



Technology Acceptable Use Policies

The following technology usage policies elaborate guidelines and responsibilities for technology and Internet access for the students of Ascension School. Access to the school computer network and the Internet from Ascension School verifies agreement to accept and follow these policies.

Ascension's administration and faculty fully endorse the use of technology and the Internet as an educational tool. Access to information, research sources, people, and computers throughout the world is available to Ascension students. The school has procedures in place to restrict access to questionable material and limit inappropriate use, such as sites that deliver racist, gambling, pornographic, or tasteless material. Instant messaging, personal expression and game sites are blocked on the Ascension grounds in order to encourage productivity.

Control of all online activities is impossible; therefore, all users who access the Internet through Ascension are required to adhere to strict ethical and legal guidelines. Students are expected to remember that computer resources and information are property; that email is a form of speech; and that conduct in using the computer resources provided by the school should live up to the Ascension ideal.

If Ascension users violate any of these provisions, their actions will be reviewed by the Principal. Penalties may include suspension or dismissal.

Acceptable Use

Students must understand that the use of the school's computer network and the Internet is a privilege and that inappropriate use will result in cancellation of that privilege. Ascension's computer network is not an infinite resource. Use of the network should be reasonable and should be related to educational purposes or personal development. No commercial use of the network resources is permitted and, obviously, no use of the network for illegal purposes is permitted.

Please note that the Principal will determine what constitutes inappropriate use and that decision is final. IT personnel may close the access of any user at any time or restrict access to certain types of resources to ensure the best use of the network for the entire community. The expectation of the faculty and administration is that students at Ascension will adhere to the above policies at all times.

Please read the following policies and security statements carefully.

Before using Ascension's computer network and before accessing the Internet through the school, students must agree to the Ascension Technology Acceptable Use Policy, promising to abide by the following rules and regulations:

1. Access to computers and the Internet from Ascension School must be in support of education and research. Students will refrain from accessing any news groups, links, list serves, or other areas of cyberspace that would be offensive to any students, teachers, or parents because of pornographic content; racial, ethnic, or minority disparagement; advocacy of violence; or illicit/illegal content.
2. Ascension supplies each student and faculty member access to the network for Internet. Connections to the Internet should only be made through the Ascension network. Use of other Internet service providers at the school is not permitted.
3. No software may be installed on an Ascension device without the explicit permission of the Principal. This restriction includes programs that conflict with the Ascension network.
4. Ascension students that are a part of the 1-to-1 program should follow the rules set forth by that program. Violation of those rules will result in disciplinary action.

5. During the school day, cell phones and personal audio devices (CD players, iPods, MP3 Players, iPhones, other cellular devices, or etc.) may only be used with the permission of and under the direct supervision of teachers. Use should include approved classroom activities for academic purposes only.

6. Ascension has placed certain security restrictions on our computers and devices to protect our computer and network resources. Attempting to subvert or avoid the security restrictions is considered an attempt to damage school property.

Students are responsible for monitoring and appropriately rejecting materials, links, dialogue, and information accessed or received by them, such as spyware, malware, and viruses.

7. Students must accept responsibility for keeping copyrighted materials from entering the school via the Internet, storage devices, or any other method. Students must not download software, games, music, graphics, videos, text or other materials that are copyrighted.

8. Plagiarism is unacceptable. Students accept responsibility for using downloaded text in an appropriate manner. Violation of copyright laws will not be tolerated. Students will not post, distribute, or use without permission material that was created by someone else. These activities constitute plagiarism.

9. Students will be courteous and use appropriate language while using Ascension’s computer network or Internet access. Students will refrain from swearing or using any forms of obscene, harassing, or abusive language. Students who are a victim of such harassment will report the abuse immediately to the Principal, a teacher or the school Counselor.

10. Students will not reveal personal information including addresses, telephone numbers, debit or credit card numbers, or that of others.

11. Students will not lend their account or password to others, nor will they use another person’s account or password.

12. Students will not use technology for inappropriate pictures, movies or for capturing somebody without their knowledge.

13. Students shall never access or send email from another student or faculty’s email account.

14. Students shall never impersonate someone else online.

15. Students will not post online blogs, photos, videos or any material about another person, student or faculty member without their permission

16. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated in any way by Ascension School.

Computer Security

Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. I.T. personnel and Principal have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to appropriate authorities.

Students who suspect a security problem related to Ascension’s computer accounts or on the Internet are expected to notify the Principal. Students should not demonstrate the problem to others.

Any user legitimately identified as a security risk or with a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Internet through Ascension. Any user attempting to maliciously harm or damage data of another user or an area of the Internet will be denied access to the school network and Internet through Ascension. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading of computer viruses.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____