

# North Raleigh Christian Academy Student Computer Acceptable Use Policy

## **REASONS FOR THIS POLICY**

North Raleigh Christian Academy ("NRCA") is providing computer network and Internet access for its students and employees. This service allows employees and students to share information, learn new concepts, and research diverse subjects.

NRCA has adopted this Acceptable Use Policy ("Policy") to set guidelines for accessing the computer network or the Internet service provided by NRCA. Every year, students who want computer network and Internet access for that upcoming school year need to sign and submit a copy of the Policy to NRCA. Students also must have their parents or guardians sign this Policy. By signing this agreement, the student and parent or guardian agree to follow the rules set forth in this Policy and to report any misuse of the computer network or the Internet to a teacher or supervisor. Parties agreeing to this policy also understand that NRCA may revise the Acceptable Use Policy, as it deems necessary. NRCA will provide notice of any changes either by posting such a revised version of the Policy on its website or by providing written notice to the students and parents or guardians.

## **COMPUTER & INTERNET USES**

Use of the electronic information resources in the school shall be to improve and support the educational process by providing access to global information and improving communication between students, employees of North Raleigh Christian Academy, parents, and community members. The use of the Internet and computer equipment within NRCA is a privilege. Violation of this policy can result in the loss of computer access privileges.

## **ACCEPTABLE USES**

All Internet or computer equipment use shall be consistent with the purposes and goals of NRCA. It is imperative that users of the Internet or computer equipment conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, moral, and polite manner. All users must abide by all local, state, and federal laws. The Internet user accepts the responsibility of adhering to high standards of conduct and the terms and conditions set forth in all parts of this policy.

## **IMPERMISSIBLE INTERNET & COMPUTER EQUIPMENT USES**

The following uses of the Internet & computer equipment are prohibited:

1. Any violation of posted computer lab rules, applicable school policy, or public law by such use;
2. Any activity that is immoral or contrary to the high moral standards which must be maintained in an educational setting;
3. Any attempt to bypass school security, including Internet filters, is forbidden;
4. Accessing or transmitting of immoral, obscene, pornographic, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, defaming, harassing, bullying, threatening, disrespectful, or otherwise inappropriate images or information, or receiving such information from others by means of e-mail, instant messages, and material posted on Web pages or Web logs ("blogs");
5. Any commercial use, product advertisement, display of personal information, or promotion of political candidates;
6. Any violation of copyright, trade secret or trademark laws;
7. Any attempt to damage, disrupt or interfere with the use of any computer or electronic information resource;
8. Any attempt to access information beyond the users authorized access to any electronic information resource;
9. Any destruction, defacement, theft, or altering of school equipment;
10. Any storing of illegal, inappropriate, or obscene material on school owned electronic equipment;

## **MONITORING**

NRCA reserves the right to monitor and review any material on any machine at anytime in order for the school to determine any inappropriate use of computer resources. The staff will make a reasonable attempt to supervise student use of the computers, in a manner that is appropriate to the students' age and the circumstances of use.

## **DISCLAIMER OF ALL WARRANTIES**

NRCA makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the services provided in connection with use of the Internet or computer equipment. Neither NRCA nor any supporting Internet services will be responsible for any damages that an Internet user suffers. NRCA expressly disclaims any liability in connection with the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, failure to deliver, mistaken deliveries, viruses, backup device failure, service interruptions, or other unforeseen reasons caused by NRCA or the Internet server or by the users error or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. NRCA expressly denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through any Internet service. All users must consider the source of any information they obtain and evaluate the validity of that information.

## **SECURITY**

NRCA will implement security procedures on Internet access to protect against unacceptable use. Computer users are responsible for the security of their files and passwords. Sharing of any usernames or passwords to anyone is not permissible and may result in the lost of account privileges. Computer users will be held accountable for any activity under their account. Any security problems should be reported immediately to the school/site administrator.

## **ENCOUNTER OF CONTROVERSIAL MATERIAL**

Internet users may encounter material that is controversial which the user or administrator may consider inappropriate or offensive. The school has taken precautions to restrict access to inappropriate materials through a filtering and monitoring system. However, it is impossible on a global Internet, to control access to all data that a user may discover. It is the user's responsibility not to initiate access to such material. Any site or material that is deemed controversial should be reported immediately to the appropriate administrator. NRCA expressly disclaims any obligation to discover all violations of inappropriate Internet access.

The filtering software may not at any time be disabled when students are using the Internet if such disabling will cease to protect against access to inappropriate materials. Authorized staff may temporarily or permanently unblock access to sites containing appropriate material if the filtering software has inappropriately blocked access to such sites.

## **TERMS OF USE**

1. Only registered students of NRCA qualify for computer use under this policy.
2. Only the authorized users who have signed the user agreement shall have computer access. Users are ultimately responsible for all activity while using the Internet.
3. The superintendent and/or school principal may suspend or terminate any computer user's access for any reason.
4. All Internet or computer equipment access of a student is automatically terminated at the moment of withdrawal, graduation, or expulsion of the student from NRCA.

## **PERSONAL INTERNET USE**

Students' home and personal Internet use can have an impact on the school, staff, and other students. If students' personal Internet expression – such as a threatening message to another student or a violent Web site – creates a likelihood of material disruption of the school's operations, students may face school discipline and if applicable the proper authorities will be notified.

## **PENALTIES FOR IMPROPER USE**

Any user violating this policy or applicable state and federal laws will be restricted from Internet use or use of any or all computers (in addition to other disciplinary options). Such additional options may include detention, suspension, expulsion and/or referral to legal authorities.

The minimum penalty for a first violation will be a detention and the loss of Internet privileges for a period of 4 weeks of school. The minimum penalty for a second violation will be a Saturday detention and the loss of Internet privileges for a period of 18 weeks of school. The minimum penalty for a third violation or any violation in which a user willfully abuses the Internet privilege for immoral or malicious activity will be a suspension and the loss of Internet privileges for a period of 36 weeks of school. Penalties will carry over to the next school year if applicable.

# COMPUTER USER AGREEMENT

## **Student:**

I have read, understand, and will abide by the North Raleigh Christian Academy Student Computer Acceptable Use Policy. I agree that I will keep my unique login and password information private and not allow others to have access using my account. **Should I commit any violation, I realize that my access privileges may be revoked and other disciplinary action may be taken** (which could include appropriate legal action).

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **Parent/Guardian:**

As the parent or guardian of the above-signed student, I have read the Student Computer Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I understand that every attempt will be made to filter objectionable material; however, no filter system is perfect.

Parent or Legal Guardian (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please sign the appropriate section.*

I hereby give permission for my child to have access to the Internet at NRCA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**I DO NOT** give permission for my child to have access to the Internet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date