



## Internet access via the Play Service: information for children, young people and families

This information sheet explains how you can use the internet via the Play Service. While we encourage you to use the internet to keep in touch with friends and family and find useful information, there are rules that we all have to follow. Before you can use the internet, we will ask you to read this information sheet carefully and then, if appropriate, with your parents or carers, fill in a form to say that you understand and agree to the rules.

Please note: For patients under 16, a person with parental responsibility for that child must sign this form. Young people aged 16 years or older can sign the form on their own.

Once you have completed the form, we will provide you with internet access using an iPad. We will secure the iPad within your room or bed space while you use it. At the end of their shift, play staff will collect the iPad so it can be locked away overnight.

### What is allowed?

- You can search for information suitable for your age.
- You can access your email or use MSN or similar chat room systems to keep in touch with friends, family and school.
- You can visit websites that can help with your school work and revision.

### What is not allowed?

You must not try to look at any internet sites that could put you or other children and young people at risk. This means that you must not go to any sites that show material of a sexual or violent nature, or access any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory. The system logs every page you visit and if we discover you have been looking at sites like this, we may have to block access to the internet so you cannot use it again.

### Information for parents/carers

- We will ask you to sign the attached form to give your child permission to use the internet and email. This includes permission to use chat rooms and social networking sites, such as MSN, Facebook, MySpace and Bebo, within any age restrictions set by the sites themselves.
- The Play Service at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust (GOSH) will provide access to the internet and email. We will also provide you with guidance and rules for safe and responsible use of the internet and email and ask you to discuss these with your child before accessing the internet and email.
- Internet access is provided via the Camden Grid for Learning, and as such is provided solely for patients within the hospital, not for accompanying adults or siblings.
- The iPad must not be used to access inappropriate content, including but not limited to:
  - Browsing, downloading, uploading or distributing any material that could be considered offensive, illegal or discriminatory.
  - Sending or displaying offensive messages, pictures or webpages.
  - Searching for or visiting undesirable and/or inappropriate websites or materials.
  - Underage access to sites with minimum age restrictions – such as Facebook, MySpace or Bebo, all of which have a minimum age of 13 years.
  - Using racist, sexist, homophobic, violent or abusive language during the conduct of emails or other internet activities.
  - Infringing copyright laws.
- The Play Service at GOSH cannot be held responsible for the nature and/or content of materials accessed through the internet, but we will take every reasonable precaution to keep children and young people safe and prevent them accessing inappropriate content. Steps taken will include using filtered or restricted access to the internet, monitoring web usage and providing information on e-safety skills to children and young people.
- GOSH will log use of the internet and can check the internet sites a child visits. If there are any concerns, we will contact a person with parental responsibility.

## Internet agreement form: for parents or carers

Patient name:	Age:
Ward:	GOSH number:

### ***Declaration***

I have read the rules that apply to using the internet and I understand that if I or my child breaks any of these rules, we will lose access to these facilities and further action may be taken.

I understand GOSH will have to report anything inappropriate that is found to the relevant authorities.

I agree that it is my responsibility as parent/carer to supervise my child's appropriate use of the internet.

### **Parent/carer**

Name:	Sign:
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### **Child**

Name:	Sign:
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### **Date**

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