

Internet Policy for Acceptable Use

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. The Association provides residents, all of whom are registered at academic institutions and have access to their institutions' facilities, internet access primarily for supporting academic studies and normal internet services.

Limitations

Our system is not intended to be for use by residents or spouses working in non-academic employment. If you wish to do so please speak to the director around the time of booking to assess if it would be possible in such a way that it is acceptable and will not impinge on the primary educational purpose of the network. The Association will endeavour to maintain the system in working order; however, access is provided on the understanding that the Association 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:

- to transmit, publish, link to, make available or receive any material which is insulting, offensive, abusive, obscene, indecent, racist, harmful, threatening or menacing; or
- 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
- in a way that is associated with a criminal offence; or
- engage in activity with the intention or result of compromising the performance, security or functionality of any computer facilities; or
- to access other people's computer systems, servers or accounts without authorisation ("hacking"); or
- in breach of any instructions we have given you as part of your license agreement; or
- primarily to conduct paid employment from their accommodation

Please think of other residents and disconnect from internet services when you are not using them because we only have a limited amount of bandwidth shared between users.

Unacceptable behaviour

Nobody may use the Internet:

- to threaten, harass or cause distress, or discomfort to any other person;
- 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);
- to transmit or cause to be transmitted any advertising, promotional or other materials that are unsolicited ("spam");

- to transmit mail bombs, chain letters or pyramid schemes;
- to download or upload copyrighted files via peer to peer network software such as BitTorrent clients, or doing such activity that dominates the shared available bandwidth.
- 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 and to restrict if possible such capacity to broadcast by their devices.

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 TO THE NOOC ADMINISTRATOR.

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

Name

Date