

Lake Norman Christian School Internet Use Agreement/Permission

All students and their parent or guardian, must read this agreement before the student may access the Internet from LKNC computers or otherwise use the LKNC Network. Through completion of the Parent Authorization Task Completion Form, parents and students show that they agree to and will adhere to the internet use guidelines as stated by the school.

Access to the Internet from a LKNC computer is a privilege and not a right. Inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges and, in appropriate cases, disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct. By agreeing to these guidelines, each user acknowledges that he or she understands the Regulation for Student Internet Use is aware of the permissible uses of school computers and the expectations of responsible behavior while using school computers. Students must agree to follow the rules contained in the Regulation Student Internet Use Agreement

Parents must understand that a student's computer access is designed for educational purposes or for furthering career objectives only. They should also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all inappropriate materials. Parents must accept full responsibility for their child's compliance with the rules for student use of LKNC computers and for accessing the Internet from school computers.

Internet Regulations

Lake Norman Christian School provides an electronic communications network (hereinafter the "LKNC network") that allows students internal access to LKNC information resources and external access to the Internet. Access to the LKNC network and the Internet is a privilege provided to students solely to support student education, research, and career development, and is therefore subject to certain restrictions as may be set forth by the LKNC Head of School. The provisions of this regulation apply to all student users of the LKNC network and include all aspects of student network use, including student created web pages. Violation of any provisions of these regulations may result in cancellation of the student's use of the LKNC network.

I. Access to Information

The Internet provides access to computer systems located all over the world. The district shall inform student users and the parents or guardians of minor students that LKNC cannot completely control the content of the available information. The information accessed by students may be controversial and offensive to certain students and parents. However, the benefits from the valuable information and interaction available to students outweigh the disadvantages of the possibility that students may find inappropriate material. LKNC does not condone the access to or use of such information and takes precautions to inhibit access to them. The responsibilities accompanying freedom of speech and access to information will be taught to all student users. Parents are encouraged to instruct their children regarding materials that the parent does not want the student to access.

II. Goals and Accessibility

Network Goals for student use:

1. To support the implementation the LKNC Curriculum
2. To enhance learning opportunities by focusing on the application of skills in information retrieval, searching strategies, research skills, and critical thinking;
3. To encourage appropriate career development; and
4. To promote life-long learning.

B. Access to Information

Students will be able to access information that may include:

1. Information, news, and resources from businesses, libraries, educational institutions, government agencies, research institutions, and a variety of other sources;
2. Public domain and shareware software.
3. Telecommunications with individuals and groups around the world.

III. Acceptable Uses

A. Purposes of Use

All uses must have an educational purpose or further student career objectives and comply with the student behavior guidelines of LKNC. Students may also, under the direction of appropriate staff, create and maintain school web pages and create student web pages.

B. "Netiquette" Rules

Students must be taught the importance of discretion and appropriate, safe behavior when using the LKNC network to access information over the Internet. Users must abide by LKNC network etiquette ("netiquette") rules. These rules include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Students must be polite; rudeness will not be tolerated;
2. Students must use appropriate language; use of profanity, vulgarities, abusive or inappropriate language will not be allowed;
3. In any electronic communications, students must not reveal personal information about others, such as full name, personal address, or phone numbers;
4. Personal identification information should be released with discretion, and only when its release supports a student's education.
5. Students shall not take any actions that may disrupt the LKNC network;
6. Students shall not encourage or commit unlawful acts or use the LKNC network to promote illegal activities.

IV. Unacceptable Uses

Transmission of material in violation of any federal or state law or regulation or LKNC policy or regulation is prohibited. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Violating copyright laws, including duplication of software or plagiarism;
- B. Forwarding personal communications without the author's prior consent;
- C. Accessing or using threatening or obscene material;
- D. Accessing child pornography;
- E. Accessing by minor users of material that is harmful to minors;
- F. Unauthorized access ("hacking") into computer systems or networks; ¹
- G. Distributing material protected by trade secret;
- H. Utilizing the LKNC network for commercial purposes;
- I. Providing political or campaign information or lobbying for a political cause or candidate unless directly connected to an instructional activity;
- J. Using discriminatory, defamatory, offensive, or harassing statements or language including disparagement of others based on their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religious or political beliefs;
- K. Sending or soliciting abusive or sexually oriented messages or images;
- L. Operating a business for personal gain, sending chain letters, or soliciting money for any

reason.

M. Posting personal information about students or staff without proper authorization;

N. Knowingly introducing or attempting to introduce viruses into the network.

V. Monitoring and Filtering.

LKNC will closely monitor the online activities of students.

LKNC will maintain centralized software in order to provide Internet control and filtering. The Internet technology protection package is intended to allow valuable online Internet access while, to the extent possible, inhibiting access to content that is obscene, pornographic, harmful to minors, or whose purpose is to promote, encourage or provide the skills to commit illegal activities, including gambling, use of illegal drugs, hate speech, or criminal skills. The protection package is also intended to prohibit access to sites for online merchandising, alternative journals, and games. LKNC will update the program on a regular basis.

VI. Privileges

As stated above, the use of the LKNC network is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use or other violation of the provisions of this regulation will result in limitation or cancellation of user privileges and possible disciplinary actions. Activity by users is not confidential or private. ²

VII. Disclaimer

The LKNC Board of Directors will not be responsible for any damages suffered, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, service interruptions, or students' mistakes or negligence, costs incurred by students or students' parents, or the accuracy or quality of information received from the Internet. The user accepts personal responsibility for any information obtained via the LKNC network.

VIII. Security

Security on the LKNC computer system is a high priority. Attempts to tamper with the program, individual accounts, software or networking facilities, access the system in the name of another user, or to share a password will result in cancellation of user privileges. Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private; system operators have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the authorities, and disciplinary action will follow.

IX. Vandalism

Vandalism will result in cancellation of user privileges and disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy equipment and/or data of anyone connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to uploading, creating, or transmitting computer viruses. Vandalism of computer systems, including unauthorized access, is a violation of the

criminal law.

X. Agreement

All students must review these agreements with their parents. Parent will validate that they have reviewed these guidelines through their signature of the Parent Authorization and Task Completion Form.

¹ The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that: 1) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sexual acts 2) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of body parts; and 3) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

² Any disciplinary actions for violations of this regulation will be taken according to the rules set forth in the Parent/Student Handbook.

