

ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE INTERNET POLICY
Catholic Diocese of Wichita
Grades PreK – 12

Please read this document carefully before signing.

Our goal in providing technology access to students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating their access to information, resources, tools, and communication.

With access to people and information from all over the world comes access to material that may not be of educational value. All schools in the Catholic Diocese of Wichita have taken precautions to restrict access to such material. While students are using the Internet at school, adult supervision will be provided. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all access, and an ingenious user can circumvent any filter. The Catholic Diocese of Wichita still believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the school.

The use of technology is a privilege, not a right. It is important for all students to know that they need to act responsibly when using the Internet. The operation of the school network relies upon the proper conduct of the end user, and students must adhere to strict guidelines. Inappropriate use will result in cancellation of privilege to use the Internet. These guidelines are provided so that you are aware of the responsibilities of your child. Therefore, this policy needs to be explained to your child(ren) in a way that you feel they would best understand. We will also discuss these safety issues in our computer classes.

Acceptable Use – Use of the technology must be in support of education and research and consistent with the standards of the Catholic Church, the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, and the school which your child(ren) attends.

Unacceptable technology behavior includes, but is not limited to:

Violate Catholic morals, human dignity or any state or federal law or municipal ordinance such as accessing or transmitting pornography of any kind, obscene depictions, harmful materials, materials that encourage others to violate the law, confidential information or copyrighted materials.

- Using another's password
- Accessing websites that are inappropriate and/or not part of an assigned lesson
- Using obscene or offensive language
- Sending or displaying obscene or offensive messages or pictures
- Any student or employee work created on diocesan equipment is the property of the diocese.
- Insulting or harassing another person
- Using your name or another student's name on any Internet site
- Bringing any unauthorized storage device.
- Selling or purchasing any legal or illegal items or substances.
- Obtaining and/or using anonymous e-mail sites, spamming, blogging, spreading viruses/spyware.
- Causing harm to others or damaging their property such as:

- 1) Using profane, abusive or impolite language, threatening, harassing or making damaging or false statements about others, or accessing, transmitting or downloading offensive, harassing, disparaging materials,
- 2) Deleting, copying, modifying or forging other's names, e-mails, files, or data; disguising ones identity, impersonating other users, or sending anonymous communications.
- 3) Damaging computer equipment, files, data or the network in any way including intentionally accessing, transmitting or downloading computer viruses, other harmful files or programs, or disrupting any computer system performance.
- 4) Using any diocesan computer to pursue hacking, internal or external to the diocese or attempting to access information protected by privacy laws or,
- 5) Accessing, transmitting or downloading bandwidth intensive activities such as games, music or video files including chain letters or any type of pyramid schemes.
- Any other actions deemed inappropriate by faculty or administration
- Any use of technology must be supported by a lesson plan for an educational purpose.
- Unauthorized use of any technology device such as cell phones, PDA's, media players, or cameras.
- Areas to address:
 - 1) Parent Use
 - 2) Children Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

If a student violates any of these provisions, the following will result:

- Loss of access to computers at the school where the violation occurs
- Confiscation of any unauthorized storage device.
- Disciplinary action according to the school's code of discipline
- Legal action, if appropriate

Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The Catholic Diocese of Wichita specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet. The school does not guarantee the protection of privacy. In fact, the Catholic Diocese of Wichita reserves the right (and the responsibility) to monitor computer usage.

As partners, we can begin the important task of introducing the Internet to your child in a structured way. Listed below are a few sites for parents to learn more about the Internet and how to guide your child if you are interested.

<http://www.getnetwise.org/>

<http://www.safekids.com/>

<http://www.ala.org/ICONN/familiesconnect.ntml>

<http://www.childrenpartnership.org/bbar/pbpg.html>

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/internet/>

STUDENT

I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked and other disciplinary and legal action may be taken.

Student's name (please print) _____

student signature

date

PARENT / GUARDIAN

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy, and I hereby give permission for my child to access the Internet at school. I understand that this access is designed solely for educational purposes. I understand that the Catholic Diocese of Wichita has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. I also recognize it is impossible for the Catholic Diocese of Wichita to restrict access to all controversial materials. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting.

parent/guardian signature

date