

Student's name: _____

Barrington Christian Academy Internet Acceptable Use Policy 2010-2011

All students in K-12 will be using Internet-accessible computers as part of our instructional program. Please be sure to sign and return this form after going over it with your child. Please note that these are requirements that students must understand about acceptable use. Middle and high school students particularly must note the restrictions on use of anything recorded at BCA.

Introduction: The Internet is a global network of computers, providing access to education, information, and entertainment. It links schools with colleges, universities, libraries, and many other sites. Through the Internet, users can access information from throughout the world, access up-to-date information on changing news and even communicate directly with experts, newsmakers and people around the world. Like many of our greatest blessings, if the Internet is used irresponsibly or inappropriately, there can be devastating consequences. **Therefore, we hold a high standard for Internet use by all BCA students, both at school and at home.**

Purpose: The purpose for Internet access for students at BCA is to enhance the learning process by helping students develop the ability to acquire knowledge and information through the use of today's technology and to encourage them to become life-long independent learners. They will also be instructed in the important skill of discerning ethical and moral use of today's technological advances. We will teach netiquette as well as guidelines for safe Internet use.

Student Access: Because the Internet is a gateway to the world, it does contain material that is offensive, disturbing, illegal and unreliable. When K-8 students are using the Internet, they are always supervised by their teachers. BCA has the OpenDNS filtering service that restricts access to unapproved sites and objectionable content. Students may access the Internet ONLY through BCA networks. **High School students please note: Accessing the Internet through any other available unsecured wireless networks is unethical and will result in restricted laptop use.**

Other than BCA-owned laptops, BCA does not permit students to use any personal devices that allow wireless connection to the Internet. **(All cell phones must be put away out of sight and not used for any reason during the day if brought to school for after-school communication.)**

Student/Parent Responsibilities

- No student will be allowed access to the Internet at BCA until he/she has been instructed in Internet use and safety by a faculty member.
- No student will be allowed access to the Internet at BCA until this Internet Acceptable Use Policy has been signed by both student and guardian.
- Each student is expected to be responsible for his/her own appropriate Internet use, in accordance with BCA standards.
- High school students will have a complete orientation to the use and care of their school-owned and insured laptops. Parents are responsible for monitoring Internet accessibility at home.

Responsible Internet Use During School

Responsible in-school behavior on the Internet includes, but is not limited to:

- using the Internet for school-related purposes only; **using only BCA protected networks.**
- avoiding inappropriate material;
- staying out of chat rooms;
- notifying a teacher immediately of any problems encountered while using the computer.

***Responsible Internet and Cell Phone Use expected of ALL BCA STUDENTS AT ALL TIMES**

- following existing copyright laws and avoiding plagiarism;
- refraining from any type of harassment, gang activity, abusive or obscene language, or pornography; (This applies to text messaging on cell phones.)
- refrain from unlawful “hacking into” any restricted site for any purpose.
- ***BCA students MAY NOT post on the Internet (at public sites such as YouTube, Facebook, Myspace, Twitter, etc.) any videos taken at school or school events without the explicit permission of the administration. Violation of this expectation may lead to dismissal of a student from Barrington Christian Academy. Any photographs posted on social networks (i.e. Facebook, etc.) may not be of content that would embarrass or humiliate anyone.**

General Internet Safety Guidelines

- Never give out identifying information such as home address or telephone number.
- Never arrange to meet face-to-face with someone you meet on-line.
- Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, threatening or make you feel uncomfortable.
- Remember that people on-line may not be who they say they are.

Behaviors and Consequences

Computer use and Internet access through BCA are privileges and not rights. The school may cancel a student's access to the Internet, confiscate hardware used in inappropriate ways, and remove a student from the school if these privileges are abused.

Student name: _____ **Grade:** _____

I have read and understand this Internet Use Policy. I agree to abide by its guidelines.

Student (Students in grades 4-12 are required to sign this policy.)

Date

I have read and understand this Internet Policy. I hereby give permission for my child to use the Internet at Barrington Christian Academy. I will support BCA in its effort to extend aspects of BCA's Acceptable Use policy to home use.

Parent

Date