

2650-NCCS STUDENT USE OF INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

The use of technology is a privilege and an important part of North County Charter School's overall curriculum. NCCS will, from time to time, make determinations on whether specific uses of technology are consistent with school policies for students and employees of the school, but does not warrant that the technology resources will meet any specific requirements of the student or other users, or that it will be error free or uninterrupted. NCCS always reserves the right to monitor and log technology use, to monitor file server space utilization by users, and examine specific network usage (as may be deemed necessary) for maintenance, safety or security of the technology resources or the safety of the user.

It is the policy of NCCS to:

- a. Filter or block access to material that is not appropriate for students
- b. Protect the safety and security of students when using email, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication
- c. Prevent hacking or unauthorized access by students to data or information that they should not have access to and to prohibit other unlawful online activities by students
- d. Prevent access to websites, web or mobile applications, or software that do not protect against the disclosure, use, or dissemination of students' personal information
- e. Prohibit students from accessing social media platforms, except when expressly directed by a teacher for an educational purpose
- f. Prohibit the use of TikTok, and any successor platforms, on all school-owned devices or any device (including privately owned) connected to school-provided internet
- g. Prohibit the use of TikTok, or any successor platforms, to be used to communicate or promote the School, a school-sponsored club, an extracurricular organization, or an athletic team
- h. Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Publ. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

1. Access to Inappropriate Material

Internet filters are used to block or filter internet access to prevent users from accessing inappropriate information. The School will filter or block access to all information considered obscene, child pornography, or any material deemed harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.

The technology protection measures may be disabled only for lawful purposes, including educational research. Only the NCCS's Information Technology Team ("I.T. Team") or designated parties will be permitted to disable protection technology.

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the school's staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the internet and ensure that the same is in accordance with this policy.

2. Safety and Security in Direct Electronic Communications

Students are prohibited from disclosing any personal contact information without obtaining prior consent from a School teacher or other administrative member. Additionally, the use of email, chat rooms, and other direct electronic communication by students will be monitored by the School's administration to protect the safety and security of students.

3. Protection Against Unauthorized Access and Hacking

NCCS, in conjunction with the I.T. Team, will provide technology protection measures to prevent hacking or any unauthorized access to any confidential data or information. Any student attempting to bypass security measures or hacking into the system will face severe disciplinary actions.

4. Protection of Student Personal Information

Access to websites, web or mobile applications, or software that does not protect against the disclosure, use, or dissemination of students' personal information, is strictly prohibited. Teachers and staff are required to vet and verify the safety standards of any third-party digital tool before introducing it to students.

5. Restricted to Access to Social Media Platforms

Students are strictly prohibited from accessing any social media platforms on school-owned devices or any privately owned device connected to the school-provided internet, unless explicitly directed by a teacher for educational purposes. When used for educational purposes, students must adhere strictly to guidelines set by the teacher and refrain from personal use or sharing of personal information.

6. Prohibition of TikTok and Successor Platforms

The use of TikTok, or any of its successor platforms, is strictly prohibited on all school-owned devices. or any device connected to school-provided internet, regardless of ownership. TikTok, or any successor platforms, must not be used to communicate or promote the school, a school-sponsored club, a school extracurricular organization, or an athletic team affiliated with the school.

Policy Adopted: October 9, 2023

FORM: INTERNET SAFETY STUDENT AND PARENT CONTRACT

As a student of North County Charter School (the “School”), I understand that my school network and email accounts are owned by the school and are not private. The School has the right to access my information at any time.

The following are the rules and regulations expected of students for usage of a school laptop whether at school or at home:

GOVERNMENT LAWS:

I will use computers in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Florida. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criminal Acts – These include, but are not limited to, “hacking” or attempting to access computer systems without authorization, harassing email, cyberstalking, and/or unauthorized tampering with computer systems.
2. Libel Laws - Publicly defaming people through the published material on the internet, email, etc.
3. Copyright Violations - Copying, selling or distributing copyrighted material without the express written permission of the author or publisher.

COMPUTER ETIQUETTE and ACCEPTABLE USE:

1. I will use the school's technology resources responsibly and productively for only school-related purposes.
2. I will not retrieve, save, or display hate-based, offensive or sexually explicit material using any of the School’s computer resources. I understand that I am to notify an adult immediately if by accident I encounter materials which violate appropriate use.
3. I will not attempt to bypass security settings or Internet filters, or interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, shareware, or freeware on the School’s computers.
4. I understand that vandalism is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, modifying or destroying equipment, programs, files, or settings on any computer or other technology resource.
5. I understand that passwords are private. I will not allow others to use my account name and password, or try to use that of others.
6. I will not use profanity or any other inappropriate language as determined by school administrators in my email messages, online postings, and other digital communications with others.
7. I will not use computers, cell phones, personal digital devices or the Internet to send or post hate or harassing mail, make discriminatory or derogatory remarks about others, or engage in bullying, harassment, or other antisocial behaviors either at school or at home.
8. I will not use access any social media platform at school, except when expressly directed by a teacher for educational purposes

9. I will not use the social media platform TikTok, and any successor platform, on all school owned devices or privately owned devices connected to school provided internet. Additionally, I will not use TikTok to communicate or promote the school, a school-sponsored club, school extracurricular organization, or school athletic team.
10. I understand that I represent the School in all my online activities. I understand that what I do on any social media platform should not have any negative effects on my fellow students, teachers, or the School. I understand that I will be held responsible for how I represent myself and my school on the Internet.
11. I understand that masquerading, spoofing, or pretending to be someone else is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, sending out email, creating accounts, or posting messages or other online content (e.g. text, images, audio or video) in someone else's name as a joke.
12. I will follow all guidelines set forth by the school and/or my teachers when publishing schoolwork online. I understand the Internet is a source for information that is both true and false; and that the School is not responsible for inaccurate information obtained from the Internet.
13. I understand that the School administrators will deem what conduct is inappropriate use if such conduct is not specified in this agreement.
14. I understand that I will not disclose my full name or any other personal contact information for any purpose. Personal contact information includes address, telephone, or school address.
15. I will not share or post personal contact information about other people. Personal contact information includes address, telephone, school address, or work address.
16. I will not share or post privacy-revealing personal information about myself or other people. I am not permitted to agree to meet someone I have met online.
17. I must tell my teacher or another School employee about any message I receive that is inappropriate or makes me feel uncomfortable. I will not delete the message until instructed to do so by a staff member.
18. I will immediately tell my teacher to notify the school administrator if my password is lost or stolen, or if I think someone has gained unauthorized access to my account.
19. Users connecting to the School's network shall release the School from any and all liability for any damage to devices that may or is alleged to have resulted from use of the School's Network. The School shall not be responsible for a personally owned device becoming infected when connected to the School's network or for a student's exposure to inappropriate material when using a personally purchased broadband connection.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS AGREEMENT:

I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use Agreement. Should I commit a violation, I understand that consequences of my actions could include suspension of computer privileges and disciplinary actions according to NCCS's established disciplinary procedures.

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Student Name (Please Print) _____ Grade _____

Parent or Guardian:

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Conduct and Use Agreement. I understand that computer access is provided for educational purposes in keeping with the academic goals of NCCS, and that student use for any other purpose is inappropriate. I recognize it is impossible for the School to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the school network. I understand that children's computer activities at home should be supervised as they can affect the academic environment at school. I hereby give permission for my child to use computer resources at NCCS, including web or internet based services provided by the school for student use.

Parent or Guardian's Name (please print):

Parent or Guardian's Signature:

Date _____