

Computer Network Use Policy

As adopted by the St. Matthew's Board of Education

Please read this document carefully before signing.

Internet access is now available to students at St. Matthew's. We are very pleased to bring this access to St. Matthew's and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to students. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. St. Matthew's has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. (St. Matthew's) firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possible negatives. With this in mind, (St. Matthew's) believes that it is imperative to teach our students about making Christian choices about the type of material they access. It is (St. Matthew's)'s belief that by training our young people how to deal with objectionable material now, they will be better suited to make the same type of value judgments as adults.

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The faculty will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the system administrator may close an account at any time. Each student is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

- ◆ Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
- ◆ Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
- ◆ Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers of others.
- ◆ Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not private. People who operate the system do have access to mail.
- ◆ Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- ◆ All information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property and not freely copied. Respect the copyrights of the authors/artists.

The network and its resources including access to the Internet are available to the parents of students of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church & School. Parents of students wishing to make use of the computer network may do so if they first check with their child's teacher to make sure that there isn't a scheduling conflict. Members of St. Matthew's congregation who do not have children attending our school and who wish to make use of the computer network will need to speak to the network administrator about access and sign the Computer Network Use Agreement. Access times will be limited to when there is a teacher available.

The use of our computers must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of St. Matthew's. Use of other organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.

St. Matthew's makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. St. Matthew's will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This include loss of data resulting from delays, nondeliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's risk. St. Matthew's specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy computer hardware or software.

The guidelines in this Policy are provided so that you are aware of the responsibilities each student is about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a student user violates any of these provisions, future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions of the Policy carefully, understand(s) their significance and agree(s) to be bound thereby.

Student Network Account Agreement

Student Section

I have read the Computer Network Use Policy. I agree to follow the rules and etiquette as found in the Policy. I understand that if I violate the rules my access to computers will be prohibited and I may face other disciplinary actions as outlined in the St. Matthew's Handbook.

I further waive all rights to privacy relating to e-mails and other Internet communications and irrevocably agree and acknowledge that the staff of St. Matthew's may monitor and audit the use and communications that any user of St. Matthew's computers has received and/or sent on the Internet through the use of computers at St. Matthew's.

Student Name _____ Grade _____
Please Print

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian Section

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Computer Network Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. St. Matthew's has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for St. Matthew's to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold St. Matthew's responsible for materials acquired on the network. I hereby give permission to permit my child to access the Internet and acknowledge that I fully understand the terms and provisions of the Policy and agree that my child and I (we) will be bound thereby. I also certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

I further waive all rights to privacy relating to e-mails and other Internet communications and irrevocably agree and acknowledge that the staff of St. Matthew's may monitor and audit the use and communications that any user of St. Matthew's computers has received and/or sent on the Internet through the use of computers at St. Matthew's.

Parent Name _____
Please Print

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Member Network Account Agreement

I have read the Computer Network Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. St. Matthew's has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for St. Matthew's to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. I agree to follow the rules and etiquette as found in the Policy. I understand that if I violate the rules I will be denied access to computers at St. Matthew's. I acknowledge that I fully understand the terms and provisions of the Policy and agree that I will be bound thereby.

I further waive all rights to privacy relating to e-mails and other Internet communications and irrevocably agree and acknowledge that the staff of St. Matthew's may monitor and audit the use and communications that any user of St. Matthew's computers has received and/or sent on the Internet through the use of computers at St. Matthew's.

Member Name _____ Phone _____

Please Print

Member Signature _____ Date _____