

# Senior School Student Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines

# Introduction

These guidelines are issued by the ICT Manager under authority of the Macquarie College (MC) Executive Team.

These guidelines provide clarification for students on the practical application of the MC guidelines on Acceptable Use of ICT facilities and they should be read in conjunction with it.

# **Audience**

The intended audience for these guidelines is Senior School students and their guardians.

# **Guidelines**

The following sections set out requirements that are particularly significant and provide relevant information about some of the legislation that governs the use of ICT facilities. All students who use the college's ICT facilities must comply with the guidelines, legislation and principles that are referred to here as well as to other advice provided by MC ICT staff.

# Acceptable Use of IT facilities

ICT facilities may be used only as set out in the MC Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines. Students must not use ICT facilities for the purpose of personal profit making or for commercial activities other than those of MC. Student use of MC ICT facilities, including email and the internet, is conditional upon compliance with all MC procedures and guidelines, together with State and Commonwealth law.

# **Copyright Law**

Copyright law restricts the copying of software and other material subject to copyright (documents, music, broadcasts, videos etc.) except with the express permission of the copyright owner.

#### Software

Students may not make use of, or copy, software contrary to the provisions of any agreement entered into by MC. The onus is on students to consult with ICT to clarify the permitted terms of use if they wish to use any software for purposes other than those for which MC has a licence.

# **Email and Copyright**

The copyright of an email message is owned by the sender, the sender's employer, or in the case of students, the institution they are enrolled at. Consider the expectations of the originator; did that person set any conditions on the further communication of their email, or expect that it would not be forwarded to anyone else, or would not be forwarded to a particular recipient?

#### Spam Act 2003

All email messages sent from an MC email account must comply with the Spam Act 2003. This Act sets up a scheme for regulating commercial e-mail and other types of commercial electronic messages. The Spam Act refers to spam as "unsolicited commercial electronic messaging". "Electronic messaging"

includes emails, instant messaging, SMS and other mobile phone messaging. A single message may be spam. The message does not need to be sent in bulk, or received in bulk.

# **Honesty in representation and identity**

#### **User Misrepresentation**

Students must not under any circumstance, in messages or otherwise, represent themselves as someone else, fictional or real, without providing their real identity or username.

# Public statements on behalf of the College

Under no circumstances should students send communications using MC ICT facilities which give the impression that they are representing, giving opinions or making statements on behalf of MC or any part of it.

#### Security

The following practices should be observed to maintain the security of MC ICT facilities.

- Students must keep their username and password safe and not make their password available to
  others or use any account set up for another user or make any attempt to find out the password
  of a facility or an account for which they do not have authorized access.
- Students must ensure that the confidentiality and privacy of data is maintained.
- Students must not seek access to data that is not required as part of their study.
- Students who inadvertently obtain data to which they are not entitled or who become aware of a breach of security pertaining to data from any information technology facility must immediately report this to the ICT Service Desk. Unauthorized release or use of data inadvertently obtained may lead to legal action.

#### Non - Interference

# Inconvenience and damage

Students must not behave in a manner which, in the opinion of relevant MC managers and staff, unduly inconveniences other people or which causes or is likely to cause damage to MC ICT facilities.

#### Installation of software

Students must not install software on any MC ICT facility.

# **Unacceptable or prohibited use of ICT facilities**

#### Purpose

ICT facilities are provided for use in MC's teaching and learning programs, administrative and business activities. Some types of unacceptable use, for example transmission of material of an obscene nature, are specifically prohibited by the MC Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines and by State and Commonwealth law.

