

PASSWORD POLICY

Protecting information and securing the integrity of the information becomes increasingly important to Nyenrode. So to prevent unauthorized access all students and staff need to identify themselves with a user name and then authenticate themselves with a password. This password is strictly personal and always associated with the user.

A password must be strong and not easy to figure out. The obvious passwords like the name of a spouse, child or pet are therefore not sufficient. Additionally, the longer and more complex the password, the harder it is to decrypt. A password of six characters can be cracked within hours, but a password of 10 characters can take up to several weeks to decrypt.

Nyenrode has, based on the ISO27xxx standard, set a password policy with guidelines and rules as a starting point:

"Users need to take good security habits into account when choosing and using passwords"

These are the guidelines:

- The password must be at least 7 (seven) characters in length and must contain characters from three of the four following categories:
 - - Uppercase characters (A through Z)
 - Lowercase characters (a through z)
 - Base 10 digits (0 through 9)
 - Non-alphabetic characters (for example, !, \$, #, %)
- The password may not contain all or significant portions of the user's account name or full name.
- Your (new) password cannot be a password you used before.
- After 5 failed logon attempts (either using a wrong username or password) within 15 minutes, your account will be locked for 15 minutes. Within that timespan you can contact the helpdesk to unlock your account or wait until 15 minutes have passed.
- You need to change your password once every 6 months.