interaction with others through internet and electronic mail.
4. To increase the authenticity of learning environment by providing access to a range of sites, resources and experts so that all learners are further exposed to positive role models.
5. To increase responsibility for independent learning and apply carefully considered choices.
6. To ensure that our students keep up to date with information technology.

Guidelines

1. Southern Regional Health School will endeavor to protect staff and students from any misuse or abuses as a result of accessing the internet or electronic mail. The school will not be held responsible for any problems that occur including loss of data, accuracy or suitability of information found or inappropriate or illegal use. **Staff may face disciplinary action from the Board for inappropriate use.**
2. Learners will be given guidelines on and support with how to gather, select from and process information to support their learning in a monitored environment.
3. Learners will need to be given specific approval and receive detailed instructions in how to use the internet before being allowed independent access to the internet.
4. Learners are required to take responsibility for their own appropriate behavior when using the internet and electronic mail as they are representing the school.

5. Opportunities for professional development in the use of the internet as a teaching and learning resource will be provided.
6. Access is considered a privilege and must be treated as such.

Through appropriate use, the internet and electronic mail will support us in further enhancing the learning process. By providing current, relevant references and contacts for all learners that will become increasingly proficient in accessing and processing information to support their learning.

Adopted: 27 July 2006

Reviewed: February 2008