

St. Matthew School
INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY
Please read this document carefully before signing

Internet access is now available to students and teachers at St. Matthew School. We are very pleased to have access, as we believe it offers valuable tools and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in the school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

For those not familiar with the term, the Internet is an “electronic highway” connecting millions of computers all over the world, and millions of individual users. Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with users throughout the globe. In addition, the system will be used to increase school communication, enhance productivity, and assist employees in upgrading their skills through greater exchange of information with their peers. The system will also assist St. Matthew in sharing information with the local community, including parents, social service agencies, government agencies and businesses.

With access to computers and people from around the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Families should be warned that some material obtained via the Net may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. St. Matthew School has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We firmly believe, however, that the benefits to students from online access far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of St. Matthew School.

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that use of the Internet resources is consistent with the Schools stated mission, goals, and objectives. The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the students and faculty who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. If a St. Matthew School user violates any of these provisions future access could be denied in accord with the rules and regulations discussed with each user during Internet training sessions.

To gain access to the Internet, all students under the age of 18 must obtain parental permission and parent and student must sign this document. The signature at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicate(s) the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand (s) their significance.

Internet - Terms and Conditions

- 1) Students are responsible for good behavior on the school computer and networks, just as they are in a classroom, or a school hallway. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.
- 2) The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Access is a privilege - not a right. That access entails responsibility. Inappropriate use will result in a suspension or cancellation of Internet privileges. The principal, faculty, and staff may request to deny, revoke, or suspend specific users.
- 3) Users are expected to abide by their generally accepted rules of network etiquette and conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner while online.
- 4) Users are not permitted to use the computing resources for commercial purposes, product advertising, political lobbying, or political campaigning.
- 5) Users are not permitted to transmit, receive, submit, or publish and defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, offensive, or illegal material.
- 6) Physical or electronic tampering with computer resources is not permitted. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks intentionally will result in cancellation of privileges.
- 7) Users must respect all copyright laws that protect software owners, artist and writers. Plagiarism will be not tolerated.
- 8) Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem in the school's computers, networks, or Internet connection, you must notify a teacher or principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to others. Using someone else's password or trespassing in another's folder, work or files without written permission is prohibited. Attempts to logon to the Internet as anyone but yourself may result in cancellation of user privileges.
- 9) St. Matthew School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implies, for the service it is providing. The school assumes no responsibility for any phone charges, line costs or usage fees, nor for any damages a use may suffer. This includes loss if data resulting from delays, no nondelivery, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions cause by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. The school specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
- 10) All communication and information accessible via the computer resources shall be regarded as private property. However, people who operate the system may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.

Any violation may result in a loss of computer access, as well as other disciplinary or legal action. Users are considered subject to all local, state, and federal laws.

ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

STUDENT SECTION

I have read St. Matthew's Internet Use Agreement. I agree to follow the rules contained in this policy. I understand that if I violate the rules my account can be terminated and I may face other disciplinary measures.

User Name (please print) _____ Grade _____

School _____

User's signature: _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN SECTION

As the parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read St. Matthew School's Internet Use Agreement and grant permission for my son or daughter to access the Internet. I understand that the computing resource are designed for educational purposes. I also understand that it is impossible for the schools to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them 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 _____

Parent Name _____

Home Address _____ Phone _____