

# **MT ST PATRICK COLLEGE STUDENT COMPUTER NETWORK POLICY 2021/2023**

## **Acceptable Use Policy**

*Please read this document carefully before responding digitally to this agreement.*

Network access is available to students and teachers. The College network will also give users access to the Internet. The Internet is an electronic network connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. It provides students and staff with access to electronic mail communication, information and news.

On a global network it is impossible to control all materials and a persistent user may discover controversial information. The College believes that the benefits of Internet access to educators and students, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, far exceed any disadvantages.

Guidelines are provided here so that students and parents or guardians are aware of the responsibilities that accompany the privilege of using the College's network.

### **Guidelines for Use of the Network**

- 1 The use of College computers must be consistent with the educational objectives of Mt St Patrick College. Accessing, or transmitting materials that are unsuitable is prohibited.
- 2 Transmission of any material in violation of any Australian or State regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material and threatening or obscene material.
- 3 Users shall abide by the rules of network etiquette. These include using appropriate language, respecting the privacy of other users, and not disrupting the use of the network by other users.
- 4 For their own safety, users should not reveal any personal home addresses or phone numbers.
- 5 Use of copyrighted material needs to be credited appropriately.
- 6 Unless directed by a teacher, Mt St Patrick College Students will not participate in any Internet Relay Chat or On-line chat rooms

- 7 Attempts to gain unauthorised access to system programs or computer equipment is prohibited. All activities are monitored and any violations will be dealt with severely.
- 8 Any malicious attempt to harm, modify, or destroy data of another user is prohibited.
9. College staff members have the authority to determine what constitutes inappropriate use of the Network and their decision is final. Teachers have right of access to student all files.
10. No printing is permitted without prior permission of the teacher or system administrator.

**Internet activities that are *not* permitted by the acceptable use policy:**

- 1 Searching, viewing or retrieving materials that are not related to College work, community service, employment or further education (thus, searching or viewing sexually explicit, profane, or illegal materials is not permitted);
2. Copying, saving or redistributing copyrighted material (users should assume that all material is copyrighted unless explicitly noted);
- 3 Subscription to any services or ordering of any goods or services;
- 4 Sharing of the student's home address, phone number or other information
- 5 Playing games or using other external interactive sites such as chats unless specifically assigned by a teacher
- 6 Using the network in such a way that you disrupt the use of the net work by other users (eg. downloading large files)
- 7 Any activity that violates a College rule or a State or Federal Law. Users who have any questions or doubts about whether a specific activity permissible should consult a teacher or the network administrator.
- 8 The use of a VPN service while connected to the college network is strictly prohibited.
- 9 The use of a tethering mobile phones to bypass the school filtering system is strictly prohibited.

**N.B.** The use of MSPCNet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use can result in a cancellation of those privileges. Based upon the acceptable use guidelines outlined above, the system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use of the network and take appropriate action. The system administrators or Principal may suspend access at any time required. The administration, faculty, and staff of MSPC may also request system administrator or Principal to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user rights. This suspension will be notified in writing and a copy sent home to parents. Students whose access is denied, suspended or revoked do have the following rights:

- (a) To request in writing a written statement justifying the actions.
- (b) To submit a written appeal to the Principal and as a follow up to this letter to have a meeting with the Principal and any other involved or interested staff. Students who are under 18 must have a parent or guardian present at the meeting.

## **Publication of Materials**

Publication of any material, including e-mail, news and web pages, must contain the author's e-mail address. At this time, users of MSPCNet are permitted to create their own Web pages. This privilege is designed to enable students to learn the technology and express and present their academic work. Student web pages will not be linked to College home pages and students are responsible for the contents of their pages.

*The following rules apply to web page publication.*

- (i). All student sites must contain the following disclaimer "This web page, was created by ... (*student's name*) and represents the views and opinions of the author). It does not represent the views of nor is it endorse in any way by Mt St Patrick College or any of its employees."
- (ii). No home addresses, phone numbers or other personal information may appear.
- (iii) No copyrighted materials may be used including photographs, cartoon and logos.
- (iv) All contents of the web pages must be in accordance with the other terms set out in this document.

- (v) Electronic publications are expected to meet conventional academic standards of proper spelling, grammar and accuracy of information.

## **Security**

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on MSPCNet, you must notify the system administrator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Users may not, under any circumstances, use another individual's password. Do not give your password to any other individual. Attempts to log in to the system as any other user may result in suspension or cancellation of user privileges. Attempts to login to MSPCNet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of all user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of interfering with other computer systems may be permanently denied access to MSPCNet,

## **Vandalism**

Deliberate vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any attempt to obtain, harm or destroy data of another user or MSPCNet. This includes, but is not limited to, the unloading or creation of computer viruses.

## **Responsibility**

Mt St Patrick College Network makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Mt St Patrick College will not be responsible for any damages you suffer including loss of data or delays. Use of any information obtained via MSPCNet is at your own risk. While every endeavour is made to present accurate and up-to-date information, Mt St Patrick College Network specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.