Doncaster Gardens Primary School
Internet Policy

Philosophical Basis:

The Internet provides a vital resource for learners, and appropriate access to this technology will be made available to all students and staff.

Guidelines:

- Access to the Internet will be made available to students and staff in the classrooms and the computer laboratory.
- As computer technology advances, safety procedures will be continually developed and reviewed to protect the students while using the Internet, including updating the Internet filters.
- Parental permission will be gained before students can use the Internet, in the form of an Internet Code of Practice and Internet Use Agreement.
- Internet access at Doncaster Gardens Primary School will be supervised by a staff member.
- Students will be encouraged to follow instructions and stay on task at all times when accessing the Internet.
- This policy operates in conjunction with the 1:1 iPad Program Parent Handbook which incorporates the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Implementation:

- In the computer laboratory and in classrooms students will have opportunities to access the Internet for the purposes of searching for current information and resources, and to participate in interactive on-line activities.
- Children will only be allowed to access the Internet under teacher supervision. All social networking sites, wikis and blogs, used for school purposes, will be managed by staff. Wikis and blogs will be private and only accessed by appropriate staff and students.
- Teachers will revisit the Internet Code of Practice with the students on a regular basis.
- Students will be taught that plagiarism is not permitted, and that they are expected to acknowledge the sources of information they have acquired on the Internet.
- No identifying information such as full name, home address, age or phone number will be permitted to be published on the Internet or Intranet.
- Communication via email at school will be strictly limited and only permitted when directly supervised by a teacher.
- Internet games accessed by students should relate directly to the classroom or specialist curriculum, and not be used as a ‘free time’ activity. Students will only be allowed to play Internet games with explicit teacher permission and supervision.
- Cyber bullying is strictly forbidden. Students who engage in such practices outside the school are primarily the responsibility of their parents; however the school may intervene if requested, or if there are implications for the school or other students.
- Pictures of children will not be placed on the Internet without parental permission.
- Students will be discouraged from personally joining social networking websites when their age or other factors do not permit them to do so.
- Tethering is not acceptable for students at Doncaster Gardens Primary School.

Evaluation:

- Any reports of students using the Internet inappropriately will be investigated and recorded.

September 2013
• Ongoing evaluation in terms of policy review will be carried out.
• This policy will be reviewed annually.