Cork City Council Libraries

Policy on Using the Internet in Libraries

Cork City Council Libraries try to enrich the lives of individuals and to empower citizens through:

- supporting lifelong learning, and
- providing ready access to local, national and international information sources.

The resources of the Library are freely available to everyone in society. We support Government initiatives to promote equality of access and opportunity in the digital world.

If you use the Library's public Internet facilities, remember the following:

1. You must be responsible in the way you use the Internet. It is an unregulated information network.

2. You must follow the Library's Internet usage and booking regulations to ensure equality and fairness and to ensure the effective use of library resources. The Library may stop an Internet session at any time.

3. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of information on the Internet, nor do we supervise or accept responsibility for any content you access. The Library also cannot accept responsibility for damage, loss, costs or expenses arising from the use of the Internet-based computer services.

4. You may register with any free Web-based email address service. You must not send nor receive inappropriate emails. Cork City Libraries cannot accept responsibility for any communication received or sent by personal e-mail account holders.

5. Parents and guardians must take responsibility for their children's use of the Web. Children under 18 years of age must have a consent form signed by a parent or guardian. There are extra restrictions on children's Internet facilities in the Library.

6. You are not allowed to use chat room facilities.

7. Cork City Council will scan all public terminals regularly to check for inappropriate images, for example, pornography. There is special software on all public workstations in the Library to monitor viewing or downloading of inappropriate images or sites. We will report the viewing of any illegal images on Library Internet facilities to the Gardaí.

8. You may **not** create, access, copy, store, transmit, download or publish any material which:
   - is obscene, racist, defamatory or illegal;
   - causes harassment or gross offence to others; and
   - is a breach of copyright laws or licensing agreements.

9. You may **not**:
   • use the Library's workstations to gain unauthorised access to the Library's networks or computer systems or to any other network or computer system;
   • block the work of others by using large amounts of system resources or by deliberately crashing any library computer system;
   • try to damage computer equipment or software;
   • try to change software configurations in a malicious manner;
   • reduce the system performance; and
   • use any library workstation for illegal or criminal purposes.

10. You can appeal decisions about the above policy and procedures in writing to the City Librarian, 57-61 Grand Parade, Cork, T12 NT99.

Please contact the City Library or your local library for information on times to use the internet, or check www.corkcitylibraries.ie.