

Elyria Christian School

Acceptable Use Policy

The use of the technology resources at Elyria Christian School is a privilege, not a right. This policy is provided to inform all users of the responsibilities associated with efficient, ethical, and lawful use of technology resources.

Networks and Internet

The purpose of providing internet access to students and staff is to promote educational research, communication, and the sharing of resources. Access to the Internet exists solely for educational purposes, which includes classroom activities, career and professional development, and high quality individual learning activities of an educational nature.

The educational opportunities presented on the Internet are limitless. However, Elyria Christian School recognizes that along with great potential comes the possibility of abuse. Although filters are in place, users may still on occasion access material that, while not immoral in nature, is not considered to be of educational value in the school setting. The school will make every effort to limit material that does not support the mission and vision of the school. Elyria Christian School believes that the benefits to students from access to information resources on the Internet exceed the potential disadvantages.

In an effort to minimize access to inappropriate internet sites, a filtering system will be utilized. Specific categories and levels of filtering will be determined by the administration and the technology committee. In addition to filters, Elyria Christian School will take all steps necessary to minimize the risk that users will encounter objectionable material through education, supervision, and responsible use.

To date, no filtering system has been proven to be 100% accurate. In the event that inappropriate material would pass through the filter, please advise the administration for review and appropriate action.

Technology Use Guidelines

1. Elyria Christian School provides access to the Internet for educational purposes and research consistent with the educational philosophy, mission, and vision of Elyria Christian School.
2. Students must comply with all school policies, school rules, and expectations regarding student conduct.
3. Students are also required to comply with teachers and staff regarding use of technology.
4. Violations of policy include, but are not limited to, the following conduct:
 - a. Using another person's password, revealing one's password to anyone else, accessing another person's files, or falsifying one's identify when accessing or sending information.

- b. Using profane, vulgar, threatening, defamatory, abusive, discriminatory, harassing or otherwise objectionable or criminal language in a public or private message.
 - c. Posting or accessing inappropriate files such as word processing documents, PDF's, images/photographs, etc.
 - d. Violating copyright laws (Users should assume that all materials available on the Internet are protected by copyright). Proper notation is to be given for any items utilized that are not the student's express individual idea. This refers to images, research, passages, music, papers, videos, software, and all other content found on the internet.
 - e. Attempting to change or destroy data of another user.
 - f. Attempting to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment, including attempts to override any firewalls established on the network, or circumventing security measures in any way.
 - g. Vandalizing school computers by causing physical damage, reconfiguring the computer system, or destroying data. This includes uploading or creating malicious software.
 - h. Using the school's technology network for commercial purposes. Users may not use the network for entering contests, advertising, political lobbying, or personal activities including online selling or purchasing of goods or services.
 - i. Unauthorized exploration of the network infrastructure or changes to any school-installed software is strictly prohibited.
 - j. Using the network in a manner that would violate any federal, state, or local laws or statutes, or subject the user or Elyria Christian School to any civil or criminal action. This includes, but is not limited to, spreading computer viruses, sending threatening material, participating in software piracy, using the school's technology network for gambling, or arranging for the sale or purchase of illegal substances.
3. If a user finds materials that are inappropriate while using the school technology network, s/he shall refrain from downloading this material and shall not share the material with other students. Inappropriate material should be reported to administration.

If material is discovered that may constitute a threat against the safety of students, staff members or the property of Elyria Christian School, the user is obligated to report his/her discovery of such material to a teacher or to administration.

The user should immediately disclose to the teacher any message that is received that is believed to be inappropriate.

Violations

If a user violates the policies in this agreement, his/her account may be suspended and future access and usage of the school's technology resources may be limited or denied. In addition, disciplinary measures may be taken by the administration and could also result in criminal prosecution where applicable. **Violations may result in disciplinary action up to and**

including suspension and/or expulsion for students. When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Compensation for Loss, Costs, and/or Damages

The student agrees to reimburse Elyria Christian School for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs related to any investigation of violations relating to or arising out of any breach of this Acceptable Use Policy by the student. This includes any cost incurred related to the action on the part of the student that violates the warranty on any computer within Elyria Christian School.

Disclaimer

Elyria Christian School is not responsible for the management, troubleshooting, technical support, or repair of student devices.

The electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement of the content by Elyria Christian School, nor does the school guarantee the accuracy of information received from the Internet. Elyria Christian School is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using technology. Backup of said materials are the responsibility of the person creating/using them.

Google Apps for Education Account

Students in 7th-12th grades are provided with Elyria Christian School Google Apps for Education accounts which allow them access to email, storage, collaboration, and more.

Communication over networks and the Internet are public communication and should not be considered private. All content created using school resources is considered public property of Elyria Christian School and should not be considered confidential. Elyria Christian School reserves the right to access and monitor all files without prior consent.

School Google accounts will remain active for one month after a student graduates from ECS. If a student transfers to another school or leaves ECS prior to graduating, the length of time the account remains active may be less than one month, as determined by administration.

Device Certificates - BYOD Program

Elyria Christian School recognizes the ever-changing face of technology and our students ever increasing interaction with technology. We recognize the many new and positive ways in which technology can enhance the education experience. With this in mind, ECS has adopted a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program. To ensure proper content filtering, a certificate will need to be deployed by the system administrator on each device. Students may **not** remove this certificate during the school year.

ELYRIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Student Expectations

As a digital citizen at Elyria Christian School, I will use technology in safe, legal and responsible ways. I will:

1. Respect Myself – I will select online names that are appropriate and professional. I will not post text or images that are offensive or inappropriate.
2. Protect Myself – I will not publish personal details or contact information.
3. Respect Others – I will not use any form of technology to bully, tease, or slander others.
4. Protect Others – I will report any bullying or abuse, and will not forward or promote any form of inappropriate communication or images.
5. Respect Material Published by Others – I will appropriately cite any and all use of websites, books, images, etc.

I have read, understand, and will follow this Acceptable Use Policy. I agree to have a content filter certificate deployed on my device. If I violate any portion of this Acceptable Use Policy, consequences could include loss of technology privileges and accounts, disciplinary action, and/or possible legal action. I understand that the school network, email, all accounts, and all information on all accounts are owned by Elyria Christian School and can be accessed and monitored at any time.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Acceptable Use Signature

Parent collaboration is a core value of Elyria Christian School; therefore, we desire to work with families in all school initiatives. We encourage you to visit with your children regarding appropriate usage of technology both at school and at home. As parents, students, and teachers work together, we become a strong learning community, creating more opportunities for our students to experience success. Please read the statement and sign below. If you have any questions, please contact a school administrator.

I understand that technology is used for educational purposes at Elyria Christian School. I understand that even with filters in place, it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all conversational materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the school network. I have read and will support my student in adhering to the Acceptable Use Policy. I am aware that if my child breaks this agreement, that consequences could include loss of technology privileges and accounts, disciplinary action, and/or possible legal action, if warranted. I also understand that the school network, email, all accounts, and all information on all accounts are owned by Elyria Christian School and can be accessed and monitored at any time. I hereby give permission for my child to use technology resources at ECS and utilize his/her google account/school email.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

