

**Grace Christian School**  
**Student Internet Usage Policy**  
(Updated Summer of 2006)

Because of the rich scope of educational resources available on the Internet, training our students in how to properly use it for research is a basic goal of our computer education curriculum. Along with equipping our students with the proper technical knowledge of how to access Internet material, it is also our goal to educate students about appropriate and ethical use of those resources. In order to assist students in learning to use the Internet properly, the following elements will be included:

- Students will be under the supervision of a staff person at all times while using the Internet.
- Students will receive basic training and orientation that clearly spells out what is appropriate and what is inappropriate. Students will receive training on how to conduct searches for pertinent information as well as saving and printing the same. They will also receive instruction in proper citation and evaluation of sources.
- Only students who have successfully finished the school orientation to properly use the Internet will be approved to use the school's Internet connection. To be approved, the students and parents will have to agree to abide by the school's Internet policy. Students who do not abide by these guidelines may lose their privilege to use the Internet at school.

It should be noted that, from time to time, teachers will use the Internet as a resource with their entire class. Students who have not been approved for individual use of the Internet will be allowed to participate in these group sessions.

Internet access for students is a privilege, not a right. All student users of the Internet will agree to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students will not access the Internet without direct permission from a member of the GCS staff.
2. Only students who have signed this agreement (whose parents have also signed) will be allowed to use the Internet.
3. The student agrees to immediately disengage from any Internet site that contains material offensive to Christian standards of decency and inform the supervisor of the offensive site. *Philippians 4:8 is our guide for what is appropriate: Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy -- think about such things.*
4. Email, instant messaging, social networking, and any other forms of electronic communication by the student are prohibited at school. Students are not to check

personal email or transmit email or electronic communications while at school unless approved beforehand by a staff person.

5. Computers should only be used for education – no games, watching videos, etc.
6. Students are asked to carefully conserve printer and paper resources, engaging in printing documents only as needed in relation to school-assigned work.
7. Students must not tamper with computer settings or other hardware/software issues without first talking with a computer lab supervisor. They should report any computer problems in the computer maintenance log.
8. After receiving permission to use a computer, the student is to log onto the usage database.
9. There are times when a student needs to share files between home and school. To protect our network, students are **not** allowed use CDs, floppies, or any other type of storage device. Instead, they may email their file(s) to the computer lab supervisor. The supervisor will copy the file to the student's folder (This policy is under review).

It is understood that student usage of the computers and Internet at GCS is a privilege. Failure to comply with the policies stated above and the general standards of the school as related to computer usage may result in a loss of computer lab privileges.

By signing this form, the student and parent (guardian) are acknowledging their intention to abide by and support the basic guidelines outlined in this document.

#### **Student Section**

I have read the above-stated Student Internet Use Policy. I agree to follow the guidelines contained in this document. I understand that if I violate the rules, my privileges can be terminated and I may face other disciplinary measures.

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

#### **Parent Section**

As a parent or guardian of the student signing above, I have read this document and grant permission for my son or daughter to access the Internet through school computers. I understand that the school's computing resources are designed for educational purposes, and that the school will do all that is reasonably possible to limit use of the Internet to such purposes. I also understand that there is offensive material on the Internet that might be accessed despite all the precautions taken by GCS. I understand that my son or daughter will be held responsible for violations of this policy.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_