

# Internet Acceptable Use Policy for Evangelical School

## 2020-2021

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\*Please read this document carefully before signing\*

### Purpose

Evangelical School provides Internet access to students, faculty, staff, and administration as part of its educational mission. When the Internet is used appropriately, it can provide a wealth of information and resources to supplement classroom learning. Using the Internet can also be dangerous, especially for children that use it without supervision. The school wants to help increase the safety of all children that use the school's Internet resources, and will monitor the use of the school's computers, wherever possible, for compliance with this policy. To help improve safety, Evangelical School has adopted this Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

This policy applies to the use of the Internet via the school's computers or Internet services. When using the Internet via the school's computers or Internet services, users must follow the rules of this policy. Remember that the "Internet" includes e-mail, chat rooms, the World Wide Web, instant messaging, and other forms of communication accessed via the Internet.

With access to computers and people all over the world comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value. Evangelical School has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. We, Evangelical School, firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on the Internet far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of our school.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that users may become aware of the responsibilities they are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If an Evangelical School user violates any of these provisions, future access could possibly be denied.

The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

### Internet – Terms and Conditions of Use

The purpose of the Internet is to support research and education by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. Acceptable use of the Internet is defined by the following:

**BE COURTEOUS AND POLITE WHEN USING THE INTERNET.** Do not do or say things on the Internet that would not be said or done to someone in person. Be polite in the messages that are sent via the Internet. Don't use swear words, vulgarities, obscenities, or threatening language. Be courteous to other users. Don't use the Internet to send harmful or offensive material that is based on stereotypes relating to sexual orientation, religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender, or race.

**ONLY USE THE INTERNET FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.** Students should use the Internet to learn more about classroom topics, complete classroom projects, and to do homework. If there is a question about whether the use of the Internet is appropriate, ask the teacher or another person at the school designated to help decide whether a particular Internet use is appropriate. Students and staff are prohibited from accessing social networking sites while at school. Social Networking includes, but is not limited to: Facebook, My Space, Twitter, etc.

**DO NOT USE THE INTERNET FOR INAPPROPRIATE PURPOSES.** The following inappropriate activities could endanger the safety of children using the Internet. For this reason, Evangelical School specifically prohibits the following activities when using the Internet.

- ***Engaging in Illegal Activities.*** Don't use the Internet for indecent, illegal, or harassing purposes. For instance, do not use the Internet to sell or buy firearms, drugs, or any other object or substance that is prohibited on school grounds. Don't view materials or send messages that encourage people to violate the law. Do not use the Internet to send or transmit materials that encourage illegal activities. Don't use the Internet to download or send confidential or copyrighted materials (pictures, music, or movies that are copyrighted). Doing so will result in termination of your access privileges.
- ***Sending Harmful Messages or Materials.*** Don't transmit threatening, harassing, or offensive messages over the Internet. This includes posting messages in newsgroups, chat rooms or forums, and transmitting messages via e-mail or instant messaging.
- ***Viewing Inappropriate Materials.*** Don't use the Internet to download, transmit, or view pornographic materials. In addition, do not use the Internet to view, transmit, or download materials that are inappropriate.
- ***Uploading Harmful Materials.*** Don't upload a virus, Trojan horse, worm, or other harmful form of programming or software.
- ***Unauthorized Access.*** Don't use the Internet to gain unauthorized access to other information systems, networks, or computers. Don't use another person's password to access the Internet. Don't send messages that mislead or confuse the recipient as to who is sending the message. Don't allow others to use personal passwords.

## **Security**

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If a security problem is identified on the Internet, notify a teacher. Don't demonstrate the problem to other users. .

## **Failure to Comply**

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrators deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. The administration, faculty, and staff of Evangelical School may request a student's access privileges be cancelled if inappropriate use has taken place.

## **Vandalism**

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet, or any of the other networks that are connected to any of the Internet backbones. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Vandalism will result in the cancellation of privileges.

## **Monitoring and Filtering**

Evangelical School may monitor any Internet activity occurring on school equipment or accounts. If Evangelical School discovers activities which do not comply with applicable law or policy, records retrieved may be used to document the wrongful content in accordance with due process. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.

## **Disclaimer**

Evangelical School assumes no liability for any direct or indirect damages arising from the user's connection to the Internet. Evangelical School is not responsible for the accuracy of information found on the Internet and only facilitates the accessing and dissemination of information through its systems. Users are solely responsible for any material that they access and disseminate through the Internet.

We encourage all users to use Internet access responsibly.

# Evangelical School Internet Acceptable Use Policy Agreement for Students

2020-2021

I understand and will abide by the above Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action.

Student's Full Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PARENT OR GUARDIAN

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. Evangelical School has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for Evangelical School to restrict access to, and continuously monitor, all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting.

Parent or Guardian's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be completed and returned to the school office before a student can use our school computers.**