



# Monkhouse Primary School

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Dear Parents

## INTERNET UPDATE

As you are all aware ICT is taught using laptops and our mini-suites throughout all curriculum areas. These improved facilities and access to the Internet allows us to enhance the teaching and learning of all subject areas.

I am sure that you have read in the newspapers or seen on the television that the Internet can potentially give children access to material of an unsuitable nature and could also lead to children receiving unsuitable communications through electronic mail. It is the school's policy to make every reasonable effort to protect pupils from such material but also to make them aware of the potential dangers at an appropriate level for their age.

Our approach to the issue is as follows:

- The school gain Internet access through Lincolnshire County Council's own point of presence service and they provide firewall filtering to stop access to unsuitable or offensive material. Ark ICT Solutions Ltd (our ICT Service Providers) can then apply rules to this default filtering, allowing and disallowing access to certain sites at the school's request. Whilst the tools used for this are effective, due to the continual developments of technology and the changing content of the internet there will occasionally be materials the filters let through.
- We will discuss with our pupils the issues involved as a normal part of their curriculum. We feel this is important in the development of a child's social and moral skills.
- We ask all pupils to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement which gives a clear set of rules to be followed in school in order to avoid problems arising. A copy of this Agreement is included and we ask that you discuss it with your child and ensure that they understand the terms used.
- We will enforce the Acceptable Use Agreement with appropriate sanctions.

Please read carefully and complete the Acceptable Use Agreement with your child and the Parent's statement, and return them signed appropriately to your child's teacher.

If you wish to discuss the matter further please contact me or the ICT Coordinator.

Yours sincerely

*Sue Goodsell*

Mrs S Goodsell



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## PARENTS' STATEMENT

As the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I acknowledge that I have read the Acceptable Use Agreement about student use of the Internet and have discussed it with my child. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognise that whilst every effort will be made to monitor student use of the Internet it is impossible for Monkshouse School to continually monitor and restrict access to all controversial materials. I further acknowledge that, whilst questionable materials exist on the Internet, the user must actively seek it and therefore is ultimately responsible for bringing such material into the school. I therefore do not hold the staff, headteacher or governors of Monkshouse School responsible for any such materials acquired from the Internet.

My child may use the Internet as part of their school studies.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_

Class Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form as soon as possible.



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## KS2 PUPILS' ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

When using the computers I \_\_\_\_\_ (enter name) will:

- Only access the system by logging on as myself.
- Not access other people's files.
- Only use the computers for schoolwork and homework.
- Not bring in data holders(e.g. memory sticks) from outside school unless I have been given permission.
- Ask permission from a member of staff before using the Internet.
- Only E-mail people I know, or my teacher has approved.
- Only open E-mails from people that I know.
- Ask an adult to open and deal appropriately with E-mails from unknown addresses.
- Not give my home address or telephone number, or arrange to meet someone, unless my parent, carer or teacher has given permission.
- Report any unpleasant material or messages sent to me. I understand my report would be confidential and would help protect other pupils and myself.
- The messages I send will be polite and responsible.
- I understand that the school can check my computer files and may monitor the Internet sites that I visit.

If I break any of these rules I will report it to my teacher as soon as possible and realise that I may be punished, but that my honesty will be recognised.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Please return this form as soon as possible

