



**The Internet is a tremendously useful and powerful resource which links people, institutions, and databases literally around the world. Its power to communicate is virtually unlimited, its worth as a research tool is growing daily. Because of these unprecedented benefits to teaching and learning, Owensboro Catholic Elementary Schools are equipped to offer access to the Internet to teachers and to students at the schools. This is a part of our effort to maximize the benefits of technology as a tool in both teaching and learning. The main benefits of our access to the Internet for students are:**

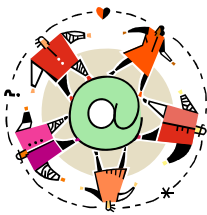
- The many research possibilities in various disciplines,
- The global connections both to and from Owensboro Catholic Elementary Schools,
- The ability to communicate locally, nationally, and globally,
- The experience in using a tool that will become more important and pervasive in the lives of our students as time goes on.

While the Internet is a tremendous resource offering powerful benefits, it can also be misused. Owensboro Catholic Elementary Schools recognizes and accepts their responsibility to teach not only the technical skill of using the Internet, but also the moral and responsible use of the Internet as well. We know several important facts about the Internet:

- The vast majority of the information on it is good and appropriate for students,
- There are some undesirable elements which can be accessed through the Internet,
- The Internet is part of our students' future in continuing education, in the professional and business world, and very likely as a personal resource.

To insure that we can use the Internet in a proper and responsible manner, Owensboro Catholic Elementary Schools have instituted the following policy:

- The moral and responsible use of the Internet will be taught along with the technical skill of using the Internet.
- Access to Internet will be in public places under supervision.
- No individual school accounts will be given to students, thus limiting the ability of students to receive Electronic Mail without supervision.



These are some basic, common sense measures that will allow our students to enjoy the benefits of the Internet while making sure that it is serving the purpose that we desire for it and Owensboro Catholic Elementary Schools. One of our educational goals is to offer programs and curricula that will best prepare our students for the future. We are convinced that our program to teach these skills from the perspective of appropriate and responsible use will be a valuable asset for all our students.

**INTERNET AND COMPUTER  
ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

I recognize that computers have the potential to make either a positive or a negative impact on the world. As a member of Owensboro Catholic Middle School, I pledge myself to do all I can to insure that computers influence the world in a positive manner. To that end, I pledge the following:

1. I will honor all files as private property and will refrain from erasing, renaming, or making unusable any file or program that is not my personal property.
2. I will keep my user information – my name and files – confidential, and will share them with no one (except duly authorized faculty and/or staff).
3. I will use the school’s computers and /or accounts for educational purposes only.
4. I will honor the privacy of all other users’ passwords, never attempting to gain illegal access or use.
5. I will respect copyright protection for all software. I will never copy, change, or transfer any software provided by the school, teachers, or another student without permission from an authorized source. I do understand that copying software without permission is illegal and copying or knowingly using such software is a criminal offense.
6. I will endeavor to keep all systems with which I work safe from any virus (bug, worm, Trojan Horse, or other term). I will never knowingly write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer’s memory.
7. I will respect all others with whom I communicate through the computer (e-mail, Internet, or other). I will never use the computer to annoy, offend, or threaten others.
8. I will practice good stewardship with all technology systems. I will never intentionally damage any part of the system or resources and information not belonging to me, nor allow others to do so.
9. I will recognize my own limitations and will not tamper with terminals, CPUs, printers, or other associated equipment without explicit direction from teachers or technicians.
10. I will practice good stewardship in my use of telecommunications resources. I will use the school’s telecommunication resources only in public places under the supervision of authorized faculty or staff. I will use the school’s telecommunication resources only for matters directly related to educational needs.

I understand that my not abiding by the above can result in punishment, including but no limited to the suspension of computer privileges.



Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_