

# Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

The schools of the Michigan Conference educational system understand the value technology and the Internet bring to education. Both student and parent(s) must sign the Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy as part of the registration process. This includes:

- A. Access to the Internet and use of technology at school
- B. The responsibility of students to also follow the Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy off campus

The Internet is a powerful resource for expanding the educational experience of each student. Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, curriculum materials, and personal information sites while exchanging messages with Internet users throughout the world. Unfortunately, it is true that some materials accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or offensive. We believe, however, that the benefits to students exceed any disadvantages and, therefore, support the school's choosing to make the Internet and other forms of technology available to students.

**Technology Usage at School:** School technology is for educational purposes only. In order to access the Internet, parental permission is required. Access is a privilege-not a right. School staff may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using the system responsibly.

**Technology Usage Off Campus:** In light of the fact that the use of technology is not limited to the boundaries of school grounds, this Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy also applies to the use of the Internet and/or any electronic device(s) off campus that would negatively impact the school, and/or the school/church family in any way.

Therefore, while utilizing technology on or off campus, students agree to adhere to the following Christian principles:

- I will be responsible and courteous in all communications.
- I will not utilize the Internet in a way that would demean, bully, intimidate, or in any way cause intentional hardship to another individual whether they be a student, faculty member, or otherwise.
- I will not post materials on social media and/or any other electronic media forums that would misrepresent the school's principles and stated values.
- I will use a personal electronic device (such as a smartphone, iPad, tablet, etc.) only if school policy allows and only within school guidelines and principles.
- I will not allow people to use my account(s) and will not share my password(s).
- I will respect confidentiality of accounts, folders, work, and files of others.
- I will observe copyright laws and will also give each source credit when using pictures, quotes and/or other material.
- I will not attempt to access or alter unauthorized areas of a computer system and/or network.
- I will not look at or participate in anything that is illegal.

Any activity not in compliance with these rules may result in a loss of access to school technology as well as other disciplinary and/or legal action. Additional regulations may be applied at the local school level.

# Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

## Student:

While utilizing the school's technology/Internet or while using off campus technology/Internet:

- I agree to follow Christian principles of conduct in my technology usage as stated in this document.
- If, while at school, I accidentally come across something that is illegal, dangerous, offensive, or harmful, I will clear the offensive material from my screen and inform my teacher or principal.
- I will not reveal names, school/home addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or other personal information-mine or anyone else's.

I understand that if the school determines that I have broken one or more of the guidelines set out in the Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy, disciplinary and/or legal action may result. This may include my loss of access to technology at school.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent or Guardian:

- I understand that the Internet can provide students with valuable learning experiences.
- I understand that the school provides a filtering system on computers connected to the Internet. I also understand that the school cannot completely control what is accessed.
- I accept that, while teachers will exercise their duty of care, protection against exposure to harmful information is ultimately the responsibility of the student.

I have read and will support the Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

I believe \_\_\_\_\_ (name of student) understands his/her technology use responsibility, and I hereby give my permission for him/her to use technology, including the Internet while at school/school functions. I also understand that my child is responsible to follow the school's Technology and Internet Acceptable Use Policy while off campus.

Parent or Legal Guardian name (printed):

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Legal Guardian:

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_