INTERNET ACCESS
POLICY 2016

1. RATIONALE

The Internet is a wonderful resource, which can extend teaching and learning beyond the walls of the classroom and add another dimension to topics being studied in class. It allows students to collect and share information and communicate and collaborate with people from around the world. The internet offers facilities that can enhance students’ learning opportunities and outcomes in all key learning areas and generic skills.

In addition to the information available from the internet, the school also has an opportunity to publish its own website providing the benefits of developing literacy, writing and critical thinking skills. It should be noted that while the internet possesses vast stores of information and educational resources, there are also undesirable aspects of the internet including:

- Socially and culturally inappropriate material
- Offensive material
- Gambling sites
- Misinformation

The NSW Department of Education provides the internet service free of charge to schools. In order to maintain a safe and appropriate environment for students accessing the internet all internet access at school is filtered automatically at the service provider to prevent known undesirable sites from being accessed. In addition to the filter, access is given under teacher supervision, but this supervision may not always be direct.

2. PURPOSE

It is the school’s policy that ALL internet access is to be for educational purposes only.

The use of the Internet should:

- Enhance student’s learning opportunities and outcomes in all KLAs from K-6
- Assist students to develop information and communication skills
- Enhance the existing information facilities in classrooms and school library
- Reflect community standards and values
The School’s Code of Behaviour for Internet User Access follows.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

Student Code of Behaviour when Accessing the Internet

Publishing on the Internet:
- Communication through e-mail and via the school’s internet website is treated as a form of publishing. Students must gain teacher approval for publication or access.
- It is the school’s policy that no student will be identified by full name, contact details or individually identifiable photos.

Downloading information and signing up for services
- Students will not knowingly access or attempt to access sites that are inappropriate or not of an educational nature.
- Students must gain teacher approval before downloading any software, screensavers and other utilities not essential to browsing the internet.
- Students must not sign up for any services available on the internet without first gaining teacher approval.

Receipt of inappropriate internet material:
- In the case of inappropriate site or image being displayed on a computer the student must immediately turn off or minimise the screen and quietly report it to the teacher. All inappropriate sites will be reported to the Department in order to have them included in the filter.

Equity of Access to the Internet:
- All students with parental permission will be given the opportunity to use the internet as part of their classroom studies as appropriate.

Copyright Issues
- Any material accessed and utilised from the internet will be acknowledged and copyright respected.

Consequences
- Breaches of the Code of Behaviour will result in loss of access to the internet.
INTERNET ACCESS PERMISSION 2016

As a general policy, the staff of Stanwell Park Public School support student equity of access to both information and information technology. In keeping with our school's aim of a safe environment for all students; the following guidelines have been drawn up.

1. At school, I will abide by the rules for going on-line, as specified by the supervising teacher. I will not access sites with socially unacceptable material.

2. If an inappropriate site or image is displayed on a computer I must immediately turn off or minimise the screen and quietly report it to the teacher. I will inform my supervising teacher immediately if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.

3. I will not give out any personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents’ work address and telephone number, or name and location of my school without permission.

4. I will not download files from the Internet and bring them to school via cd, thumb drive etc.

5. I will not send a person my picture or personal details.

6. I will not provide any identifying details (full name, address etc) of any students, staff or community member without their written permission.

7. I will not download socially unacceptable material.

8. I will comply with the copyright laws relating to downloaded material.

I have read and discussed the issues raised in the School’s Internet User Access Policy with my child/ren who agree/s to abide by the Code of Behaviour for Internet Access.

Student……………………………………………. Class ……….. 

Student……………………………………………. Class ……….. 

Student……………………………………………. Class ……….. 

Student……………………………………………. Class ………..

Parent/Carer’s Name ……………………………………………..

Signed ……………………… Date ………………..