



TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET USAGE POLICY

(Includes cell phones, iPods, etc.)

The Winter Sports School provides wireless internet access throughout the school. We use blocking software and we require users within the school grounds to conform to the standards of an acceptable use policy. All use shall be consistent with the purpose of Internet access. It is imperative that all students and faculty who use the internet conduct themselves in a responsible, decent, ethical, and polite manner while on the network. All local, state, and federal laws must be abided. The Internet is an open network that can advance the pursuit of higher knowledge and is intended to assist in the collaboration and exchange of information between and among students and faculty as well as provide access to appropriate information available through the Internet. Unfortunately, it can also be used in inappropriate ways that would not be considered of educational value in a school setting. Judgment should be used when using this quality recourse. While this policy and its accompanying regulations do not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behavior by students, it does seek to assist in such judgment by providing guidelines. The Winter Sports School has the right to monitor all use of the computer, including access to all messages, files and data.

Responsibilities of the School

The Winter Sports School provides wireless and Internet access to our students. While it is the school's responsibility to maintain our equipment, security, screening devices, network, etc. in good working order to the best of our ability, we do not:

- a. Guarantee the accuracy of information found on the Internet.
- b. Accept responsibility or liability for inappropriate use of technology or the Internet by our students at school or at home.
- c. Guarantee that faculty or staff monitoring computer usage and Internet access will be able to always be aware of inappropriate use or able to prevent inappropriate occurrences, e.g., pop-ups, links that seem to entrap, etc.

Proper Use

- Students may use the internet for authorized research and on-line activities issued through verbal or written instructions from Faculty.
- Use computer for note taking in class as long as it is approved by the teacher.
- Exchange appropriate electronic mail with other users before school, during lunch, after school, or with instructor's permission.
- Use of computer is for educational purposes

Inappropriate use of the computer / internet

- Posting any personal or derogatory information about any student or staff member on any website or using email or instant messaging to convey any message that is threatening, harassing, or other negative content that is in direct conflict with the schools values and policies.
- Encourage (or provide the means for) cyber bullying individuals.
- Viewing or downloading pornography or sexually explicit content.
- Changing other people's screen savers, desktops, or passwords.
- Stealing, vandalizing, or by any other means intentionally damaging or tampering with another's or the school's equipment.
- Hacking or intentionally introducing any viruses, worms, or other destructive agents into the school's computer network or any individual's computer .
- Having provocative and/or attention-getting screensavers (i.e. gory, sexual, or potentially harassing, racist, sexist, etc. content).



- Advocate violent behavior.
- Advocate taking drugs and provide instructions on how to do so (purchase, use, etc.).
- Selling contraband, guns, drugs, poisons or alcohol.
- Contain violence, gore, and hate literature (this also includes games).
- Advertise tobacco and alcohol.
- Actions that pose a risk to privacy.
- Collect and sell private information.
- Promote unhealthy lifestyles and behavior or offer online “support groups” for those involved in dangerous behavior, such as anorexia, “cutting,” or the taking of steroids.
- Cutting and pasting copyrighted materials without proper sighting (see plagiarism).
- Instant Messaging or emailing, except with explicit teacher permission for a very specific purpose. As soon as the assigned task is complete, they must close the IM communication program.
- Gaming and/or visiting game sites, social networking sites or chat rooms; during class.
- Using other students’ or faculty member’s personal computers without permission.
- Refusing to angle down or shut laptop screen upon a staff member’s request.

Penalties for Improper use (computer, iPod, cell phones, etc.)

First offense: The item goes on teachers desk for the duration of the class period.

Second offense: The item stays in the WSS office for duration of school to be picked up by a parent or legal guardian.

Third offense: The student is subject to further disciplinary action at the discretion of the Head of School, including revocation of internet/computer/device privileges, suspension, or expulsion.

Note: The proper authorities will be notified in cases where there are any illegal actions.

References used and places to go for more information:

Online Safety Guidelines (WiredKids.org)

NetBullies.com

Pcschools.us

Teenangles.org

Cyberlawenforcement.org

KatiesPlace.org