

STUDENT INTERNET USE POLICY

Lowanna College: School Number 01-8821

Rationale:

The internet provides students with unprecedented opportunities to obtain information, engage in discussion, and liaise with individuals, organisation and groups world-wide so as to increase skills, knowledge and abilities.

Aims:

- To improve student learning outcomes by increasing access to worldwide information.
- To develop skills in discriminate and appropriate internet usage.

Implementation:

1. Lowanna College actively supports access by students to the widest variety of information resources available, accompanied by the development of the skills necessary to filter, analyse, interpret and evaluate information encountered.
2. All students and staff at our school will have censorship filtered internet and email access. All students and staff will have their own password protected internet account and log on. Such access is a privilege that infers responsibility, and not simply a right to be expected.
3. Staff and students will liaise directly with the College Information Technology (IT) Team to manage all email access, maintenance of the College website, web filters, and all other issues related to internet access.
4. Lowanna College undertakes to ensure that information published on the Internet by students or the school is of a high standard, and meets legal requirements and standards of general practice within the community in relation to copyright, safety and decency.
5. All email accounts will be password protected and users will be responsible for clearing their mailboxes regularly.
6. Guidelines on access rights will be defined for different user levels. Restricted access shall be available to guest users for specific purposes only.
7. All students shall be responsible for notifying their teacher of any inappropriate material so that access can be blocked.
8. All staff shall be responsible for notifying the IT Team of any inappropriate material so that access can be blocked.
9. Consequences of publishing, accessing or failing to notify the IT Team of inappropriate material shall include the removal of access rights.
10. Privacy of students, parents, staff and other users must be recognised and respected at all times. When identifying students, only the student's first name and last initial will be used.
11. Teachers shall be responsible for making sure all work is screened for accuracy, appropriateness, grammar, and spelling prior to publishing.
12. Lowanna College is actively maintaining an E-Smart accreditation to support this policy.

Evaluation:

This policy can undergo a minor review at any time to ensure it reflects current DET practice, with a major review as a part of the College's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by College Council on 15 August 2016.