National Library of Ireland

Information and Communications Technologies

Acceptable Usage Policy

The National Library of Ireland provides public access to information and communication technology resources free of charge for research and reference purposes. The resources include the National Library's website, catalogue, electronic subscription resources and the Internet. Information and communication technology resources are available via public computers in the Library's reading rooms. Users with a valid reader's ticket may also connect to the National Library's Wifi service in the Reading Rooms with their personal laptops and other Wifi enabled devices. Guidelines on how to connect to the network are available; we regret that it is not possible for National Library staff to provide any additional IT support.

Users must abide by the conditions in this policy when accessing electronic resources at the National Library of Ireland. This policy is to safeguard the interests of Library users and will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains timely and relevant.

Conditions of access

While the National Library of Ireland endeavours to offer accurate and current resources and to maintain the security of its computer systems, the Internet is an inherently insecure environment.

The National Library of Ireland:

- accepts no responsibility for the quality, accuracy or availability of information accessed through the electronic subscription resources or the Internet . It is the personal responsibility of each user to ensure the accuracy of information they discover
- assumes no liability for any loss, damage or injury, direct or indirect, suffered as a result of using the Library's computer resources
- is not liable for any third party content on the electronic subscription resources or the Internet that users may find offensive, upsetting or inflammatory
- is not liable for any security breaches, including viruses or malware, suffered by readers or visitors when using Library equipment or for any loss or damage suffered as a result of the unavailability of Library equipment or the Internet, including interruptions during use.

Security

The following activities are prohibited on the National Library of Ireland's computers or on personal devices using the National Library's Wifi network:

- any activity prohibited by national or international law
- gambling
- engaging in any form of business activity, including the buying and selling of goods
- playing games
- attempting to make unauthorised access to other computers or networks
- obtaining, displaying or distributing material which could be considered obscene, offensive or abusive
- distribution of unsolicited advertising

Users should also be aware that risks are attached to some online activities e.g. broadcasting personal or private details over the network may lead to the receiving of unwanted mail or attention. The National Library of Ireland cannot be held responsible for any losses resulting from sending confidential financial information via the Internet.

The National Library of Ireland applies filtering software in an attempt to screen out potentially offensive and potentially illegal Internet material. However, filtering mechanisms, may, on occasion, eliminate material that is perfectly acceptable. The National Library of Ireland is willing to consider releasing any such site on request and after careful checking.

Any user using their own equipment should ensure that their chosen operating system has the latest system patches, and that the Anti Virus software is active and up to date before connecting to the National Library's Wifi Network.

All Library computers are situated in public areas, within clear view of staff. In addition the National Library of Ireland can monitor access to Internet sites, and any public access of illegal, offensive or controversial material may be the subject of further action. Any members of the public witnessing misuse of library computer equipment should report to a member of Reading Room staff.

Please respect National Library equipment. The downloading of any software or the use of USB devices, floppy disks, CD-ROMs is not allowed on Library computers. Do not attempt to fix technical or software problems or change settings. Leave all equipment switched on.

I confirm that I have read, understood and am prepared to adhere to the policies and rules contained in Library's acceptable ICT Usage Policy of December 2012.