

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

PURPOSE

Computers are valuable tools for education and our purpose is to encourage the proper use of computer-related technology including the Internet. Students and all users of computer technology have a responsibility to use these tools properly and in accordance with the policy below:

GOALS

- Enhance student learning in all curriculum areas.
- Use educational technology to deliver curriculum transparently and to engage students enthusiastically in the learning process through a variety of electronic tools.
- Help students and teachers develop the ability to evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources.
- Enable them to work effectively with various computer/communications technologies.
- Encourage critical thinking and problem solving skills, which will be needed in this increasingly electronic and global society.
- Provide technology-rich projects for student-centered learning using digital teaching and learning tools.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF USER

With right of access to a resource comes the responsibility to use the resource both correctly and wisely. Along with access to computers and people all over the world, comes the availability of some material that may not be considered to be of educational value within the context of the school setting. Monitoring and controlling all such material is impossible. Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School expects students to properly use the Internet for educational research. On a global network such as the Internet, it is impossible to control the content of all available materials; therefore, (1) any and all use of the network must be consistent with Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School's goals of education and research, and (2) in addition to internal school regulations, there are federal and state laws that apply to such use. Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility of users accidentally procuring material that is not consistent with the educational goals within our school. In addition, Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School has installed a web-filtering product on its network to help ensure users do not gain access to inappropriate content.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USE OF THE INTERNET

- Only students who have parental permission may use the school's computers to access the Internet.
- No user will trespass in another's folders, work, or files.
- Student use of the Internet is limited to school-related projects and inquiries. Use of games and non-educational chat rooms is prohibited.
- Transferring copyrighted material to or from a diocesan school without express permission of the owner is a violation of Federal Law. The user is deemed responsible to see that this does not occur.
- E-mail accounts through the school's network will be restricted to safe, filtered, CIPA compliant accounts only.

- Use of electronic mail and other Internet facilities to harass, offend, or annoy other users is strictly forbidden.
- Any attempt to circumvent system security, guess passwords, or in any way gain access to secure resources, is forbidden.
- School use of the Internet for commercial or personal gains or profit is not allowed.
- Users will not move, repair, reconfigure, modify, or attach external devices to the systems, excluding USB Flash drives, CDs or floppy disks with student projects.
- The system administrator, the principal, and faculty have the right to monitor all activities.
- Installation of freeware, shareware, or other software (personal) is prohibited.
- Additional rules and restrictions may be added at any time.

USER NETIQUETTE

- For reasons of personal safety, users will NEVER post or share with anyone, especially strangers, personal contact information about themselves or other people. This may include last name (student), address, telephone number, school address, etc.
- Users will not access material that is profane or obscene (e.g. pornography) or that advocates illegal acts, violence or discrimination towards other people.
- Users will not plagiarize works they find on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were one's own.
- Users will not use obscene/sexually explicit, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude or threatening language, nor will they, through means of the Internet, harass, bully, or annoy any other users.
- Users will not knowingly or recklessly post false information about any person or organization.
- Users will not use the Internet for dissemination or publication of any material which jeopardizes the good name of our school, or which is harmful, libelous or offensive to members of the school community.
- Users will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt computer systems, or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. These actions are illegal.
- The illegal downloading of copyrighted software for use on home and school computers is prohibited.

ACCOUNTABILITY

All users are accountable for their actions and for the loss of privileges if the terms and conditions of acceptable use are violated. Consequences can include: restricted network access, loss of Internet use, loss of use of school computers, disciplinary or legal action including but not limited to suspension, expulsion, termination, and/or criminal prosecution by the school or other involved parties under appropriate state and federal laws.

Violation Of These Rules May Result In Any or All Of The Above Consequences.

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for Internet service. Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School will not be responsible

for any damage suffered. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's risk. Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its network services. Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School Advisory Council or the Archdiocese of Oklahoma reserves the right to amend this policy.

RIGHT TO AMEND

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School reserves the right to amend this policy at any time. Notice of amendments will be posted at bmchs.org.