# **Examples of unacceptable use**

Unacceptable use of ICT facilities is set out in section 6.3 of the Policy on Unacceptable Use. Further examples of unacceptable use include:

- circumventing system security provisions or usage quotas
- visiting inappropriate internet sites concerned with pornography and down loading materials that are pornographic or storing or transmitting any such material
- sending or soliciting obscene, profane or offensive material
- sending email messages or jokes that contain discriminating or sexually harassing material, or messages that create an intimidating or hostile work environment for others
- sending email messages designed to cause harm to organisations with which the College has commercial relationships
- using College ICT facilities in the conduct of personal businesses or for commercial purposes
- using College email facilities to send chain letters
- unauthorised forwarding of confidential College messages to persons outside the College
- using another person's mailbox without authorisation
- using another's identity or concealing or misrepresenting one's name or affiliations or address
- sending unsolicited personal opinions on social, political, religious or other non-College related matters, where sending such opinions is not a legitimate part of study
- soliciting to buy or sell goods or services, except in electronic forums that have been established specifically for that purpose
- using or transmitting copyrighted information in a way that infringes the owner's copyright

#### Inadvertent inappropriate use

In relation to use of the web, it may not always be possible to tell if a web page is relevant until it has been read, and search engines and links can sometimes lead to irrelevant and inappropriate websites. In such cases usage logs may be used to demonstrate that access to inappropriate sites was inadvertent.

#### Seeking advice on use

Where a student is in doubt concerning their authorisation to use any ICT facility or about whether a particular use is acceptable, they should seek the advice of their teacher or the ICT Service Desk.

#### What to do when misuse is observed

Report the incident directly to the ICT Service Desk.

#### What happens following a report of alleged misuse

Where an alleged misuse has been reported to the ICT Service Desk or brought to the attention of the ICT Manager or staff members responsible for managing any part of MC's information and communication technology facilities, the ICT Manager (or nominee) may:

- act immediately to prevent any continuation of the alleged misuse pending an investigation
- promptly notify other authorities, including the relevant Deputy Principal
- advise the student of the Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines and direct the student to discontinue immediately the alleged misuse

- If an investigation of alleged misuse requires a student's use of ICT facilities to be examined or monitored they will not necessarily be notified.
- Allegations that constitute misconduct or breaches of the law will be referred to the appropriate authority for investigation. MC may give that authority all reasonable assistance requested including disclosing:
  - o relevant financial and personal data, and
  - data which may be limited by contractual obligation including copyrighted software and software that is patented or which contains trade secrets

#### Penalties for misuse of IT facilities

If a student does not abide by MC guidelines when using ICT facilities, access to ICT facilities may be suspended and disciplinary action, and/or civil or criminal legal action may be taken. See the MC Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines.

#### **Privacy**

#### **Privacy limitations**

The use of individual password may suggest that privacy is ensured. However, privacy is limited in the following ways:

- use of computers, email and the internet can be accessed by ICT administrators
- ICT systems automatically log the internet sites visited, the downloads made and the time spent
  at each site as well as information about emails sent and received. This automatically logged
  information can be accessed by ICT administrators
- while contents of emails and web sites are not routinely recorded, contents may be stored on staff computers or on servers
- it is possible to retrieve deleted records from backups and archives

# **Privacy legislation**

To ensure fairness, the College has provided these Guidelines to inform students about its practice of monitoring and accessing records relating to use of College ICT facilities, including computers, email and the internet.

#### Monitoring use of ICT facilities

The College provides ICT facilities for use in relation to the College's teaching and learning, administrative and business activities. Routine monitoring of the use of ICT facilities is conducted to monitor the costs and acceptable use of College resources. The type of information automatically collected includes:

Internet	Email
<ul> <li>the name of the person who accessed the internet site</li> <li>the date and time the site was accessed</li> <li>the site address (or "URL")</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>the email address of the person who sent the message.</li> <li>the name of the person who received the message.</li> <li>the email addresses of other people who received the message.</li> </ul>

- the computer the person used to access the internet
- the size of the site or web page accessed or the amount of material downloaded.
- the date and time at which the message was sent and received.
- the server(s) from which the message was sent.

# **Supporting Documentation**

- Acceptable Use of ICT Facilities
- Junior School Student Use of ICT Facilities Guidelines

# **Evaluation**

These guidelines will be reviewed as part of a three-year school review cycle.

Adopted by the MCC	/	/	
Signed			
(MCC Chairperson)			
Date for review / /			

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