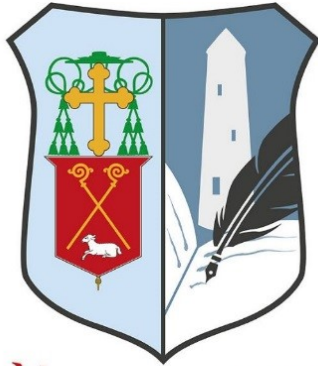


*Coláiste Chiaráin*



*Neart le chéile*

# **Internet Acceptable Use Policy**

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Website	<a href="http://www.colaistechiarainathlone.ie">http://www.colaistechiarainathlone.ie</a>
School Name	Coláiste Chiaráin
Date of Commencement	09/01/2020

## GENERAL APPROACH

The aim of this Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to ensure that pupils will benefit from the learning opportunities offered by the school's internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege. If the school AUP is not adhered to this privilege may be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions will be imposed.

When using the internet students, parents and staff are expected:

- To treat others with respect at all times.
- Not undertake any actions that may bring the school into disrepute.
- Respect the right to privacy of all other members of the school community.
- Respect copyright and acknowledge creators when using online content and resources.

This Acceptable Use Policy applies to pupils who have access to and are users of the internet in Coláiste Chiaráin .

Misuse of the internet may result in disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges, detention and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

Coláiste Chiaráin will deal with incidents that take place outside the school that impact on the wellbeing of students or staff under this policy and associated codes of behaviour and anti-bullying policies. In such cases Coláiste Chiaráin will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online behaviour that take place out of school and impose the appropriate sanctions.

Coláiste Chiaráin implements the following strategies on promoting safer use of the internet :

- Students will be provided with education in the area of internet safety as part of our implementation of the Wellbeing curriculum.
- Internet safety advice and support opportunities are provided to pupils in Coláiste Chiaráin through our pastoral care, wellbeing and ICT programmes
- Teachers will be provided with continuing professional development opportunities in the area of internet safety.
- Coláiste Chiaráin participates in Safer Internet Day activities to promote safer more effective use of the internet.

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed annually by the following stakeholders:

- Board of Management

This policy has been developed by a working group.

The school will monitor the impact of the policy using:

- Logs of reported incidents.
- Monitoring logs of internet activity (including sites visited).
- Internal monitoring data for network activity.

Should serious online safety incidents take place, the Principal or Deputy Principal should be informed.

The implementation of this Internet Acceptable Use policy will be monitored by the ICT team.

## **CONTENT FILTERING**

Coláiste Chiaráin has chosen to implement the following level on content filtering on the Schools Broadband Network:

- Level 6: This is the widest level of content filtering available. This level allows access to millions of websites including games and YouTube and allows access to personal websites category, and other similar types of websites, such as blogs. It allows access to websites belonging to the personal websites category and websites such as Facebook belonging to the Social Networking category.

Students taking steps to by-pass the content filter by using proxy sites or other means may be subject to disciplinary action, including written warnings, withdrawal of access privileges, detention and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion.

## **WEB BROWSING AND DOWNLOADING**

Students will not intentionally visit internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.

Students will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials in the classroom to their teacher.

Students will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials in school but outside the classroom to the Principal, Deputy Principal or Year Head.

Students and staff should not copy information from the internet without acknowledging the creator and referencing the source of the content.

Students and staff will be aware that any usage, including distributing or receiving information, school-related or personal, may be monitored for unusual activity, security and/or network management reasons.

Students will use the school's internet connection only for educational and career development activities.

Students will not engage in online activities such as uploading or downloading large files that result in heavy network traffic which impairs the service for other internet users.

Students will not download or view any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.

- Use of file sharing and torrent sites is not allowed.
- Downloading by pupils of materials or images not relevant to their studies is not allowed.

## **EMAIL AND MESSAGING**

- The use of personal email accounts is only allowed at Coláiste Chiaráin with expressed permission from members of the teaching staff.
- Students should not under any circumstances share their email account login details with other pupils.
- Students should not use school email accounts to register for online services such as social networking services, apps, and games.
- Students should be aware that email communications are monitored.

Students will not send any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.

Students should immediately report the receipt of any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable, is offensive, discriminatory, threatening or bullying in nature and must not respond to any such communication.

