

Killinchy Primary School



Internet Filtering Policy

March 2017

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1.0 Introduction

The contents of this policy pay close attention to the following DE Circulars:

- **DE Circular 2011/22: Internet Safety**
- **DE Circular 2007/01: Acceptable Use of the Internet and Digital Technologies in Schools.**
- **DE Circular 2016/26: Effective Educational Uses of Mobile Digital Devices**
- **DE Circular 2016/27: Online Safety**
- ***'Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools' 2019***

Copies of the above can be accessed online at www.deni.gov.uk ; hard copies will also be stored with this policy document.

Everyone at Killinchy Primary School takes internet use and the associated safety of our pupils extremely seriously.

It is important to note, however, that any filtering service, no matter how thorough, can never be comprehensive and it is essential both that schools have a clearly understood policy on acceptable use for all users and that adequate supervision is maintained.

If at any time school staff or pupils find themselves able to access internet sites from within school which they think should be blocked, they should advise the school Principal and if possible also the ICT Leader. The Principal should then report the matter to **the C2k Helpdesk** who will implement agreed procedures for handling such issues.

Depending on the nature of the issue, these procedures may require C2k to report to the Department. All actions should be taken immediately.

2.0 Two Systems

In Killinchy PS we use two systems for internet access:

1. DE provided **C2K provision**;
2. **Classnet**: Private 'BT Infinity' fibre optic broadband.

2.1 DE provided C2K provision

C2k provides an effective filtering system, as a result of which the following categories of websites are not, by default, available to schools: -

- **Adult:** content containing sexually explicit images, video or text, the depiction of actual or realistic sexual activity;
- **Violence:** content containing graphically violent images, video or text;
- **Hate Material:** content which promotes violence or attack on individuals or institutions on the basis of religious, racial or gender grounds;
- **Illegal drug taking and the promotion of illegal drug use:** content relating to the use or promotion of illegal drugs or misuse of prescription drugs;
- **Criminal skill/activity:** content relating to the promotion of criminal and other activities;
- **Gambling:** content relating to the use of online gambling websites or information relating to the promotion of gambling and gambling advice.

C2k defines three types of access:

- **GREEN** – accessible to all users in schools;
- **AMBER** – accessible to schools' selected groups of users (can be changed by the C2K School Manager within Post-primary and Special schools only);
- **RED** – not accessible to any user.

C2K filtering is managed at departmental level and is **not the responsibility of the school.**

2.2 CLASSNET: Private 'BT Infinity'

Departmental Circular 2011/22 states that if a school sets up its own school network, separate from the C2k managed service, with its own internet connection and Internet Service Provider (ISP), it is the school's responsibility to ensure that the filtering system provided is of an appropriate standard to ensure the safety of its pupils.

Whether a school has an agreement with its ISP for a filtering system, or has the expertise to install and maintain its own filtering system, **it is vital that it has a filtering policy in place.**

To that end in Killinchy PS we enlisted 'iTeach' (independent educational ICT company) to oversee the installation of our BT Infinity and associated filtering system.

With the collapse of iTeach in 2018, there was a risk that our internet filtering on the Classnet system had the potential to become vulnerable. With this in mind we enlisted the support of Emma Claire Parks of '**Calltech Support Ltd**'.

Emma had previously worked for iTeach and following their collapse, created her own ICT support business. Her previous experience with iTeach meant that she was already familiar with the filtering systems in place at Killinchy PS and was able to ensure that they were maintained to the same DE-approved standard.

2.3 Classnet Internet Filtering

Summary

The school's wifi and infrastructure has been installed and is maintained with an active, monitored filter system to satisfy both the needs of child protection/inappropriate content whilst ensuring that it serves to support teaching and learning.

This document details all aspects of the filtering policy and systems for 'the network', also referred to here as 'Classnet'

Access to network

Access to the network is provided through password authentication using WPA. This key is not available to any staff aside from the school SLT. Access is therefore governed by unique device registration and pre approval by authorised staff only. No devices can join the network without this approval and authentication.

Hardware and general service provision

The following has been installed and configured in your school to ensure only appropriate content is available to all users:

1. A hardware firewall filter is installed which intercepts all Internet traffic leaving and entering the school network and this cannot be circumvented. This firewall appliance is configured for the Globalview Internet filtering service, powered by industry giant Cyren. This service is a professional, commercial category based web filtering solution in use by over 120k schools worldwide. It uses a category based system to group web sites in addition to keyword, IP and specific white and blacklist control. School licenses are purchased on a fixed three year term to ensure continuity of service and the individual firewall is monitored 24/7 with instant notification of any concerns.

2. In addition, IP and URL black and white listing is supported locally which ensures any content that is flagged as non-desirable on the network, can be disabled immediately.
3. Full access logs are maintained for all traffic and all attempts at access of inappropriate content.

Specifics of filtering service

This filtration service uses a category based system to decide if a website is viewable from all Internet connected devices. The primary Categories include:

- Child Protection (including violence, porn, weapons etc)
- Leisure (entertainment, travel, sports)
- Business
- Chatting (internet chatting and instant messaging services)
- Computer & Internet Services (social networking, streaming, spam sites)
- Other (image sharing, dating and person, compromised, inc uncategorised)

If a website falls into a category that is not deemed acceptable for use in the classroom. The user will be subject to viewing a “unsuitable” notification on the web browser and this activity logged to user and device level. Cyren independently search the Internet using their tools to select what category is assigned to any available website. This is then matched to the live filtering within the school.

