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5 February 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

Mobile Device Technology in Perth and Kinross Schools

Recently we wrote to you to inform you that schools would be opening up their Wi-Fi capacity to allow staff and pupils to use their personal devices to access the internet. As recent research and experience from other Local authorities has demonstrated, this allows scope for a wider range of learning and teaching opportunities to exist within the classroom under teacher discretion and as part of planned activities. Pupils would be expected to follow the school policy on using mobile technologies by using them responsibly and for the purpose of learning.

The acceptable use agreement that you signed provided you with the opportunity to block Facebook and Twitter from your child's personal device. Pupils must have an account with these websites in order to create and contribute content. At the time of writing to you we were informed by IT services that there was capacity to do this. You had requested that these sites were blocked on your child's personal device.

We have recently been advised by IT services that they are unable as yet to provide this functionality. What this means is that Facebook and Twitter will be websites that are **not** blocked on *personal* devices. They will still be blocked however on any *school* device your child accesses.

IT services are continuing to pursue this as requested by Education and Children's services. Schools will be switching on their Wi-Fi access soon and it is important that you have the opportunity to decide what to do next. There are two options available.

1. Request that we block their personal device completely from Wi-Fi access. In order for this to happen we will need the MAC address (Or Wi-Fi access address) for the device you wish us to block. This can be found in most devices in its settings menu and is a 12 digit sequence. Eg. **32:BB:C1:18:E2:41**
If you encounter difficulty then please consult the documentation of the device or contact the service provider or manufacturer who will be able to help you.
2. Ensure your child does not bring their personal device to school.

We understand that this will be disappointing to you given our previous correspondence and be assured that we are too. We wish to engage young people in their learning in a range of ways in the classroom whilst being appreciative of the concerns parents, staff and pupils have about the internet.

All schools have a program about e-safety and appropriate on-line behaviour built into their curriculum and we continue to support and engage young people in the debate. We will continue to progress the filtering functionality with IT services.

Should you request option 1 please include details of the MAC address on the attached Acceptable Use Agreement and ask your child to return it to the school. Devices can be locked and unlocked at any time.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C E Ross
Headteacher

Perth & Kinross Council Wireless Access - Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

1. Conditions of Access

- Wi-Fi access to the internet is available to anyone with an appropriate mobile device.
- All users must read and accept this AUP which is displayed on each device before they may use the Wi-Fi facilities.
- Young people aged under 16 may use the facilities only with the permission of a parent or carer.
- Parents and carers are responsible for the supervision, welfare and behaviour of children when using the Wi-Fi facilities in the sense that good discussions have been had regarding responsible behaviour and internet usage.
- The Council accepts no liability for anything that happens to a user's device or the user when using the Wi-Fi facilities.

2. Internet Use

- The Council will deny access to illegal sites and to sites unsuitable for viewing in a Council building.
- As with other information sources such as television, telephones and videos, some material available on the internet may be unsuitable for children. Parents and carers are responsible for setting and conveying the standards their children should follow.
- The Council cannot control, and is not responsible for the nature, content or accuracy of, information obtained from the internet.
- Online financial transactions are undertaken entirely at the user's own risk. The Council is not responsible for any resulting direct, indirect or consequential losses.
- Users should be aware of copyright and licensing restrictions applicable to information accessed on the internet and that they are responsible for compliance.

3. Prohibited Conduct

The following actions are considered unacceptable and may result in an individual's access being suspended or withdrawn: -

- Actions designed to damage, disrupt or provide unauthorised access to another computer or network
- Accessing, viewing or distributing illegal material
- Accessing, viewing or distributing obscene, abusive, pornographic or offensive material

Where a user's rights are suspended or withdrawn, he/she may request a review of that decision by the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services.

Pupils attending Perth & Kinross Council schools are reminded of their responsibilities under their school's relevant policies.

I understand and will abide by the above policy and guidelines. I further understand that any violation is unethical and may result in the loss of my network and/or laptop privileges as well as other disciplinary action.

Name of Student

Class

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I **do not wish** my child to have WiFi access to the council network via their personal device. Please tick

The MAC address (Wi-Fi access address) for this device is:
