

Use of the Internet - the internet is not to be used to access anything which is illegal, or anything that someone else may find offensive. This includes indecent images, extremist or discriminatory material, racial or religious hatred. If you are unsure, or if you come across anything which makes you feel uncomfortable, you should turn your computer monitor off and let a teacher know. Use of the internet and email at Ron Dearing UTC is monitored.

Logins and Passwords - every person has a different computer login and password. You should never allow anyone else to use your details. Change your password if you think someone else may have your details.

Social Networking - never take, upload pictures or videos of others without their permission – this includes staff. It is not advisable to upload pictures or videos of yourself as they can easily be manipulated and used against you. You should never make negative remarks about the school or anyone within the school. Always keep your personal information private. Consider using a nickname and only inviting people you know. Universities and future employers search social networking sites in order to carry out background checks on students.

Extremism and radicalisation – individuals, groups and organisations with extremist and radicalised views use the internet to exert influence on young people. Do not access any websites or social network pages that promote such views. The school has systems in place to block extremist material and monitor students who try to access it. Any student found accessing such material will be reported to the relevant authorities.

Beware of fake profiles and people pretending to be somebody else. If something doesn't feel right follow your instincts and report it to an appropriate adult. Never create a false profile as a joke and pretend to be somebody else. This can have serious consequences.

Chat Rooms - some social networking sites have a chat facility. You should never chat to anyone that you don't know or don't recognise. It is recommended that you never meet a stranger after meeting them online. If you do, always inform your parents and take one of them with you.

Security - you should never try to bypass any of the security in place, this includes using proxy bypass sites. This security is in place to protect you from illegal sites, and to prevent hacking into other people's accounts.

Copyright - you should never take information from the internet and use it as your own. A lot of information is copyright, which means that somebody else owns it and it is illegal to use this information without permission from the owner. If you are unsure, ask an adult.

Etiquette - Be respectful online; don't be abusive. Consider what you are saying, and how somebody else might read it as some things you write may be read incorrectly. Ensure that anything you post online does not bring the school into disrepute (i.e. damage the reputation/image of the school).

Use of Personal ICT devices/Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD): Any such use should be stringently checked for up to date anti-virus and malware checkers. Use of personal ICT devices is subject to the same Acceptable Use Policy.

Mobile Phones should be kept out of sight at all times during lessons. The only exception is when a teacher requires you to use your phone as part of a lesson. Never take inappropriate pictures of yourself and send to your friends or upload onto social networking sites. Never forward inappropriate pictures that you have received from somebody else.

Cyber-bullying – Never use the internet or other ICT communication to bully or make fun of people. It can have very serious consequences. Report incidents of cyber-bullying to a responsible adult.

ICT equipment - treat all school equipment with care and respect. Ensure any laptop is returned to the appropriate charging place. Report any problems to a member of staff.

Date of Next Review: September 2020