

APPROPRIATE USE OF IT SYSTEMS BY STUDENTS

Rationale

It is very clear, in speaking to members of college teams, that more and more time is being spent on incidents that are related to activities that take place online and outside of school by students. It is important to determine where the Thomas Deacon Academy's responsibility for these incidents lie and what amounts to parental responsibility.

Procedure

The Thomas Deacon Academy has a Code of Conduct and IT protocol that students must adhere to. If their actions in school or whilst they are logged in remotely to the school system brings them into dispute with this then the student(s) involved will take the consequences of their actions in line with our Behaviour Management Policy.

Where it is clear that students are involved in inappropriate use of IT systems out of school e.g. chatrooms, Facebook parents will be made aware of this as well as being told that as the actions are taking place out of school it is their responsibility as parents to deal with the situation as they see fit. We will not take any direct action on this unless it has a direct impact within the school environs.

If misuse of IT systems out of school leads to an inappropriate incident taking place in school we will deal with the situation in school in line with our behaviour management policy and will make the parent(s)/ carer(s) aware of the IT misuse out of school. We will not act any further than this with regards to the IT misuse. If a parent wishes to report the misuse of IT systems to an outside agency then they are within their rights to do so.

If a student misuses IT either in or out of school and it raises any concerns of a Child Protection nature then the appropriate procedures will be followed.

Outcomes:

The Thomas Deacon Academy maintains its high standards with regards to the expectation of behaviour of students in line with the Code of Conduct.

The Thomas Deacon Academy ensures that parents are clear about the responsibility that lies with them with regards to IT systems used in their household and / or by their child(ren).

Louise Moir

Director of Learning 15-19

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