

Internet Safety Policy

I. Statement of Objective

St. John Interparochial School recognizes the use of innovative technology in its students' academic pursuits. In addition to being used to service the academic mission of the school, it is the express objective of St. John School to:

- a. prevent minors from accessing inappropriate matter on the Internet and the World Wide Web;
- b. ensure the safety and security of minors while using all forms of direct electronic communications;
- c. prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful activities;
- d. prevent unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information of minors;
- e. comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act

II. Specific Terms and Definitions

These key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act:

MINOR. The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. "The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
 2. **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code;
- or
3. Harmful to minors

HARMFUL TO MINORS. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual conduct, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT. The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

III. Organization Responsibility and Private Use

While St. John Interparochial School provides access to the technology and resources, St. John does not warrant network functionality or accuracy of information or the effectiveness of Internet filtering. The privacy of minors and adults using the technology and resources of St. John is limited.

A. Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology measures shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, and access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to others.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

B. Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of St. John Interparochial School's online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

C. Education, Supervision, & Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the St. John School staff to educate, supervise, and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy.

Procedures for the disabling of or otherwise modifying any technology protection measure shall be the responsibility of designated representatives.

The Technology Coordinator and designated representatives will provide age-appropriate training for students who use St. John School's internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote St. John School's commitment to:

1. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in St. John School's Internet Safety Policy
2. Student safety with regard to:
 - a. safety on the internet
 - b. appropriate behavior while online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - c. cyberbullying awareness and response

3. Compliance with the E-Rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the School's Acceptable Use Policy.

IV. Acceptable Use Policy

Educational programs governed by the Catholic Schools Office require the ethical use of the Internet and related technologies by all employees, volunteers, and students, as set forth in the Acceptable Use Policy for the use of the Internet and related technologies. Access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action taken for any violation that is unethical, and/or may constitute a criminal offense. The use of the Internet and related technologies must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the diocesan school district.

The Diocese of Baton Rouge and St. John School advocate the use of innovative technology resources in its students' academic pursuits. However, because the Internet is a public forum with unrestricted access, all schools contained within the Diocese of Baton Rouge reserve the right to discipline any student for the posting of information on the internet by that student regardless of the origin of the post.

- Disciplinary action can be taken as a result of any information or photographs in any format related to any school, faculty/staff member and/or student within the Diocese of Baton Rouge on any web site, chat room, e-mail, social media site, or other messaging system that is deemed threatening, harassing, or spreading false, defamatory or morally inappropriate material. Any student who fails to adhere to this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including expulsion. In situations in which laws may have been violated, civil authorities may be notified. By signing the handbook Contract/Guidelines Regarding the Use of the Internet, students and parents agree to abide by all rules included here.
- The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. The primary purpose of the school's Internet connection is educational and as such, educational purposes shall take precedence over all others.
- Students agree not to use the Internet connection unless given permission by a teacher or under acceptable supervision.
- Students agree not to participate in the transfer of inappropriate or illegal materials through the school's Internet connection.
- Students agree not to use the Internet for making threats of violence, slanderous or derogatory remarks against any members of their school community.
- Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) accept that inappropriate behaviors may lead to penalties including loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action. In addition, students and their parents/guardians accept full responsibility and liability for the results of the student's actions with regards to the use of the Internet.
- Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) release the school and related organizations from any liability relating to consequences resulting from the student's use of the Internet.
- Students are expected to use all hardware, software, and other forms of technology under the supervision and direction of the teacher. Severe disciplinary consequences including detention, suspension, and/or expulsion will be placed on students who deliberately destroy, damage, or sabotage any hardware, software, or the network or who view inappropriate materials using technology. Students/parents will also be required to compensate for any damaged hardware or software at its full value.

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Advisory Board of St. John School at a formal meeting on December 8, 2015.