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Defiance Catholic School
Strength for the Future

St. Mary Campus
Grades 3-6
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**DEFIANCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY
ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of technology at Defiance Catholic School is perceived as a tool for life long learning and to facilitate communications in support of research and education. In keeping with the mission of the Catholic schools to promote values for a lifetime, the schools will instruct about and guard against inappropriate, unethical, and illegal use of the Technology by the student or adult user. The use of these tools is a privilege, not a right, for the students.

THE INTERNET:

The students and faculty/staff of Defiance Catholic School are offered access to the Internet as a means for gathering informational sources from distant computers. Defiance Catholic School believes this technology only begins to open the door to many advanced educational tools and will help propel our school through the communication age.

INTERNET SAFETY:

All student Internet access is filtered by our ISP (MetaLink Technologies) as in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. This blocks or filters access to sites that are obscene, contain pornography, or are harmful to others. The faculty/staff will, also, monitor the students' use of the Internet in school to prevent access to inappropriate material. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purpose. Internet access by the faculty/staff may be exempt from this filter. In all circumstances, especially in this circumstance, the faculty/staff will give extra attention to accessing only appropriate websites.

ELECTRONIC MAIL (email):

Electronic mail accounts are provided to students solely for exchanging information consistent with the educational mission of Defiance Catholic School. The email administrator will assign usernames and passwords. The email administrator will monitor all messages, as well.

DISTANCE LEARNING:

Distance Learning is a way of acquiring information from professionals and other students from areas all across the United States. This way of learning serves as a significant source of communications with persons of various backgrounds and cultures.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

Electronic information research skills are now fundamental in education and future employment opportunities. Access to the Internet and Distance Learning enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging information with people around the world. Defiance Catholic School expects the faculty to blend thoughtful use of the Internet and Distance Learning throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use.

PRIVACY IS NOT GUARANTEED:

Defiance Catholic School may, at anytime, monitor, inspect, copy, and review all student computer activity to ensure that users are acting responsibly. All such information files shall be, and remain, the property of Defiance Catholic School. Privacy is not guaranteed.

ACCEPTABLE/UNACCEPTABLE USE:

The educational value of student technology use is the joint responsibility of the students, parents, and faculty/staff of Defiance Catholic School. The following are terms, conditions, and rules for use of Technology at Defiance Catholic School.

ACCEPTABLE USE

Users shall:

1. Show respect when using the provided equipment.
2. Use the Internet for educational purposes only.
3. Have email access only through the supervision of a teacher and only for classroom purposes.
4. Use proper network etiquette or “netiquette.”
 - a. Be polite
 - b. Be safe
 - c. Practice appropriate copyright procedures
5. Report any Internet activity that is found offensive or uncomfortable, in any way, to a St. Mary faculty/staff member.

UNACCEPTABLE USE:

Users shall not:

1. Access, erase, rename, or make unusable anyone else’s personal computer files.
2. Use the Internet without signing the login sheet.
3. Use the Internet without a supervising teacher being in the room.
4. Visit Internet sites that contain obscene, hateful, or other inappropriate materials.
5. Give any personal information over the Internet, such as name, phone number, and address of yourself or others.
6. Download any software or large files without permission and supervision.
7. Use the computer to annoy or harass others.
8. Tamper with preferences, control panels, or the hard drive.
9. Intentionally damage the systems.
10. Install programs or files brought in from outside the school.
11. Print without a teacher’s approval.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION:

Any inappropriate use of technology at Defiance Catholic School may result in the revocation of privileges and potential disciplinary action.

STUDENT SIGNATURE AND PARENTAL CONSENT FORM
Signed acceptable use forms will be kept in the student's permanent file.

STUDENT CONTRACT:

My signature on this document means that I have read, or my parents have read to me, the rules for technology use at Defiance Catholic School. I agree to follow these rules. I understand that if I violate the rules my privileges to technology at Defiance Catholic School may be taken away and that I may face other disciplinary measures.

Student Signature:

Date of Signature:

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION:

As a parent or guardian, I have read and understand the Technology Acceptable Use Policy for Defiance Catholic School and I have discussed it with my child. I understand that it is impossible for Defiance Catholic School to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school or its staff responsible for materials acquired on the network. I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting.

I give my permission for the statements marked below and agree with the terms of the Acceptable Use Policy.

_____ My child has permission to use the technology available at Defiance Catholic School for educational purposes.

_____ I give permission for an unnamed photograph of my child to appear on the Defiance Catholic School website.

Parent Signature:

Date of Signature:
