

Dear Parents/Carers

Our school provides access to Department of Education online services. These enhance the contemporary learning opportunities available to students and the range of teaching tools available to staff to deliver the Western Australian Curriculum.

I am writing to seek approval for your child to be given access to these online services.

The Department's online services currently provide students with access to:

- individual email and calendar accounts;
- the internet, with all reasonable care taken by central office and schools to monitor and control students' access to websites while at school;
- online teaching and learning services such as Connect, web-conferencing and digital resources;
- online file storage and sharing services; and
- these online services at locations other than school.

If you agree to your child using these online services, please sign the *Acceptable Use Agreement* form and complete the permission slip attached to this letter. Please explain the content of the *Acceptable Use Agreement* to your child before the permission slip is signed.

Both forms should be returned to school so that an online services account can be created for your child.

Please note that while every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content when using Department provided online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure.

You should be aware that the Department has the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose messages created, received or sent over Department online services. Logs of email transactions and internet access data are kept for administrative, legal and security purposes and may be monitored. Similar to other corporate records, emails and internet access records are discoverable in the event of legal action and are subject to provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*. (www.foi.wa.gov.au)

You should also be aware that general internet browsing not conducted via the Department's network is **not** monitored or filtered by the Department. The Department encourages close family supervision of all internet use by children in locations other than school, and strongly recommends the use of appropriate internet filtering software. Advice on managing internet use at home can found on the Office of the E-Safety Commissioner website (www.esafety.gov.au/iparent).

Yours sincerely



Phillip Parkes
Principal,
Shenton College Deaf Education Centre



PERMISSION FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE AN ONLINE SERVICES ACCOUNT

Student's first name: _____

Student's last name: _____

Parent

- I give permission for my child to have an online services account.
- I DO NOT give permission for my child to have an online services account.

I understand and agree that my child has responsibilities when using the online services provided at school for educational purposes, in accordance with the Acceptable Use Agreement for school students.

I also understand that if my child breaks any of the rules in the agreement that the Principal may take disciplinary action in accordance with the Department's *Student Behaviour Policy and Procedures*.

Parent Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: While every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department of Education to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content when using the Department's Online Services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure. The Department cannot filter internet content accessed by your child from home or from other locations away from the school. The Department recommends the use of appropriate internet filtering software at home.

Office use only:

Processed on: / / by (initials):



ONLINE SERVICES ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

I agree to follow the rules set out below when I use the Department-provided online services:

- I will only use online services for purposes which support my learning and educational research.
- I understand that I am responsible for all activity in my online services account.
- I will check with the teacher before sharing images or giving information about myself or anyone else when using online services.
- I will keep my password private and not share with other students.
- I will not let other people logon and/or use my online account.
- I will tell the teacher if I think someone is using my online account.
- I understand the school and the Department of Education can monitor my use of online services.
- If I find any information that is inappropriate or makes me feel uncomfortable I will tell a teacher about it. Examples of inappropriate content include violent, racist, sexist, or pornographic material, or content that is offensive, intimidating or encourages dangerous or illegal activity.
- I will not use the Department's online services for personal gain or illegal activity (e.g. music file sharing), to bully, offend or intimidate others or access or send inappropriate materials including software that may damage computers, data or networks.
- I will acknowledge the creator or author of any material used in my research for school work by using appropriate referencing.
- I will get permission from the copyright owner of any material used in my school work before I reuse it in a portfolio for employment, in a competition or any other uses other than for my private research and study.
- I will use appropriate language in all internet communications.
- I will not try to access internet sites that have been blocked by the school or the Department of Education.
- I will not damage or disable the computers, computer systems or computer networks of the school, the Department of Education or any other organisation.

I understand that:

- I will be held responsible for my actions while using online services and for any breaches caused by allowing any other person to use my online services account;
- the misuse of online services may result in disciplinary action, determined by the principal in accordance with the Department's *Behaviour Management in Schools* policy; and
- I may be held liable for offences committed using online services.

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/STUDENT (OVER 18): _____

DATE: _____

Office use only:

Processed on: / / by (initials):