



TINTINARA AREA SCHOOL

TOGETHER ACHIEVE SUCCESS

Computer Network and Internet Use Policy

Tintinara Area School believes that access to computers, the Internet and digital technologies is vital for our students to be literate, technologically skilled and knowledgeable in today's world. The computer network (Intranet) and Internet are valuable tools that should be used to educate and inform students, much like books, magazines, video, CD-ROM and other informational sources. The School endorses student use of the Intranet/Internet for learning and research which enhances information available through other mediums. This includes participation in distance learning activities, asking questions of and consulting with experts, communicating with other students and individuals, and locating material to meet the educational needs of the students of Tintinara Area Schools

The Internet is a virtual community based simply on courtesy and commonsense. Whilst the Internet can provide students with a vast array of educational and informational resources, it can also be a window through which students can access information that is neither pertinent to nor appropriate for an educational setting. The increased use of such resources requires that administrators, teachers, library media specialists, students, and parents take steps to ensure that when used responsibly, these tools and the resources found by them are appropriate for use in Preschool to Year 12 instruction. The South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) has established filtered programs to block access to objectionable material. The Library Public Access computers are for adult use and their content is not filtered. Students need to have written permission from parents to use these computers. The availability of such electronic information does not imply endorsement by the School of its content nor of the use of such information by students and staff. The school has also developed access controls and supervision by staff to monitor and/or restrict access to the computer network to ensure it is used safely and within legal frameworks.

To ensure appropriate usage, the school has established guidelines for student exploration and use of electronic information resources and the computer network. These guidelines address issues of privacy, ethical use of information with respect to intellectual property, illegal uses of the network and conditions of usage. The guidelines strive to preserve students' rights to examine and use information to meet the educational goals and objectives of the school and DECS. It includes definitions of acceptable online behaviour and access privileges. The Acceptable Computer Network and Internet Use Agreement is a written agreement, signed by students and their parents, outlining the terms and conditions of Computer and Internet-use.

Tintinara Area School requires that students who use the school's Internet/Intranet system comply with the Acceptable Computer Network and Internet Use Agreement, as well as comply with any guidelines for use promulgated by the administration. Students from Year 4 – 12 and their parents are required to sign the Agreement each year to accept these conditions of use.

The Department of Education and Children's Services requires that all staff members sign the DECS ICT Acceptable Use Agreement. The signed form will be kept by the Principal.