GRANVILLE STATE SCHOOL

Student Internet Access Agreement Form

Student

I understand that the Internet can connect me to useful information stored on computers around the world.

While I have access to the Internet:
1) I will use it only for educational purposes.
2) I will not look for anything that is illegal, dangerous or offensive.
3) If I accidentally come across something that is illegal, dangerous or offensive, I will:
   (a) clear any offensive pictures or information from my screen; and
   (b) immediately, quietly, inform my teacher.
4) I will not reveal home addresses or phone numbers - mine or anyone else’s.
5) I will not use the Internet to annoy or offend anyone else.
6) I am aware that the school monitors both my internet and email use.
7) I understand that if the school decides I have broken these rules, appropriate action will be taken. For minor breeches loss of my Internet access for some time may occur. For serious or repeated breeches I understand consequences for my actions will be determined through the school Behaviour Management Plan which may include suspension or exclusion.

____________________________ (Student’s name)
____________________________ (Student’s signature) ______________(Date)

Parent or guardian

I understand that the Internet can provide students with valuable learning experiences.

I also understand that it gives access to information on computers around the world; that the school cannot control what is on those computers; and that a very small part of that information can be illegal, dangerous or offensive.

School administration or their delegate will monitor student usage of internet and email resources. I accept that, while teachers will always exercise their duty of care, protection against exposure to harmful information should depend finally upon responsible use by students.

I believe _________________________________ (Name of student) understands this responsibility, and I hereby give my permission for him/her to access the Internet under the school rules. I understand that students breaking these rules will be subject to appropriate action by the school. For minor breeches loss of Internet access for some time may occur. For serious or repeated breeches consequences for student actions will be determined through the school Behaviour Management Plan which may include suspension or exclusion.

____________________________ (Parent or guardian’s name)
____________________________ (Parent or guardian’s signature) ___________(Date)

This form remains valid for the duration of the student’s attendance at Granville State School.
The reasons for the amendments are outlined in the following.

Currently while nothing is stated as directly relating to students, advice from Central Office is that students need to conform to acceptable usage practices and if a breach of this acceptable usage occurs there is no privacy breach from administrators in reviewing student use and taking appropriate action/responses.

On saying this it is worthwhile noting the statements of Sheryl Marsland, Education Officer, and State Administrator for SINA. It is her advice that procedures be clearly stated within the school internet and email access agreement forms for parents and students. Schools will then have provided adequate warning to clients regarding acceptable use, procedures after breaking that agreement and also knowledge of the monitoring system.

Please note that Education Queensland is currently drafting IS42 which includes privacy principles for the department which will be based on the State Government Principles which are listed below.

All Agencies need to develop policies and practices that conform to the “Queensland Government’s Information Standards”

The standards are:

- Internet and electronic mail access are provided for officially approved purposes only.
- Internet and email usage must be able to survive public scrutiny and/or disclosure. Unauthorised accessing, transmitting or storing of material that may bring the public service into disrepute is prohibited.
- Employees must not use the internet or email in a way which could defame, harass, abuse or otherwise offend other internet and email users, individuals or organizations.
- Employees must not create or distribute any form of malicious or deleterious material via the internet or email.
- Employees may be called upon to explain their usage of the internet, email and electronic files. Employees use of the internet, email and electronic storage of material will be monitored by agencies.

A copy of the responses from two Central Office sources to the question of student privacy of internet and email is listed below:

“...the state system, IS42 is coming in soon, and this will mean the introduction of privacy principles...

Implementing IS42 will mean forming and implementing a privacy plan, including privacy principles. EQ may take a few years to implement this.” Jason Callaghan – Senior Education Officer, Learning, Teaching, Literacy and Numeracy Unit, Central Office. 05-12-01

“. . .I believe any school's Internet Usage Policy which parents have to sign (and most students do as well), should cover the issues you have raised. Consequences of misuse must also be published so everyone is quite clear on what happens when they do something wrong.

It is made quite clear to EQ employees in CM-12 that emails can not be regarded as a private document. Doesn’t this then translate to students? Just read CM11-1, 1.15 and it is stated there.
CM11-1, 1.12 states staff and students have access to the Internet for educational purposes, therefore there shouldn't be a problem with anyone else reading your email.
In my opinion having email accounts is a privilege not a right. The school is paying for Internet use and it should be used in a proper manner.

The filtered email goes to the school's SINA Administrator. No they are not breaching a student's privacy because the student has broken the usage agreement form when they use the Internet in an inappropriate manner. SINA administrators can also delete email if its storage is not managed properly so long as a suitable warning (in writing) is given. This was discussed at a recent MISSC and legal opinion sought.

It all comes back to school policy. Everything should be spelt out clearly to staff and students.” Sheryl Marsland, (State SINA Administrator) Education officer, Central Office.