Kimbolton SchooL

INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

### Kimbolton School Cyber Safety Policy

***Important terms used in this document:***

1. *The abbreviation* ***‘ICT’*** *in this document refers to the term ‘Information and Communication Technologies.*
2. ***‘Cybersafety’*** *refers to the safe and responsible use of the Internet and ICT equipment/devices, including mobile phones*
3. ***‘School ICT’*** *refers to the school’s computer network, Internet access facilities, computers, and other school ICT equipment/devices as outlined in (d) below*
4. *The term* ***‘ICT equipment/devices’*** *used in this document, includes but is not limited to, computers (such as desktops, laptops, PDAs), storage devices (such as USB and flash memory devices, CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, iPods, MP3 players), cameras (such as video, digital, webcams), all types of mobile phones, video and audio players/receivers (such as portable CD and DVD players),Gaming Consoles, and any other, similar, technologies as they come into use.*

# Rationale

Kimbolton School has a statutory obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment, and a responsibility to consult with the community. In addition Kimbolton School Board of Trustees has a responsibility to be a good employer.

These three responsibilities are increasingly being linked to the use of the Internet and Information Communication Technologies (ICT), and a number of related cybersafety issues. The Internet and ICT devices/equipment bring great benefits to the teaching and learning programmes, and to the effective operation of the school.

The Board of Kimbolton School places a high priority on providing the school with Internet facilities and ICT devices / equipment which will benefit student learning outcomes, and the effective operation of the school.

However, the Board recognises that the presence in the learning environment of these technologies can also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate, and even illegal, material and activities. The school has the dual responsibility to maximise the benefits of these technologies, while at the same time to minimise and manage the risks.

The Board acknowledges the need to have in place rigorous and effective school cybersafety practices which are directed and guided by this cybersafety policy.

**Policy**

Kimbolton School will develop and maintain rigorous and effective cybersafety practices which aim to maximise the benefits of the Internet and ICT devices/equipment to student learning and to the effective operation of the school, while minimising and managing any risks.

These cybersafety practices will aim to not only maintain a cybersafe school environment, but also aim to address the need of students and other members of the school community to receive education about the safe and responsible use of present and developing information and communication technologies.

**Policy guidelines**

Associated issues the school will address include: professional development and training, implications for the design and delivery of the curriculum, the need for relevant education about cybersafety for the school community, disciplinary responses appropriate to breaches of cybersafety, the availability of appropriate pastoral support, and potential employment issues.

To develop a cybersafe school environment, the board will delegate to the principal the responsibility to achieve this goal by developing and implementing the appropriate management procedures, practices, electronic systems, and educational programmes. These will be based on the latest version of the NetSafe® programme for schools, endorsed by the New Zealand Ministry of Education. *The NetSafe® Kit for Schools,* including its templates for policies and use agreements, will play a central role in this process.

**RATIONALE:**

Kimbolton School has a statutory obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment.

To promote and ensure the welfare and safety of students while using the Internet.

**PURPOSE:**

To provide Internet access, so all staff and students can:

 Become effective and safe users of the Internet.

 Extend their awareness and knowledge of the Internet.

 Become motivated, responsible, independent users of the Internet.

**General Policy on Internet Use at School**

Use of the Internet facilities at this school is strictly for educational purposes. This includes personal use and use for professional development of staff.

**Staff Use of the Internet**

 Training for staff is **essential** for the safety and protection of staff, students, and equipment.

 All staff members must sign a copy of this School Internet Safety Policy and a Staff Internet Use Agreement before using the Internet themselves, indicating they are aware of the details of this Policy. This documentation will be kept on file by the school.

 Teaching staff have individual Internet e-mail accounts.

**Student Use of the Internet**

 All students must sign the School Computer and Internet Use Agreement AND have the signed permission of a parent/caregiver before using the Internet at school. These documents must be kept on file by the appropriate staff member.

 A copy of the School Computer and Internet Use Agreement to be included in Enrolment Packs.

 A teacher must be in the room whenever a student uses the Internet. This also applies to any use before or after school hours.

 Students can use the Internet during class time with permission from the classroom teacher.

 The Internet Safety Policy will be available at the office and outlines the severity of penalties for illegal use of the Internet.

 The school will continue to refine methods of improving safety on the Internet.

**Guidelines for Kimbolton School cybersafety practices**

1. The school’s cybersafety practices are to be based on information contained in the latest version of the *NetSafe® Kit for Schools*, which is endorsed by the New Zealand Ministry of Education as best practice for New Zealand schools*.*
2. No individual may use the school Internet facilities and school-owned/leased ICT devices/equipment in any circumstances unless the appropriate use agreement has been signed and returned to the school. Use agreements also apply to the use of privately-owned/leased ICT devices/equipment on the school site, or at/for any school-related activity, regardless of its location. This includes off-site access to the school network from school or privately-owned/leased equipment.
3. Kimbolton School use agreements will cover all board employees, all students and any other individuals authorised to make use of the school Internet facilities and ICT devices/equipment, such as teacher trainees
4. Use of the Internet and the ICT devices/equipment by staff, students and other approved users at Kimbolton School is to be limited to educational, professional development, and personal usage appropriate in the school environment, as defined in individual use agreements.
5. Signed use agreements will be filed in a secure place, and an appropriate system devised which facilitates confirmation that particular individuals are authorised to make use of the Internet and ICT devices/equipment.
6. The school has the right to monitor, access and review all use. This includes personal emails sent and received on the schools computer/s and/or network facilities at all times.
7. The school has the right to audit at any time any material on equipment that is owned or leased by the school.
8. Issues relating to confidentiality, such as sighting student or staff information, reasons for collecting data and the secure storage of personal details and information (including images) will be subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act 1993.
9. The safety of children is of paramount concern. Any apparent breach of cybersafety will be taken seriously. The response to individual incidents will follow the procedures developed as part of the school’s cybersafety practices. In serious incidents, advice will be sought from an appropriate source, such NetSafe, the New Zealand School Trustees Association and/or a lawyer with specialist knowledge in this area. There will be special attention paid to the need for specific procedures regarding the gathering of evidence in potentially serious cases. If illegal material or activities are suspected, the matter may need to be reported to the relevant law enforcement agency.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_