

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Arkansas-Louisiana Conference of SDA

Department of Education

Ozark Adventist School is pleased to offer its students and staff access to a computer network for electronic mail and the Internet. To gain access to e-mail and the Internet, **both parent/guardian and student must sign and return this form to the school office.**

The Internet is a powerful resource for expanding the educational experience of each student. Access to e-mail and Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards throughout the world. Unfortunately, it is true that some material accessible via the Internet contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, and offensive. Many educators believe, however, that the benefits to students in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed the disadvantages and therefore this school has chosen to make the Internet available to its students. Ultimately parents/guardians are responsible for setting and conveying standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. We respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for their child's Internet access.

Since the Internet is provided for students and staff to conduct research and communicate with others, access is given to students and staff who agree to act in a responsible manner. Access is a privilege – not a right. Access requires responsibility. Access requires parental permission. Access requires compliance with the following policies:

1. The student and staff should have no expectation of privacy or confidentiality in the content of electronic communications or other computer files sent and received on the school computer network or stored in his/her directory. The school computer system operator or other school employees may review the subject, content, and appropriateness of electronic communications or other computer files and remove them if warranted, reporting any violation of rules to the school administrator or law enforcement officials.
2. When sending electronic messages, students and staff shall not include information that could identify themselves or other students and staff. An example of identifying information includes last names, addresses, and phone numbers. Students and staff shall identify themselves by first names. Your Internet ID and password are provided only for your personal use. *Do not share your password!* If you suspect someone has discovered your password, change it immediately. Students and staff shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users.
3. Students and staff shall not:
 - a) Copy and forward,
 - b) Copy and download, OR
 - c) Copy and upload to the network or Internet server any copyrighted material, without approval by the computer system operator, a

teacher, or a school administrator. Copyrighted material is anything written by someone else. It could be an e-mail message, a game, a story, an encyclopedia entry, or software.

4. All sites containing sexually explicit materials – materials showing male or female nudity – are off-limits to students and staff.
5. Students who violate the Internet use rules set forth in this policy will be subject to the discipline outlined by the school administration and staff. Staff members who violate the Internet use rules set forth in this policy will be subject to serious discipline and possible loss of employment.
6. Students and staff shall not infiltrate, or “hack”, outside computing systems or networks. Examples: the release of viruses, worms, or other programs that damage or otherwise harm an outside computing system or network. Students and staff shall not disrupt a system or interfere with another’s ability to use that system (e.g. by sending “e-mail bombs” that cause a disk to fill up, a network to bog down, or a software application to crash). Nor shall students or staff do any of these things to the Ozark Adventist School computer system.
7. Students and staff shall not use the school district’s computer network to solicit sales or conduct business (i.e. by posting or advertisement to a news group). Students and staff shall not set up web pages to advertise or sell a service. Students and staff will adhere to Christian principles when using the computers at Ozark Adventist School.

As a user of the school’s computer network, I agree to comply with the above stated rules and policies, acting in a reliable fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions.

Student’s Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____