

Internet Use Policy

Evangelical Christian Academy believes that the Internet has much to offer students with its wide variety of resources. It is our goal to educate students about efficient, ethical, and appropriate use of those resources. Within the context of our mission statement as a school, the Internet connection will be used to meet the goals in our curriculum. Specifically, students will have the opportunity to enhance their learning through:

1. a wealth of additional resources for reference and research,
2. consulting with experts in a variety of fields,
3. learning to conduct searches, evaluate resources, and locate relevant material, and
4. interacting with up-to-date primary sources.

Only students who have a signed agreement (by both students and parents) will be allowed to use the Internet independently.

Note: Occasionally, whole classes with their teachers will use the Internet as one of many tools in the research process. If the student does not have a signed agreement, he/she may request the information from the teacher or librarian as time permits.

It is to be understood that Internet access for students is a privilege, not a right. All users of the Internet will agree to adhere to the following Code of Ethics:

I will strive to act in all situations with honesty, integrity, and respect for the rights of others and to help others to behave in a similar fashion. I will make a conscious effort to be a good testimony to my fellow students, faculty members, and others I communicate with, on the Internet. I agree to follow Evangelical Christian Academy's rules. I will strive to apply Philippians 4:8 to my electronic communication. "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things."

The Internet user is held responsible for his/her actions when using the Internet and any action done under his/her login name. Unacceptable uses of the network will result in an RV form and/or the suspension or revocation of these privileges. Some examples of unacceptable use are:

1. playing games, other than teacher approved educational activities
2. accessing ECA's wireless connection, which is intended for staff use only
3. using the network for any illegal activity
4. using the network for accessing any pornographic or otherwise inappropriate sites
5. using the network for financial gain or initiating any financial transactions degrading or disrupting the equipment or system performance. Any security problem must be reported to the administration and not shared with other users.
6. accessing or vandalizing the data of another user
7. gaining unauthorized access to resources, including attempting to get around the filter installed on a computer with Internet access
8. invading the privacy of individuals including reading mail that belongs to others without their permission
9. posting personal communications without the author's consent or posting information containing information not meant to be made public
10. posting rude or inappropriate messages
11. downloading viruses or attempting to avoid virus protection programs
12. violating the spirit of the Evangelical Christian Academy's Mission Statement

13. any type of chat or instant messaging or postings for social purposes (School projects can be sent to and from home with the supervision of the teacher.)
14. obligating ECA in any way – financial or otherwise
15. disclosing personal information to websites or people through the Internet. This includes requesting magazines, catalogs, etc.
16. inappropriate use of resources resulting in plagiarism
17. watching YouTube, movies, or other similar video sites for entertainment purposes.

By signing this form, the student agrees to abide by these guidelines. The student and parent (or guardian) must sign after they have discussed these rights and responsibilities together.

The Internet user and his/her parents must understand that s/he uses the Internet at his/her own risk. Considering the provisions mentioned above, ECA cannot assume responsibility for:

1. the reliability of the content of a source received by a user. Students must evaluate and cite sources appropriately.
2. costs that the students incur if they request a product or service for a fee.
3. any consequences of disruption in service that may result in lack of resources .
4. privacy of electronic communications.

The administration reserves the right to investigate possible misuses and to monitor any communication that comes through ECA computers.

I agree to follow the rules and guidelines as set forth in ECA's Internet Use Policy. I understand that if I violate the rules and trust of the school, my privileges may be revoked and I may face other disciplinary measures.

Student's Name (print) _____ Grade _____

Signature _____ Date _____

As a parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read ECA's Internet Use Policy and grant permission for my son or daughter to access the Internet.

Parent's/Guardian's Name (print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

*****It is assumed that you would like your son or daughter to have Internet access for research and other specific assignments unless otherwise indicated, in which case alternate instructions must be given in writing to the school.**