



Internet Acceptable Use Policy

1. 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 If the school AUP is not adhered to this privilege may be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions will be imposed.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 pupils, 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 Scoil Naomh Treasa.

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.

Scoil Naomh Treasa may explore alleged incidents that take place outside the school that impact on the wellbeing of pupils or staff under this policy and associated codes of behaviour and anti-bullying policies. In such cases Scoil Naomh Treasa will, where known, inform parents/carers of incidents of inappropriate online behaviour that take place out of school and impose the appropriate sanctions.

Scoil Naomh Treasa implements the following strategies on promoting safer use of the internet:

- Pupils are provided with education in the area of internet safety as part of our implementation of the SPHE curriculum.
- Teachers are provided with continuing professional development opportunities in the area of internet safety.
- Scoil Naomh Treasa participates in annual Safer Internet Day activities to promote safer more effective use of the internet.

The implementation of this Internet Acceptable Use policy will be monitored by Martina Swinburne and the impact will be monitored by using a log of reported incidents.

Should serious online safety incidents take place, the class teacher and Mr Mc Loughlin should be informed.

2. Content Filtering

Scoil Naomh Treasa has chosen to implement Level 6 on content filtering on the Schools Broadband Network: **Level 4**

3. Web Browsing and Downloading

Pupils will use the school's internet connection only for educational purposes

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

Pupils will report accidental accessing of inappropriate materials in school to their teacher or principal.

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

4. Email and Messaging

Pupils will only use school email accounts when communicating with the school.

The use of personal email accounts is only allowed at Scoil Naomh Treasa with expressed permission from members of the teaching staff.

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

Pupils 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.

5. Social Media

Pupils are not permitted to use social media or instant messaging services and apps including Snapchat, WhatsApp, G Chat etc., in Scoil Naomh Treasa.

Staff and pupils 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 Scoil Naomh Treasa community.

Staff and pupils must not engage in activities involving social media which might bring Scoil Naomh Treasa into disrepute.

6. Personal Devices

Pupils 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.

Pupils are only allowed to bring personal internet-enabled devices into Scoil Naomh Treasa with expressed permission from staff.

7. Images & Video

Care should be taken when taking photographic or video images that pupils are appropriately dressed and are not participating in activities that might bring the individuals or the school into disrepute.

At Scoil Naomh Treasa pupils must not take, use, share, publish or distribute images of others without their permission and the permission and supervision of a staff member.

Written permission from parents or guardians will be obtained before photographs of pupils are published on the school website.

Pupils must not share images, videos or other content online.

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

8. Cyberbullying

When using the internet pupils, 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 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.

Measures are taken by Scoil Naomh Treasa 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.

9. School Website and Twitter Account

Pupils are not permitted to publish projects, artwork or school work on the School website. The website is the responsibility of *Martina Swinburne* within the school staff. All teaching staff have access to the Twitter account.

Personal student information including home address and contact details will not be published on Scoil Naomh Treasa web pages.

Scoil Naomh Treasa will avoid publishing the first name and last name of pupils in video or photograph captions published online, unless permission given by parents.

10. Sanctions

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

Ratification and Review

This AUP was adopted by the Board of Management on 7/10/21.

Chairperson of BOM: Signed: *Fr Mark English* Date: 7/10/21

Principal: Signed: *Aidan Mc Loughlin* Date: 7/10/21

Acceptable Use Policy Permission Form

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

Pupil's Name: _____

Class: _____

As the parent or legal guardian of the above student, I have read the **Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)** 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 and achievements may be chosen for inclusion on the website. I understand and accept the terms of the **Acceptable Use Policy** relating to publishing pupils' work on the school website.

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____