Internet Access Policy

This policy has been written using guidelines produced by The National Association for Co-ordinators and Teachers of ICT. This policy needs to be used in conjunction with the E-Safety and ICT policies.

Today millions of people regularly use the Internet and e-mail to communicate. Their usage is predicted to continue to rise as global communications have become part of our daily social and economic life. Already there is a huge wealth of educational resources available on the Internet and this too will continue to grow.

At Southfield Primary School we believe that the pupils should have the opportunity to use these resources to support their learning. The Internet provides access to a greater library of resources than could ever be provided in school. However, whereas the resources in school are carefully selected to be consistent with national and school policies, those on the Internet are not. Teachers, therefore, will always be on hand to help pupils choose appropriate Internet resources.

The Internet also contains material of a potentially offensive nature. The school will only connect to the Internet through a service provider that will employ measures that will make access to such material difficult. The school will take appropriate action against anyone attempting to or succeeding in accessing such materials using school facilities. The school will, therefore, reserve the right to electronically search all pupils’ folders and work stored on school ICT equipment and any media brought into school by pupils.

For this reason, pupils will not be allowed to access the Internet or electronic mail without the presence of a member of staff.

- Parental permission will be sought for each child before they have access to the Internet or electronic mail
- Pupils will need to have understood the school rules concerning their use of the Internet and electronic mail.

The school’s use of the Internet and electronic mail and the rules governing pupils’ use of the Internet is available on the school’s website along with the school’s E-safety policy.

The Role of the Co-ordinator:

- The ICT Co-ordinator will keep a record of all pupils not entitled to access the Internet or electronic mail.
- The ICT Co-ordinator will liaise with the Local Authority, the Pioneer Learning Trust and other appropriate bodies to ensure this policy is implemented.
- The ICT Co-ordinator will also regularly review the effectiveness of measures to restrict access to undesirable materials on the Internet.
- The ICT Co-ordinator and the ICT Network Manager will provide guidance and advice to teachers and pupils on their use of the Internet and electronic mail.