



Holy Cross Catholic School

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STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

PURPOSE:

The purpose of technology at Holy Cross Catholic School is perceived as a tool for life long learning and to facilitate communications in support of research and education. The use of these tools is a privilege, not a right, for the students.

THE INTERNET:

The students and faculty/staff of Holy Cross Catholic School are offered access to the Internet as a means for gathering informational sources from distant computers. Holy Cross Catholic School believes this technology only begins to open the door to many advanced educational tools and will help propel our school through the communication age.

INTERNET SAFETY:

All student Internet access is filtered as in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. This blocks or filters access to sites that are obscene, contain pornography, or are harmful to others. The faculty/staff will, also, monitor the students' use of the Internet in school to prevent access to inappropriate material.

ELECTRONIC MAIL (email):

When electronic mail accounts are provided to students, they are solely for exchanging information consistent with the educational mission of Holy Cross Catholic School. The email administrator will assign usernames and passwords. The email administrator will monitor all messages.

DISTANCE LEARNING:

Distance Learning is a way of acquiring information from professionals and other students from areas all across the United States. This way of learning serves as a significant source of communications with persons of various backgrounds and cultures.

SOCIAL LEARNING NETWORK:

Edmodo and/or GAFE (Google Apps for Education) will be used as a safe and easy way for students to connect and collaborate, share content, access homework and receive school notices. Edmodo is secure in that all groups are locked once students have signed in. Teachers monitor all posts made to Edmodo and have the right to assign students to Read Only status when necessary. Students will be required to 'share' all GAFE files with a teacher.

MOBILE DEVICES:

Mobile devices are considered to be small handheld devices and include cell phones, iPods, iPads/tablets, Kindles, Nooks, pagers, cameras, calculators, handheld gaming devices, and media players. Any of these devices borrowed from the school may be used as assigned. Cell phones must be turned off and are not permitted to be used during the school day. All other personal handheld devices may be used with a teacher's permission for educational purposes only, *not* entertainment purposes. (i.e. listening to music, playing games, etc.) The exception to this would be allowing them to be used during recess time to play teacher approved games. No personal handheld devices are allowed to access the school's network.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

Electronic information research skills are now fundamental in education and future employment opportunities. Access to the Internet and Distance Learning enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging information with people around the world. Holy Cross Catholic School expects the faculty to blend thoughtful use of the Internet and Distance Learning throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use.

PRIVACY IS NOT GUARANTEED:

Holy Cross Catholic School may, at anytime, monitor, inspect, copy, and review all student computer activity to ensure that users are acting responsibly. All such information files shall be, and remain, the property of Holy Cross Catholic School. Privacy is not guaranteed.

ACCEPTABLE/UNACCEPTABLE USE:

The educational value of student technology use is the joint responsibility of the students, parents, and faculty/staff of Holy Cross Catholic School. The following are terms, conditions, and rules for use of Technology at Holy Cross Catholic School.

ACCEPTABLE USE

Users shall:

1. Show respect when using the provided equipment.
2. Use the Internet for educational purposes only.
3. Have email access only through the supervision of a teacher and only for classroom purposes.
4. Use proper network etiquette or “netiquette.”
 - a. Be polite
 - b. Be safe
 - c. Practice appropriate copyright procedures
5. Report Internet activity that is found offensive or uncomfortable, in any way, to a Holy Cross Catholic School faculty/staff member.
6. Only use personal, offline Mobile Devices with a teacher’s permission

UNACCEPTABLE USE:

Users shall not:

1. Access, erase, rename, or make unusable anyone else’s personal computer files.
2. Use the Internet without a supervising teacher being in the room.
3. Visit Internet sites that contain obscene, hateful, or other inappropriate materials.
4. Attempt to by-pass installed filter settings.
5. Give any personal information over the Internet, such as name, phone number, and address of yourself or others.
6. Download any software or large files without permission and supervision.
7. Log-in to personal accounts
8. Use the computer to annoy or harass others.
9. Tamper with preferences, control panels, or the hard drive as set by the administrator.
10. Intentionally damage the systems.
11. Install programs or files brought in from outside the school.
12. Print without an adult’s approval.
13. Use a cell phone during school hours

DISCIPLINARY ACTION:

Any inappropriate use of technology at Holy Cross Catholic School may result in the revocation of privileges and potential disciplinary action. The use of a cell phone during the school day will result in the confiscation of the cell phone and it will be turned in to the office. Students may pick up the phone at the end of the day following the first offense. Following any other offenses, parents may pick up the cell phone at their convenience during school hours.

STUDENT SIGNATURE AND PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

*Please sign and return this page, **only**, to the school.*

STUDENT CONTRACT:

My signature on this document means that I have read, or my parents have read to me, the rules for technology use at Holy Cross Catholic School. I agree to follow these rules. I understand that if I violate the rules my privileges to technology at Holy Cross Catholic School may be taken away and that I may face other disciplinary measures.

Student Signature:

Date of Signature:

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION:

As a parent or guardian of the student signing above, I have read and understand the Technology Acceptable Use Policy for Holy Cross Catholic School and I have discussed it with my child. Although a filtering service is in place, I understand that it is impossible for Holy Cross Catholic School to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school or its staff responsible for materials acquired on the network. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. Furthermore, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting.

Parent Signature:

Date of Signature:
