Christ Lincoln Schools Computer Network/Internet Policy

Christ Lincoln Schools computer network is available to students and staff of the school. The goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in our school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication.

With access to technology comes the availability of material that is not of educational value in the context of the school setting. Christ Lincoln Schools has taken precautions to restrict access to inappropriate and unacceptable materials using filtering software, a firewall and by teaching responsible use. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover unacceptable information. Christ Lincoln Schools hopes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational philosophy and goals of Christ Lincoln Schools. Abuse may lead to restrictions of users' privileges.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. This policy is provided so that computer users are aware of their responsibilities. In general these responsibilities require efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network's resources. If users violate any of these provisions, their access may be limited or terminated.

Acceptable Use

The use of Christ Lincoln Schools information systems must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of Christ Lincoln Schools. Use of another organization's network or computer resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any national or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted, threatening or obscene material. Use for personal financial gain or product advertisement for personal use is not acceptable.

All users who will be using the network will be provided an opportunity to learn about proper use and etiquette. Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette.

Rules

a. Illegal activities (violations of state and/or federal laws) are strictly forbidden.
b. Accessing, transmitting or receiving pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, abusive, vulgar, inflammatory, threatening, racist, hateful, and/or disrespectful material is prohibited.
c. Vandalism will result in the cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is any deliberate attempt to harm or destroy data or hardware of another user of any of the networks that are connected to the Internet structure. This includes (but is not limited to) the downloading, uploading, creation and/or modification of computer viruses. Users will not change, add, delete or modify in any way the computer settings unless authorized by a teacher or the Principal.
d. Attempts to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment are prohibited and any attempt to harm, modify or destroy data of another is prohibited.
e. Use of another individual's account, with or without his or her consent, is not allowed. Trespassing in other's folders, account numbers, access codes, and/or passwords is prohibited.
f. Posting false or defamatory information about a person or organization is prohibited.

g. Posting private information about another person such as addresses, telephone numbers, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes and/or passwords is prohibited.
h. Remote access of any computer is prohibited without prior consent from Christ Lincoln School's Principal.
i. Use of the network that disrupts the use by others, including downloading and/or playing of games for leisure is prohibited.
j. Information downloaded from the Internet must be done with approval from the teacher. Upon teacher approval, this information may be saved to a user's file or an approved disk/drive. This requirement applies to any information from the Internet such as computer software and video images. Only public domain software can be downloaded upon teacher approval. Unauthorized downloading of information to a user's disk drive will not be tolerated.
k. Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If a user feels he/she can identify a security problem on the network, he/she must notify the Principal. Any users who violate security rules may be denied access to the network.
l. Users will only be able to participate in discussion groups under direct supervision of the teacher based upon the education curriculum.
m. No purchases may be made by students.
n. The use of Social Media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or other similar apps/sites is strictly prohibited, unless under direct supervision of the teacher, and with permission from the Principal.

Penalties

Christ Lincoln Schools reserves the right to inspect and review computer files without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant. If it is suspected that laws have been violated, a law enforcement agency may be contacted. Staff supervisors or teachers will decide what is inappropriate use of the Christ network/internet policy, and if the accepted use of the policy has been violated. The administration or staff of Christ may request that the user's privileges be revoked or suspended. Violators of the acceptable use policy will be reported to the Principal who will determine the consequences for the misuse or abuse. Depending on the severity of the situation, and at the discretion of the Principal, any or all of the following consequences may be pursued:

a. Suspension of network or Internet access
b. Revocation of network or Internet access
c. Suspension of computer access
d. School suspension
e. School expulsion
f. Civil action and/or prosecution by the authorities
g. Restitution of damages

Prior to suspension or termination of computer privileges, the Principal will inform the user and parent or guardian of the suspected breach and give the user an opportunity to present an explanation.

Acceptable Use Agreement

To ensure quality use of Christ's network/Internet all users and parents/guardians will be required to sign the attached "User Agreement" which indicates adherence to this policy.

Policy adopted and published August 2011.