

St. Thomas the Apostle School Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

Please read the following carefully before signing the attached contract.

Internet access is available to students and faculty at St. Thomas the Apostle School. We are pleased to bring this access to our school and believe that it offers vast, diverse and unique resources to both students and faculty. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in our school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication.

Varner Technologies is our provider. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers.

With access to computers and people all over the world comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. On a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information.

We believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the school. However, ultimately parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Therefore, we support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for the access.

What is expected?

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the school's computer just as they are in the classroom or on a school playground. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. It is expected that users will comply with school standards and specific rules set forth on the following page. The use of the network is a privilege and not a right, and may be revoked if abused. The user is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources. The students are advised never to access, keep or send anything that they would not want their parents or teachers to see.

PARENT PERMISSION FORM AND USER AGREEMENT

As a parent or guardian of a student at St. Thomas the Apostle School, I have read the information about the appropriate use of computers at the school and I understand this agreement will be kept on file at the school.

_____ My child may use the Internet while at school according to the rules outlined.

_____ I would prefer that my child not use the Internet while at school.

Parent Signature

Date _____

I have read and understand the "Acceptance Use Agreement" and it has been reviewed with me.

As a user of the school computer and Internet service, I agree to comply with all stated rules and to use the computer in a constructive manner.

Student Signature

Grade _____

Date _____

St. Thomas the Apostle School
Acceptance Use Agreement for Students

Student Name _____

As a user of the St. Thomas the Apostle computer network,

I understand:

- That the reason to use the Internet in this school is to promote educational excellence through resource sharing, innovation, collaboration and communication.
- That although there is material of questionable value or controversial content available on the Internet, the educational benefits of access to its resources outweigh the risks;
- That my use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right and that inappropriate or inadequate use may result in cancellation.
- That St. Thomas the Apostle School will not be responsible for any damages I incur while using the Internet; this included loss of data, delays, service interruption, or inaccurate data.
- That I will be barred from the use of the Internet and/or be referred to the Principal for discipline action if I violate these guidelines; Violation could result in restitution and suspension or expulsion depending on the severity, and report to the law enforcement agency.
- That any changes made to a computer must be approved by the teacher or principal.
- That I must abide by existing Federal and State laws in force regarding electronic communications. This includes accessing information without authorization, giving out passwords, or causing a malfunction. These laws carry penalties of up to 20 years in prison.

I will not:

- Use the Internet for product or service advertisement.
- Use the Internet for any illegal activity.
- Use the Internet for any reason not sanctioned by my teacher.
- Harm or destroy data of another student; this includes creating or spreading computer viruses.
- Harm or destroy St. Thomas the Apostle computer equipment.
- Interfere with the operation by installing any software including shareware or freeware without teacher or principal approval.

