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## **Dear Parents**

Our school provides access to Department of Education online services and uses some software applications provided by third parties. These applications enhance the contemporary learning opportunities available to students and the range of teaching tools available to staff to deliver the Western Australian Curriculum.

I am writing to seek approval for your child to be given access to these services.

The Department's online services currently provide students with access to:

- the internet, with all reasonable care taken by central office and schools to monitor and control students' access to websites while at school;
- online teaching and learning services such as Connect, web-conferencing and digital resources;
- online file storage and sharing services, eg storage of student work on our school server
- online services at locations other than school.



Most of the software applications we use, provided by third parties, have been rated as having a minimal or low risk by the Department of Education, WA (DoE). Low risk Apps we use include Mathletics, Education Perfect (a full list of apps is attached.)

A few have been rated Medium risk. Eg Read Theory. For these Apps, consent is required for **each** App. (a list of apps is attached.)

If you agree to your child using these services, please sign the consent forms attached to this letter. Please explain the content of the *Acceptable Use Agreement* to your child before the permission slip is signed.

**The consent form should be returned to school** so that an online services account can be created for your child. We recommend keeping a copy for your records.

Please note that while every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content when using Department provided online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure.

You should be aware that the Department has the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose messages created, received or sent over Department online services. Logs of internet access data are kept for administrative, legal and security purposes and may be monitored. DoE cannot filter internet content accessed by your child at locations away from the school site.

The Department encourages close family supervision of all internet use by children in locations other than school, and strongly recommends the use of appropriate internet filtering software. Advice on managing internet use at home can found on the Office of the E-Safety Commissioner website (<u>www.esafety.gov.au/iparent</u>).

Yours sincerely Tracey Owen Principal 9 February 2021