

Internet Acceptable User Policy

The smooth operation of a computer network relies on the proper conduct of the users who must agree to certain guidelines. These guidelines are provided in the following paragraphs so that individuals are aware of the responsibilities they are about to acquire. In general, these rules and honor codes of the Max Charter School will apply to the use of electronic resources in the same way that they apply to other resources of the school. If a user violates any of these provisions, his or her privileges may be terminated and future access denied. Violations may also result in other disciplinary action.

- **Statement of Educational Objectives**

The purpose of the Max Charter School Internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research, education and professional development. All use of the Internet must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the school.

- **Privileges vs. Rights**

Access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility; each user of the network must understand that he or she takes full responsibility for his or her actions. Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of this privilege and other disciplinary action.

All users should keep in mind that as they use the Internet, they are entering a global community and any actions taken by them will reflect upon the school as a whole. As such, all users must behave in an ethical, moral and legal manner.

- **Etiquette and Privacy**

Users must abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Users must respect the privacy of others. Users will not intentionally obtain copies of or modify files, passwords, or data that belongs to anyone else. No one should represent him/herself as someone else by using another's account. No student should reveal personal information about him/herself (such as last name, address or phone number) without prior consent of the supervising staff member. No one should reveal personal information about others without their permission and the consent of the supervising staff member.
2. All users must respect the legal protection provided by copyright license to programs, books, articles and data.
3. Users must respect the integrity of computing systems; for example, no one should develop programs that harass other users, or attempt to infiltrate a computer or computing system. Infractions include, but are not limited to: viruses, forging e-mail, hacking and attempting to use administrative commands.
4. No advertising for non-school-related activities, advocacies of causes or campaigns for political office are allowed though the network.

5. Wastefully using finite resources in “chats” and interactive games are not acceptable uses of the internet, unless directed by a member of the school staff.
6. Users must respect the rights of other individuals and not use language that is abusive, profane or sexually offensive.
7. The sending of “chain letters” or mass-mailings is considered a misuse of the system and may result in the loss of the user’s privilege.
8. A student must obtain permission of a supervising staff member before downloading any files.
9. Users must not access, upload, download, or distribute obscene material that may be offensive to students, teachers or parents because of the sexual, racial, ethnic, or minority disparagement, the avocation of violence or illicit/illegal content.

- **Consequences**

Violating any of the guidelines and procedures listed above may result in:

1. Restricted network access.
2. Loss of user account or access for a period of time as determined by the Director based on the nature of the offense.
3. Disciplinary or legal action, including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, dismissal from school in accordance with the Max Charter School discipline policy or criminal prosecution under the appropriate state and federal law. Max Charter School will report all violations of legal requirements to the appropriate authorities.

- **Liabilities**

With due regard for the right of privacy of users and the confidentiality for their date, Max Charter School reserves the right to suspend or modify Internet access privileges, examine files, passwords, accounting information, printouts, tapes and other material to maintain the integrity and efficient operation of a computing system.

The Max Charter School will not be responsible for the accuracy, nature or quality of any information transferred over the Internet. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user’s own risk. Max Charter School makes no guarantees of any kind, expressed or implied, with regard to other reliability of the data connection. Service is provided on an “as is available” basis.

The Max Charter School will not be responsible for any costs, liabilities, or damages users may incur as a result of using the Internet, including, but not limited to, loss or corruption of data or damage to personal property used for the Max Charter School provided Internet access.

The Max Charter School will not be responsible for unauthorized financial obligations resulting from the Max Charter School provided access to the Internet. Each user agrees to defend, indemnify and hold the Max Charter School harmless from any chargers, fees, costs or expenses resulting from a violation of this policy.

It is the responsibility of the students, parents and faculty to ensure that student Internet access is used for educational purposes. The Max Charter

School reserves the right to establish such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for Internet access and the right to change these rules at any time without notice.

Use of the internet or any electronic devices for cyber-bullying and/or sexting is strictly prohibited according to state laws. Any offense of cyber-bullying and/or sexting will be turned over to the proper legal authorities.