Responsible Internet Use –
Kingsmead Primary School Virtual Learning Environment

Dear Parents

The Department for Education and Skills recently announced a strategy for all schools to have access to a Learning Platform and online Learning Space by 2007-2008. Kingsmead Primary School has subscribed to the Cheshire Virtual Learning Platform (School Portal).

As part of the Project, your child is being provided with an ePortfolio which means that he/she will have a safe and secure password protected area on the World Wide Web where he/she will be able to save examples of their best work to. Since the ePortfolio is web based, your son/daughter will be able to access their work anywhere where they have access to a PC and the Internet, e.g. at school, home or in the library.

Please note: As with any secure internet account, it is important that your child's password is kept a secret. If however, you think that their account has been compromised in anyway, please contact me directly.

Your child will have access to an internal e-mail account. They will be taught how to use it responsibly. The school will take any allegations of bullying by e-mail very seriously. Any incidents will be dealt with in accordance with the schools Anti-bullying Policy. This email account will not be able to send or receive emails from/to anyone other than other users of our Virtual Learning Platform.

Kingsmead Primary School is providing supervised access to the Internet and you will have already signed a Responsible Internet Use permission form. Our school Internet provider operates a filtering system that restricts access to inappropriate materials. This may not be the case at home. You may find it useful to visit web sites such as:

www.parentscentre.gov.uk/usingcomputersandtheinternet- ParentsCentre has been developed by the Department for Education and Skills as a resource to support parents.

www.getnetwise.org - GetNetWise is a public service brought to you by a wide range of Internet industry corporations and public interest organisations.

Please would you read the attached Rules for Responsible Use of My Learning Platform. You are asked to sign and return the consent form giving permission for your son/daughter to:

1. Access their ePortfolio via the Internet;
2. Upload work to their ePortfolio.

You can read our full Policy for Acceptable Internet Use on our website.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the project, please contact me to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely

Catriona Stewart
Headteacher