

Devon Libraries

Wi-Fi Terms and Conditions

Staying within the law

You may only use our Wi-Fi network for lawful purposes. There is a summary of some relevant legislation towards the end of this document. If you misuse this service in any way, you may be banned from accessing the network and / or from using Devon libraries, and you could risk prosecution. You may be asked to supply or confirm your current address so that we can inform you and Devon library staff of any action taken.

Misuse includes:

- Re-publishing downloaded data in contravention of copyright legislation.
- Writing on screen anything that may be considered offensive, pornographic or threatening.
- Viewing or downloading pornographic images or text.
- Sending messages, or posting material on the Internet via means such as blogs / wikis / social networking sites, that may be considered to contain anything offensive, pornographic, or threatening, including any form of racial, sexual, or religious harassment or incitement.
- Viewing or sharing illegal information.

Filtering

Access to the Internet via Wi-Fi is filtered but we cannot guarantee that all offensive sites will be blocked. Equally, some acceptable sites may be incorrectly blocked. What may be acceptable or unacceptable to one person may not be to another, but if you find a site which you think should be blocked or unblocked, please inform a member of library staff. Devon County Council will decide on what action to take.

Young people

Young people under the age of 16 using the Wi-Fi network will receive the same level of access as an adult, including access to email and social networking sites. Devon County Council has no control over information provided on the Internet, and cannot be held responsible for the content or quality of such information. Parents remain responsible for the information accessed by their child.

Live television broadcasts

You may not use the library network to view live television broadcasts (which require a television licence), but you may view non-live (archived) television programmes.

Availability of service

Technical or other problems may sometimes prevent access to Wi-Fi. Devon County Council cannot accept responsibility for the network being slow or unavailable, or for any failure beyond its control.

Liability and confidentiality / privacy of personal information

Devon County Council does not accept responsibility for any virus downloaded via the WiFi network onto your laptop or other device, or for any subsequent damage caused by such a download, or for loss or damage to material. You are responsible for your own virus protection. We cannot guarantee the privacy / accessibility of any personal data, including email messages. We advise you not to send confidential or sensitive personal information by email or via the Internet. If you choose to use credit or debit cards to purchase goods or services via the Internet, you do so at your own risk.

Information provided via the Internet

Devon County Council has no control over information provided on the Internet, and is not responsible for the availability, content, quality or accuracy of such information.

Consideration for others

Please:

- Show consideration for others by being quiet when using your device in the library. Disruptive use, such as for group game playing, is not permitted.
- Respect other people's privacy and do not look at computer screens that are being used by others.
- Use headphones if you want to listen to audio material. Headphones can be purchased from the library, or you can use your own. You may use the library's "for hire" DVDs and audio CDs only if you have paid the hire charge first.

Health and Safety

Advice on using computers safely is provided via posters in libraries and is included at Appendix 2 towards the end of this policy statement. Devon County Council does not accept responsibility for any health problems that are alleged to have arisen as a result of using your equipment on library premises.

Appendix 1: Legislation

The following legislation applies to the Internet:

- **Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, and Obscene Publications Act 1959**
You may not use library computers to view, read, download, upload, distribute, circulate or sell any material which is pornographic, obscene, racist, sexist, grossly offensive or violent, even if it is legal in the country of origin.
- **Computer Misuse Act 1990**
It is a criminal offence to:
 - Gain unauthorised access to any program or data held in a computer (computer hacking).
 - Use hacking skills to commit other crimes.
 - Alter data or cause changes to any software without authority and with malevolent intent. This includes the writing or intentional introduction of computer viruses.
- **The Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988**
You must obtain the permission of the owner of intellectual property before copying or making use of it. You should assume that all material on the Internet is subject to copyright unless a specific notice states otherwise. Copying includes downloading files or images or copying text into or attaching it to an email message.
- **Data Protection Act 1998**
This Act applies to obtaining, using and publishing information about identifiable individuals on the Internet. You must ensure that:
 - You obtain the consent of individuals before information (including photographs, video images, names or email addresses) about them is published or disclosed via the Internet. This is not required if the information has been released into the public domain by the individual, for example names of book authors in libraries, or is required by law to be made public, for example planning applications. However, individuals should be informed about how their information will be disclosed.
 - Published information is accurate, relevant, not excessive, kept up to date and not held for longer than necessary.
 - Any information you obtain or publish is appropriately notified under the Act.There is more information on the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner's website at www.ico.gov.uk.
- **Defamation Act 1996**
It is unlawful to make an untrue statement, published to a third party, which damages the

reputation of a person or company or holds them up to hatred, ridicule or contempt. It need not be obviously insulting. It could, for example, be a suggestion that a competitor is in financial difficulties or is unprofessional in the conduct of its business. Facts concerning individuals or organisations must be accurate and verifiable and views or opinions must not portray their subjects in any way that could damage their reputation.

- **Sexual/Racial/Disability Harassment**

The Sex Discrimination Act 1975, Race Relations Act 1976 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995 make it an offence to discriminate on the grounds of sex, race or disability (or perceived disability). Harassment, such as unwelcome emails or copying of such material from the Internet, is not permitted and could result in legal action against you.

Appendix 2: Advice on using computers safely

For your safety and comfort, please:

- Don't bend your wrists upwards
- Position the mouse so that it is within easy reach
- If there is reflected glare from windows or lights, tilt or twist the screen
- Adjust the brightness and contrast if the image is not clear enough
- Try to relax, and type gently
- Don't sit in one position for too long, and look away from the screen to vary your focus. Take short regular breaks

Please tell staff if:

- You would like to borrow a wrist rest
- You notice any hazards such as trailing wires or the screen needs cleaning

Different formats

If you would like a summary of this in a different format such as large print, Braille or tape, or in a different language, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk