

Christ Lutheran School Student Computer Use Policy

GUIDELINE FOR USING COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

Introduction

Christ Lutheran School is pleased to offer students access to a computer network for using the Internet. Our goal in providing this service to students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating communications for resource sharing and research. To gain access to the Internet, all students must obtain parental permission as verified by the signatures on the Student/Parent Consent Agreement form. This agreement must be renewed on an annual basis.

The Internet will give students the opportunity to explore thousands of libraries, museums and other repositories of information; as well as the ability to exchange personal communications with other Internet users around the world. Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or offensive. *However, we have taken some vigorous precautions to restrict access to such controversial materials. Internet filtering software has been installed on all computers on campus that are accessible to students. Student use of computers and the Internet will always be supervised by an instructor. In addition, students will not be allowed to enter electronic chat rooms from school computers.* It is still possible that some industrious students may find ways to reach these unsavory areas. Nevertheless, we believe that the benefits to students from using the Internet far exceed the disadvantages.

Ultimately, parents are responsible for setting standards that their children should emulate when using all information sources. Therefore, we support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for permission to allow their middle school children to access our computer system to connect to the Internet.

Students at Christ Lutheran School are responsible for appropriate behavior on the school's computer network and equipment. It is expected that users will comply with the school's standards as set forth in the outline below. The use of the computer network is a privilege, not a right, and as such may be revoked if abused.

Terms and Conditions

On Line Safety

Students are never to reveal their personal home address, home phone number or other sensitive information on the Internet, nor that of any other individual. You must use the school's address only in any correspondence while online.

The student must never agree to meet with someone they have met online.

The student must notify his/her parent and system administrator immediately if any individual is trying to contact them for illicit or suspicious activities.

Illegal Activities

The student will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to CLS's system or any other computer system or to go beyond their authorized access boundaries.

The student will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or equipment, nor try to destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. This includes deleting system or program files and physical damage to equipment.

The student will not use the school's network for commercial or financial gain or fraud.

(Cont.)

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Security Issues

The student should never reveal his/her passwords to another person.

The student should never download or install any commercial software, shareware or freeware onto the network's drives or disks unless explicitly directed to do so by the system's administrator. Nor should the student copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files without their permission.

The student will not use any programs that have not been preloaded onto the computers or approved by the school network administrator.

Inappropriate Language or Material

Restrictions against inappropriate language apply to messages, images and other material posted on the Internet or through electronic mail.

The student will not use, view or transmit obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, violent or other material which is considered inappropriate for a Christ-centered learning environment..

The student will not post information that could cause damage or a danger of disruption.

The student will not post false or defamatory information about a person or organization. Nor will the student engage in personal attacks against others.

The student will not use the school's computers to harass, distress, or annoy another person.

A good rule to follow is never view, send or access materials, which you would not want your teacher and parents to see.

Resource Limits

The student will use the system only for legitimate educational development.

The student will not download files unless instructed to do so by the teacher.

The student will not use material which has been copyrighted without the expressed permission of the author or artist.

The student will not waste limited resources such as disk space or printing capacity.

Consequences of Violations

If the student violates any of these provisions, CLS reserves the right to take any steps deemed necessary and appropriate to correct or eliminate such behavior. These steps include but are not limited to the actions listed below, with the level of entry decide by school officials.

1. Warning or counseling.
2. Limit independent access to the system.
3. Probation for a period of time.
4. Parent contact.
5. Suspension/revocation of network access.
6. Demerit Hall.
7. School suspension.
8. School expulsion.

Please have the student and his/her parent or guardian read and sign the Student/Parent Computer Use Agreement form.