**Glossary of Terms**

**Web server:**

* A web server is made up of hardware and software that saves, processes and sends web pages to people.
* How it works on the MCAST website: When user enters the URL the MCAST website uses a web server to provide them the homepage, student portal and content pages.

**Web Hosting:**

* A service that allows you to post a website onto the internet.
* How it works on the MCAST website: Professional web hosting platform guarantees security, backups, and 24/7 access on which MCAST hosts their website.

**IP Address:**

* A unique string of numbers separated by dots or colons that identifies a device on a network.
* How it works on the MCAST website: The domain mcast.edu.mt

points to a specific IP address of the server that hosts the site.

**Domain Name:**

* A human-readable address used to access websites (e.g., google.com).
* How it works on the MCAST website: Users access the MCAST site by entering mcast.edu.mt instead of the IP address.

**Domain Name System:**

* A system that translates domain names into IP addresses.
* How it works on the MCAST website: When users type mcast.edu.mt the DNS finds the correct IP address and connects them to the MCAST web server.

**HTTP/HTTPS Protocol:**

* Protocols used to transmit data over the web. HTTPS is the secure version of HTTP.
* How it works on the MCAST website: The website uses HTTPS to encrypt data between the user’s browser and the server for secure communication.

**SSL/TLS Certificate:**

* A digital certificate that secures data through encryption.
* How it works on the MCAST website: The MCAST site has an SSL/TLS certificate, shown by the padlock icon in the browser, ensuring a secure connection.

**Internet Services**

**Service 1: Content Delivery Network (CDN)**

* Function: Distributes website content to servers around the world to load pages faster.
* Value: Increases speed and reduces server load, improving user experience.
* Improvement: Use a CDN with edge caching to make videos and large files load faster globally.

**Service 2: Email Hosting**

* Function: Manages and stores emails using the MCAST domain (e.g., staff@mcast.edu.mt).
* Value: Provides professional and reliable email communication for staff and students.
* Improvement: Integrate multi-factor authentication (MFA) for added security.