

ICT Policy

Meynell Kindergarten provides the use of digital cameras, computers and internet facilities, for children and staff.

- The digital cameras allow staff and children to record activities going on in the setting.
- The children's computer will provide opportunities to enhance education by helping with activities and encourage the use of ICT
- Staff computer and internet provides opportunities for information and for the planning of activities.

This policy sets out the use of this ICT:

Digital Cameras

- Children should use the child friendly digital camera and any photographs will be downloaded or deleted at the end of each session.
- Staff must only use the setting's own digital camera to take any photographs and these must be downloaded or deleted at the end of each session.
- Staff may not use any other digital device to take photographs in the setting.

Computer and internet use in the setting:

The computer system is owned by Meynell Kindergarten and has appropriate software to ensure safe internet use.

Meynell Kindergarten reserves the right to examine or delete any files that may be held on its system or to monitor any internet sites visited.

- Activity that is found to be unsuitable or that attacks or corrupts other systems is forbidden.
- Users are responsible for all e-mails sent and for contacts made that may result in e-mails being received.
- Use for gambling is forbidden.
- Copyright of materials must be respected.
- Use of the computer system to access inappropriate materials such as pornographic, racist or offensive material is forbidden.

Rules for Responsible Internet Use Staff, Committee, Students and Volunteers

- All Internet activity should be deemed appropriate.
- Other user's files will not be accessed without their permission.
- Computers will be used only for agreed reasons.
- Computer discs/pen drives will not be used without prior permission.
- Permission will be requested before using the internet.

- E-mail correspondence will be directed only to people who have been approved and messages sent will be polite and responsible.
- Social networking sites should not be accessed via work computers or during work hours.
- Computer files may be checked and the internet sites visited may be monitored.
- All staff must adhere to the above. Any breach of these could result in disciplinary procedures and may result in the termination of their contract.

Children:

- Children will use only age appropriate software in the setting
- All internet activity should be deemed appropriate

Mobile phones:

- Staff may not carry or use their personal mobile phones whilst working in the setting. They must be placed either in the office filing cabinet or in the store cupboard.
- Setting telephone number should be given out to be used as an emergency contact for staff.
- Staff are allowed to use their mobile phones during breaks.
- Staff may not use any camera facility on their mobile during a session.

Social Networking sites:

- Staff should at no times post anything regarding children, their parents/families or other staff at the setting.
- No photographs from the setting may be used, or ones which identify the setting or children from the setting.
- No photographs of other members of staff to be used without their consent.
- Anyone posting remarks which breach confidentiality or are deemed to be of a detrimental nature to the setting or other employees may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.
- Maintain professionalism whilst using social networking sites.
- Any employee, who becomes aware of social networking activity that would be deemed distasteful or not appropriate, should make their manager aware.
- For more information please see Social Networking policy.

This policy has been adopted by Meynell Kindergarten