School Internet Access Agreement

Parents: We at Mourilyan have a computing network system in place which allows all staff and students from Year 3 upwards to log on to both the school-based curriculum network and to the Internet using a password. This is a requirement of Education Queensland to provide opportunities for all students to be able to access Information Technology as part of the curriculum. Prep, Yrs 1 & 2 access will be teacher-controlled. Currently, the Prep building is not wired for internet, but they have stand-alone computers.

The Internet comes to us at Mourilyan via a well-screened government-controlled service called Managed Internet Service (MIS). All possible precautions have been, and continue to be, taken by administrators to ensure that any offensive/dangerous/illegal sites have been blocked from the school users. This is a difficult job, but we believe that there is only an extremely slim chance that such unsuitable sites could ever slip through the MIS network, although the very nature of the Internet makes it potentially possible.

We try to supervise all Internet use to help minimize this risk. We also have displayed in classrooms rules and guidelines for using the Internet, as well as having had discussions with all students in this matter so that all users are aware of potential problems (and consequences) that could occur if the system is misused.

An administrator at school level is able to check on every website ever visited by a user. Of course there may sometimes be a misunderstanding by a student or an unsuitable site might accidentally be attempted. This can happen easily and won’t incur penalty, but if a student user is found to be deliberately misusing this privilege in any way, he/she will be questioned and possibly banned from using the system.

We wish to mention specifically that Hotmail accounts do not fall into MIS school internet guidelines, so use of any Hotmail service at school is strictly forbidden. This includes e-mail via Hotmail while at school.

Sites such as Facebook are sections of the internet that will be restricted to parent-controlled home access.

We have had an Internet Access Agreement in use in past years. The agreement below needs to be signed by both your child and by yourself, to acknowledge that you have been informed. We have had extremely few instances of problems in seven years, but this agreement is a necessary aspect of the government's commitment to providing responsible Internet access for all students.

You may wish to discuss this matter with your Yr 3-7 child to satisfy yourself that he/she fully understands the importance of our policy on internet access. Please remember that every effort has already been and will continue to be taken to ensure that no child can ever access any internet site deemed to be unsuitable.

A scaled-down copy of the set of rules for using the Internet at school, which is displayed in classrooms, is included with this note for your information. These rules have been discussed in the classrooms.

If you have concerns about how the system works, or simply that you want to see for yourself the system in operation, please feel free to discuss the matter with your child’s teacher. He/she can demonstrate how your child (if Yrs 3-7) logs on to access the network and also explain how the MIS internet system in schools is far safer for your child than the “normal” internet available at home.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to provide quality ICT learning opportunities for your child.

Regards,

Jim Neil (Information Technology Administrator, Mourilyan State School)
Mourilyan State School
School Internet Access Agreement

Student Declaration
I understand that the Internet can connect me to much useful information stored on computers around the world. Learning how to access and use this information wisely is important.

While I have access to the Internet:

• I will log on using my user name and password only and never use details of anyone else
• I will use the internet and email only for educational purposes as outlined by my teacher
• I will not try to search for sites containing information that is illegal, dangerous or offensive
• I will not reveal personal names, home addresses or phone numbers - mine or anyone else's
• I will not accept any offers such as download of a software item, without consulting my teacher
• I will not attempt to enter chatrooms or become involved in communication with any other user
• I will not attempt to access Facebook, Twitter or similar sites while at school on MIS internet
• I will not use the Internet to annoy or offend anyone, those known to me as well as strangers
• I will use only the Managed Internet Service (MIS) system provided by Education Queensland
• I will not use any Hotmail service of any kind - mine or that of others - this includes e-mails
• I will exit MIS and log off after finishing, to protect myself from others’ use of my logon details

If I accidentally come across something that I or others believe may be illegal, dangerous or offensive:

• I will clear any offensive pictures or information from my screen (press "Back"/turn off monitor)
• I will immediately, quietly, inform my teacher without drawing others' attention to the problem

Student's Name: _________________________ Student's Signature ________________

Parent Declaration

• I have read the information on both pages on this sheet
• I understand that Prep – Yr 2 child’s access will be teacher-controlled, Yrs 3-7 child-controlled
• I understand that the internet can provide students with valuable learning experiences
• I also understand that it gives access to information on computers all over the world and that a small part of this information could be potentially illegal, dangerous or offensive
• I realize that Managed Internet Service (MIS) is a very secure state-wide government screening system and every precaution has already been taken to protect my child from accessing such information. However, due to the nature of the Internet and its world-wide users, the school cannot absolutely guarantee that MIS screening will always find and block every unsuitable site
• I understand that at school level at Mourilyan, every precaution has been taken by staff to educate students on the proper use of the Internet, through discussions and large wall posters
• I understand that my child is forbidden to use internet/email services such as Hotmail and that only the filtered internet service provided to all Education Queensland schools can be used
• I also understand that, should my child deliberately misuse the internet service, log on using others’ details, send offensive/threatening emails, or knowingly break any aspect of the above signed Internet Agreement, he/she will incur a range of penalties as mentioned below
• I accept that, while teachers will always exercise their duty of care, protection against exposure to harmful information from the Internet should depend on responsible use by every student

I believe that my son/daughter __________________ 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. This may include loss of Internet access for a decided period of time. In very serious matters, it could also lead to further disciplinary action.

Parent's/Guardian's Name _____________________ Parent's/Guardian's Signature ____________