

ICT LETTER

REIGATE PARISH CHURCH SCHOOL
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Reigate Parish Church School aims to provide children with a rich and varied curriculum including equipping children with skills for an increasingly hi-tech computer world. Every class spends time each week using our ICT facilities which benefits their ICT skills as well as skills in many other subjects. The school is connected to the internet via a Broadband connection, allowing us faster access to the Internet and its many educational websites and resources. The Internet provides a number of important and valuable contributions that should enhance learning and understanding in all of the curriculum areas. Thousands of schools across the world now have access to the Internet, and many students are reaping the educational benefits of this medium.

Access to the Internet will enable pupils to explore thousands of libraries, databases, programs and other educational resources to broaden learning. Online materials are playing an increasing part in the ICT curriculum but also in many other areas for example visiting art exhibitions, places of worship or museums. As part of the school's ICT curriculum, we offer pupils supervised access to the Internet. In most educational activities, teachers provide the children with the Internet links but for the older children, further in-depth study of a topic can be provided by the use of Search Engines, which scan all the available sites for appropriate material.

As a result of the open nature of the Internet, there is some material that is unsuitable for viewing by children. Therefore, we have introduced procedures to enable your son/daughter to use the Internet facilities safely and securely. Our Internet access is provided through a company recommended by Surrey County Council. The system protects responsible users by electronic blocking, to prevent access to unsuitable materials and sites. The central computer database is updated weekly from a list constantly added to by a large team of specialist researchers. Children are taught about the importance of e-safety and how to keep safe on the internet.

For further information on e-safety please see the CEOP website – www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents.

Therefore, before being allowed to use the Internet, all pupils must have parental permission. We will make every effort to ensure that unsuitable material is not viewed by your son/daughter. A member of staff will monitor all Internet sessions. Each member of staff and each pupil using the Internet must agree to follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy. This policy sets out the rules, which must be adhered to, for the protection of all users.

Yours sincerely



Mrs F Davis
Headteacher