Students should avoid opening emails that appear suspicious. If in doubt, pupils should ask their teacher before opening emails from unknown senders.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

The following statements apply to the use of messaging, blogging and video streaming services in Coláiste Chiaráin :

- Use of instant messaging services and apps including Snapchat, Whats App, G Chat etc. is not allowed in Coláiste Chiaráin.
- Use of blogs such as Word Press, Tumblr etc. is allowed in Coláiste Chiaráin with express permission from teaching staff.
- Use of video streaming sites such as YouTube and Vimeo etc. is with express permission from teaching staff.

Staff and students must not use social media and the internet in any way to harass, insult, abuse or defame pupils, their family members, staff, other members of the Coláiste Chiaráin community

Staff and students must not discuss personal information about pupils, staff and other members of the Coláiste Chiaráin community on social media.

Staff and students must not use school email addresses for setting up personal social media accounts or to communicate through such media.

Staff and students must not engage in activities involving social media which might bring Coláiste Chiaráin into disrepute.

Staff and students must not represent their personal views as those of bring Coláiste Chiaráin on any social medium.

## **PERSONAL DEVICES**

Students using their own technology in school should follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if they were using school equipment.

The following statements apply to the use of internet-enabled devices such as tablets, gaming devices, and digital music players in Coláiste Chiaráin :

- Students are only allowed to bring personal internet-enabled devices into Coláiste Chiaráin with expressed permission from staff.
- Students are only allowed to use personal internet-enabled devices during lessons with expressed permission from teaching staff.

## **IMAGES & VIDEO**

At Coláiste Chiaráin students must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission.

Taking photos or videos on school grounds or when participating in school activities is only allowed with expressed permission from staff.

Students must not share images, videos or other content online with the intention to harm another member of the school community regardless of whether this happens in school or outside.

Sharing explicit images and in particular explicit images of students and/or minors is an unacceptable and absolutely prohibited behaviour, with serious consequences and sanctions for those involved. Sharing explicit images of other students automatically incurs suspension as a sanction.

## **CYBERBULLYING**

When using the internet students, parents and staff are expected to treat others with respect at all times.

Engaging in online activities with the intention to harm, harass, or embarrass another pupil or member of staff is an unacceptable and absolutely prohibited behaviour, with serious consequences and sanctions for those involved.

Measures are taken to ensure that staff and students are aware that bullying is defined as unwanted negative behaviour, verbal, psychological or physical, conducted by an individual or group against another person (or persons) and which is repeated over time. This definition includes cyber-bullying even when it happens outside the school or at night.

Measures are taken by Coláiste Chiaráin to ensure that staff and pupils are aware that bullying is defined as unwanted negative behaviour, verbal, psychological or physical, conducted by an individual or group against another person (or persons) and which is repeated over time. This definition includes cyber-bullying even when it happens outside the school or at night.

Isolated or once-off incidents of intentional negative behaviour, including a once-off offensive or hurtful text message or other private messaging, do not fall within the definition of bullying and will be dealt with, as appropriate, in accordance with the school's code of behaviour.

The prevention of cyber bullying is an integral part of the anti-bullying policy of our school.

## **SCHOOL WEBSITES**

Students may be given the opportunity to publish projects, artwork or school work on the internet in accordance with clear policies and approval processes regarding the content that can be loaded to the school's website.

## **SCHOOL MOBILE DEVICES**

Devices which are used by students off campus, such as chromebooks, are subject to the rules and regulations of the schools AUP.

The physical care of the device is the responsibility of the person using the device offsite.

# Permission Form

## Legislation

The school will provide information on the following legislation relating to use of the Internet which teachers, students and parents should familiarise themselves with: Data Protection (Amendment), Act 2003 Child Trafficking and Pornography Act, Act 1993 Video Recordings Act 1989, The Data Protection Act 1988

I agree to follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy on the use of the Internet. I will use the Internet in a responsible way and obey all the rules explained to me by the school.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or legal guardian of the above student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and grant permission for my son or daughter or the child in my care to access the Internet. I understand that Internet access is intended for educational purposes. I also understand that every reasonable precaution has been taken by the school to provide for online safety but the school cannot be held responsible if students access unsuitable websites.

In relation to the school website, I accept that, if the school considers it appropriate, my child's schoolwork may be chosen for inclusion on the school website. I understand and accept the terms of the Acceptable Use Policy relating to publishing students' work on the school website.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_