Scoil Iosagáin CBS

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

1. Introduction

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to ensure that pupils at **Scoil Iosagáin CBS** benefit from the learning opportunities provided by our digital resources in a safe, responsible, and effective way.

We recognise that the responsible use of the Internet and digital technologies, both online and offline, is an integral part of modern teaching and learning. Where the AUP is not adhered to, sanctions as outlined in the school's Code of Behaviour will apply.

This policy will be reviewed annually by school and parent representatives in line with best practice.

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2. Expectations for Internet Use in Scoil Iosagáin CBS

When using the Internet and digital technologies, all members of the Scoil Iosagáin CBS community—pupils, parents, and staff—are expected to:

✅ Treat others with respect at all times, online and offline.
✅ Avoid any actions that might bring the school into disrepute.
✅ Respect the privacy of all members of the school community.
✅ Respect copyright and credit creators when using online content.

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3. Digital Safety Measures

To ensure a safe online environment, Scoil Iosagáin CBS employs the following strategies:

- Content filtering and/or equivalent systems minimise exposure to inappropriate material.
- Uploading or downloading non-approved software is not allowed.
- Use of personal digital storage devices requires school permission.
- Virus protection is installed and updated regularly.
- Internet use is supervised by a staff member at all times.

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4. Scope of the Policy

This AUP applies to:

- All pupils accessing the Internet in Scoil Iosagáin CBS
- Members of staff, SNAs, volunteers, parents/guardians, and visitors using school Internet or devices
- All activities that take place in school, as well as incidents outside school that impact pupils' or staff wellbeing

Misuse of digital technologies may lead to sanctions such as loss of access, parental contact, suspension, or reporting to relevant authorities.

6. Promoting Safe Internet Use

Scoil Iosagáin CBS promotes safer Internet use by:

- Teaching pupils about online safety as part of SPHE, the Digital Learning Framework, and Anti-Bullying initiatives.
- Providing Internet safety training for staff.
- Participating annually in Safer Internet Day activities.

7. Internet and Device Use

Pupils Must:

✅ Use the Internet for educational purposes only.
✅ Report accidental access to inappropriate materials immediately.
✅ Never share personal information online.
✅ Avoid downloading large files or unapproved materials.
✅ Be aware that Internet use may be monitored for safety.

Personal Devices:

- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile devices to school.
- Mobile phones are not allowed
- Smartwatches capable of recording or taking photos are not permitted.

8. Email and Messaging

- Personal email accounts or social media are not to be used for school purposes.

- Pupils must not use digital tools to send material that is offensive, illegal, or intended to harm others.

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9. Social Media & Staff Guidelines

- Staff and pupils must not discuss personal information about members of the school community online.
- Staff are expected to maintain professional boundaries in all electronic communications.
- Use of messaging services (WhatsApp, Snapchat, etc.) is not permitted during school hours for pupils.

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10. Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a serious breach of school rules, even if it occurs outside school hours. Offenders may face sanctions including suspension.

We remind parents/guardians of the minimum age requirements for social media platforms and ask that these are respected.

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11. Images and Videos

- Pupils may not record or take photos on school property without permission.
- Parental consent will be sought before publishing any pupil's photo online.
- Any sharing of explicit or inappropriate images is a serious offence and will result in disciplinary action.

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12. Digital Learning Platforms

Scoil Iosagáin CBS on occasions uses Seesaw and Google Classroom as its official digital learning platforms.

- Pupils are expected to follow the same respectful behaviour online as in school.
- Staff and pupils must not share login details with others.

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13. Monitoring & Review

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Principal, Deputy Principal, and the Digital Learning Team.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board of Management, teaching staff, and parent representatives.

Sanctions for Misuse

Breaches of this policy may result in:

- Loss of access to school digital resources
- Communication with parents/guardians
- Disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Behaviour
- Referral to external authorities where necessary

Ratified by the Board of Management
Date: Sept 2024

Principal: Denis Barry
Deputy Principal: Leah Walsh