Dear Parents,

Acceptable Use of the Internet & I.C.T. (Information & Communications Technology)

All schools have a duty to use information and communication technologies responsibly. This includes use of the internet, e-mailing and other communication devices.

Children have notices in classes giving them guidance on the safe use of the internet and have had awareness assemblies on the subject.

We have a 'Policy for Internet Use' in school that parents can look at, if they wish. Below is a summary of the key points:

Why Use the Internet in schools?

The internet gives pupils access to a wide range of material to enhance their learning. This includes access to information to current affairs, curriculum websites and links to pupils in other schools via e-mail (nationally and abroad).

Safe & Controlled Access

This is vital in today's World. Access to the internet in school is via a North Yorkshire LA filtered system that blocks out inappropriate material. Pupils and staff have separate passwords and a block on the system prevents access to the internet during breaks so that adult supervision can be maintained. The school will supervise pupils and take all reasonable precautions to ensure that users access only appropriate material. However, due to the international scale and linked nature of information available via the Internet, it is not possible to guarantee that particular types of material will **never** appear on a terminal. Neither the school nor North Yorkshire County Council can accept liability for the material accessed, or any consequences thereof.

Pupil E-Safety Guidelines

Classes have been given a set of guidelines on using the internet responsibly:

- We ask permission before using the internet

- We only use websites our teacher has chosen

- We immediately close any website we don't like

- We only e-mail people our teacher has approved

- If we send e-mails, they are polite and friendly

- We never give out a home address or phone number

- We never arrange to meet anyone we don't know

- We never open e-mails sent by anyone we don't know

- We never use internet chat rooms

- We tell an adult if we see anything we are unhappy with

In addition, children need to remember not to bring in memory sticks CDs / DVDs from outside school unless they have been given permission. They are also aware that the school may check computer files and may monitor the Internet sites they visit as well as the e-mails they send / receive. Parents will be informed if children purposefully try to access inappropriate materials.

Please can you support us by ensuring your child(ren) is / are aware of using the guidelines and also that you are happy with your child using the internet / communications technology in school by signing and returning this acceptable use agreement.

Parent
I have read the information and am happy with my child(ren) using the internet in school:

_____ **(Signature)** _____ **(Print)**

Pupil (Classes 3 & 4 only)
I will follow the class rules on using computers safely : _____ **(Signature)**

_____ **(Printed Name)**