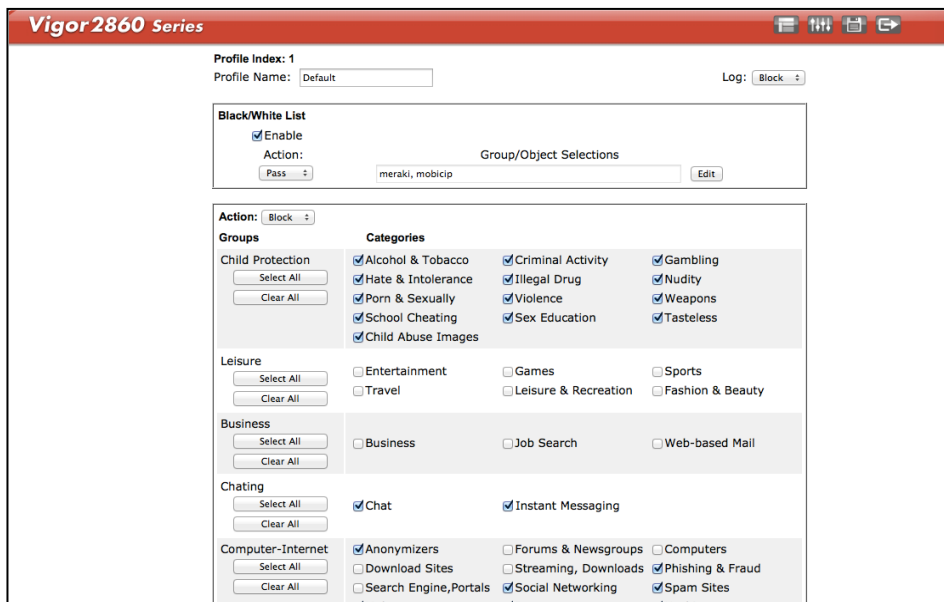
A website’s category can be manually checked and identified by using their free, up to date database tool:

<http://www.cyren.com/url-category-check.html>

The default categories selected are as follows:

The screenshot shows the 'Vigor2860 Series' web filtering configuration window. The 'Filtering' tab is active, displaying a list of categories with checkboxes indicating which are selected. The selected categories are: Child Abuse Images, Chat, Instant Messaging, Anonymizers, Social Networking, Botnets, Information Security, Peer-to-Peer, Dating & Personals, Government, Non-profits & NGOs, Real Estate, Shopping, Cults, Network Errors, and Uncategorised Sites. The 'OK' button is visible at the bottom.

Category	Selected
Child Abuse Images	Yes
Leisure	
Entertainment	No
Travel	No
Games	No
Leisure & Recreation	No
Sports	No
Fashion & Beauty	No
Business	
Business	No
Job Search	No
Web-based Mail	No
Chatting	
Chat	Yes
Instant Messaging	Yes
Computer-Internet	
Anonymizers	Yes
Download Sites	No
Search Engine, Portals	No
Malware	Yes
Illegal Software	Yes
Forums & Newsgroups	No
Streaming, Downloads	No
Social Networking	Yes
Botnets	Yes
Information Security	Yes
Computers	No
Phishing & Fraud	Yes
Spam Sites	Yes
Hacking	Yes
Peer-to-Peer	Yes
Other	
Adv & Pop-Ups	No
Compromised	Yes
Finance	No
News	No
Politics	No
Restaurants & Dining	Yes
General	No
Image Sharing	Yes
Private IP Addresses	No
Arts	No
Dating & Personals	Yes
Government	Yes
Non-profits & NGOs	Yes
Real Estate	No
Shopping	No
Cults	Yes
Network Errors	No
Uncategorised Sites	Yes
Transportation	No
Education	No
Health & Medicine	No
Personal Sites	No
Religion	No
Translators	No
Greeting cards	No
Parked Domains	Yes



3.0 School Procedures

The school has a mechanism should a website be found to be uncategorised, and can request a category to be allocated from within the URL category tool.

Individual websites and iOS apps can be permitted through the filtering system on a site per site basis using a system called White Listing. This is particularly useful when blocking such apps as Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr that operate within an 'App' environment.

4.0 Further Notes

- Filtering has been checked by two senior staff within DE Guidelines.
- The network is supported on demand from an external agency (Calltech Support Ltd)
- The school's eSafety Policy has been changed to match these changes and systems.

This policy was initially compiled on 22nd April 2015 and is subject to review and updating as required.

5.0 Policy Review

March 2017 and again in October 2019.

As part of a school-wide review of Safeguarding policies and procedures cognisance was taken of DE Circular 2016/27 'Online Safety'.

In developing even tighter filtering systems iTeach have also provided the following detailed documents:

- **Classnet Filtering Policy**
- **Filter Reporting Policy**
- **Classnet Risk Assessment**

Details of all the above are retained in the 'Safeguarding Drawer' in the Principal's office.

6.0 Details for Calltech Support Ltd.

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