



Internet Acceptable Use Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Monaghan Institute has a state of the art network of computers, all linked to the Internet. Internet use and access is considered a college resource and privilege. The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy is to ensure that learners will benefit from the learning opportunities offered by the College's Internet resources in a safe and effective manner.

College's Strategy:

Monaghan Institute will employ a number of strategies in order to maximise learning opportunities and reduce risks associated with the Internet. These strategies are as follows:

General

- Filtering hardware and software (upgraded) and/or equivalent systems will be used in order to minimise the risk of exposure to inappropriate material.
- The College will regularly monitor learners' Internet usage using computer software.
- Learners and teachers will be provided with training in the area of Internet safety.
- Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted.
- Virus protection software will be used and updated on a regular basis.
- Learners will observe good "netiquette" (i.e. manners on the Internet) at all times and will not undertake any actions that may bring the College into disrepute.

World Wide Web

- Learners are **forbidden** to attempt to visit Internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, (e.g. Child Pornography) hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.
- Learners will use the Internet for educational purposes only.
- Learners should be extremely wary of disclosing any personal information on the Internet.
- Learners will be aware that their use of the network will be monitored.
- Learners must not use the internet for any commercial activities including electronic funds transfer or to purchase or sell goods or services having nothing to do with Monaghan Institute.
- Learners should be aware that it is extremely dangerous to enter chat-rooms and that they are forbidden to access them in the college.

Email

- Learners are forbidden to send any material that is illegal, obscene, and defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.
- Learners are **absolutely forbidden to reveal** their own or other people's personal details, such as addresses, telephone numbers, passwords or pictures.
- It is forbidden to use camera phones to take unauthorised photographs/videos and distribute over electronic media.

Sanctions

Misuse of the College network will result in disciplinary action, including withdrawal of access privileges and could lead to suspension or expulsion as per policy 5.2. Monaghan Institute will report any illegal activities (e.g. child pornography) to An Garda Síochána.

PRIOR TO RECEIVING AUTHORISATION TO USE THE INTERNET, LEARNERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT DOCUMENT

I understand that use of the Internet via Monaghan Institute's computer network is a privilege and will abide by the Internet Use Policy outlined. I realise the Internet contains material that is inappropriate for college purposes and, therefore, will take personal responsibility not to access such material. I recognise that it is impossible for Monaghan Institute to prevent access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold Monaghan Institute accountable for unsuitable materials found or acquired on the network.

I further understand that should I commit any violation of the regulations in this policy it will result in the withdrawal of access privileges, suspension or expulsion.

Learner's Signature: _____

Date: _____