

Policy for Acceptable Use of the Internet

Introduction

The Policy sets out how the Internet may be used and any restrictions on its use. Many of the guidelines are obvious, however, this Policy intends to remove any confusion or doubt about what is or is not allowed. NOOC provides residents, all of whom are registered at academic institutions and have access to their institutions' facilities, Internet access for email and web browsing from their accommodation.

Limitations

The system is not designed to be a primary access point for academics or spouses working from NOOC accommodation. It is also unsuitable for uploading or downloading large files. The Centre will endeavour to maintain the system in working order; however, access is provided on the understanding that NOOC can take no responsibility for any direct or consequential loss caused by its use or by it not functioning.

General use

You must not use the Internet in any way that is unlawful or illegal or that affects the enjoyment of other users of the Internet at NOOC.

Nobody may use the Internet:

- i. to transmit, publish, link to, make available or receive any material which is insulting, offensive, abusive, obscene, indecent, racist, harmful, threatening or menacing; or
- ii. in a way that will be a breach of any person's rights, including a breach of confidence, copyright, privacy or any other rights; or
- iii. in a way that is associated with a criminal offence; or
- iv. to send email or any other type of electronic message with the intention or result of affecting the performance or functionality of any computer facilities; or
- v. to access other people's computer systems, servers or accounts without authorisation ("hacking")
- vi. in breach of any instructions we have given you as part of your license agreement.
- vii. To conduct paid employment from their accommodation

Please think of other residents and disconnect from online music/radio/video streaming when you are not using them because we only have a limited amount of bandwidth.

Unacceptable behaviour

Nobody may use the Internet:

- i. to threaten, harass or cause distress, annoyance or discomfort to any other person;
- ii. to intentionally disrupt or harmfully affect any other person's access to or use of the Internet (e.g. by spreading viruses, worms or Trojans);
- iii. to transmit or cause to be transmitted any advertising, promotional or other materials that are unsolicited ("spam");
- iv. to transmit mail bombs, chain letters or pyramid schemes;
- v. to share files via peer to peer network software (such as edonkey, Gnutella or Limewire) because this adversely affects everyone's internet connection speed.
- vi. to carry out port scanning/probing (which is an attempt to identify an open gateway into another Internet user's machine).

Security

Whilst our system has a firewall, we cannot be responsible to you in the event that a person gains unauthorised access to your computer. You are responsible for maintaining the security of passwords, secure transactions, Internet banking you make on your computer. We are not liable with regard to e-commerce or fraud by third parties. We are able to monitor who visits which websites and when. This is to help the Centre comply with legislation and protect the Centre from liability. Normally we will only look at the monitoring facility if we receive a complaint. We do not provide anti-virus protection on the network and cannot offer support for detection or removal of Viruses, Worms, Trojans and Spyware. You are required to use good quality up-to-date anti-virus software on your computer.

Wireless Routers

NOOC has its own wireless network and therefore to avoid interference between devices on the same frequencies we ask residents not to bring their own wireless routers to NOOC.

Enforcement and Changes

If this Policy is not kept we may issue a warning or withdraw access to the Internet or terminate the resident’s Licence Agreement, as we see fit, according to the severity of the infringement and taking into account any history of previous infringements. If we suspect that British law has been broken we will inform the appropriate authorities. We reserve the right to change this Policy at our discretion and without prior notice. We will inform you of any changes.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SECTION BELOW AND RETURN IT BY EMAIL TO THE NOOC ADMINISTRATOR.

I agree to keep the North Oxford Overseas Centre’s Policy for Acceptable Use of the Internet, as detailed above.

Name

Date