**Safe internet use**

The following terms are related to safe internet use:

**Anti-virus software**

Anti-virus software is a computer program that scans computer files for viruses and eliminates them.

**Computer virus**

A computer virus is a program that is written to disrupt the normal functioning of a person’s computer without their knowledge or consent.

**Computer worm**

A computer worm is malware that is able to distribute itself over a network, normally via e-mail, without a person having run an infected program.

**E-mail spoofing**

E-mail spoofing is the forgery of an e-mail header so that the source of the e-mail appears to be from a different origin.

**Internet hoax**

An internet hoax is an e-mail message or article intended to deceive or defraud others.

**Pharming**

Pharming is an identity theft scam where a criminal ‘hijacks’ a legitimate website or server in order to get people’s personal details to steal their money.

**Phishing**

Phishing refers to attempts from people to con the user into giving out personal, confidential details such as PIN numbers and passwords, etc. by posing as a legitimate organisation, usually via e-mail.

**Secure URL**

A secure URL begins with https:// or has a small closed lock displayed somewhere on the page, often next to the URL.

**Spam**

Spam is the electronic equivalent of ‘junk mail’. It is an e-mail sent to you in the form of advertising products that you did not request.

**Trojan**

A Trojan is a destructive program disguised as a useful application.

**Virus signature (definition)**

A **virus signature or definition is the pattern that uniquely identifies a virus.**