



Print Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Computer-Internet Appropriate Use Contract – 2007-2008

Please read this document carefully. **When signed by you and your parent/guardian, it becomes a legally binding contract.** We must have your signature and that of your parent/guardian before we can provide you with Internet access. Listed below are the provisions of this contract. **If any user violates these provisions, access to the information service will be denied, and the user will be subject to disciplinary action.**

#### Terms and Conditions of this Contract

Use of any of the St. Mary's School computers, computer networks and Internet services is a privilege which may be restricted or revoked at any time. All school rules for behavior and communication shall also apply to use of school computers, networks and the Internet. Anyone who uses school computers or computer services agrees to comply with school policies and regulations and the rules of any network accessed. Students must follow the directions of authorized teachers and school staff. School computers may never be used for commercial purposes to include offering, providing or purchasing goods or services for personal use.

Students who use equipment without permission, who access or attempt to access unauthorized databases, who procure inappropriate information or images, who use inappropriate or demeaning language or who damage or deface computer hardware or software will lose their computer use privileges and/or be subject to disciplinary action and held responsible for financial damage, if applicable. If the computer usage is required in the student's course work, misuse may affect the student's academic grade, and if the misuse is sufficiently severe or persistent as determined by the teacher and the school administration, the misuse may affect the student's ability to receive credit for the course.

- 1. Personal Responsibility.** As a student representative of this school, I will accept personal responsibility for reporting any misuse of the network to an appropriate staff member. Misuse may come in many forms, but is commonly viewed as any message sent or received that indicates or suggests pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, any form of plagiarism (not accurately crediting another author's work - including the work of other students) and other issues described below.
- 2. Acceptable Use.** The use of the Internet at school must be in support of educational goals and/or research. **I understand that the school computers are not to be used for recreation, games, web logging or e-commerce of any kind.** I also understand that sending or receiving information in violation of any class rule, school policy, state or federal regulation or this contract is prohibited. The following materials may not be sent or received by students: obscene or pornographic material, profanity or graphic pictures that may be offensive to others in our school community, material which promotes racial, ethnic or religious hatred, copyrighted material (without expressed permission and/or without proper crediting) or threatening, harassing, demeaning, or obscene material. I will be personally responsible for this provision at all times when using the Internet or other electronic information service. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported by school officials to law enforcement authorities.
- 3. Privileges.** The use of any information system and its resources is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges as well as possible disciplinary action. Each student is to use his or her school assigned User ID (Login Name) and password. **Use of someone else's 'user account' is a violation of this contract. All parties involved will have access to the school network, computers and its resources denied; and in addition, the user will be subject to disciplinary action.**
- 4. Services.** St. Mary's School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. St. Mary's School will not be responsible for any damages suffered while on this system. These damages include loss of data as a result of delays or service interruptions caused by the system or anyone's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the computer information system is at your own risk. St. Mary's School specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through allowing access to the Internet.

5. **Network Etiquette and Privacy.** You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These rules include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - a. APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE: You are expected to use appropriate and considerate language. The use of profanity or abusive or demeaning language **will result in disciplinary action**.
  - b. PRIVACY: Do not reveal any personal information, your home address, personal phone numbers or any information about other students or staff.
  - c. Do not share your **USERNAME** or **PASSWORD** with anyone. You may be held liable for someone else's misconduct.
  - d. DISRUPTIONS: Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt the use of the network by others.
  
6. **Security.** Security on any computer system is a high priority because there are so many users. St. Mary's School reserves the right to monitor all use on these systems either electronically or by school personnel. If you identify a security problem, notify your teacher, the Librarian or the System Administrator at once. Never demonstrate the problem to other users. **Never use another individual's account.** Any incidence of hardware or software damage (including viruses), any attempt to use equipment without permission or access unauthorized databases will be cause for disciplinary action, and students will be held responsible for any financial impact. Any user identified as a security risk will be denied access to the computer information system.

**Required Signatures**

**STUDENT:**

I understand and will abide by the provisions and conditions of this contract. I understand that any violation of the above provisions may result in the revoking of my user account, and appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action. I also agree to report any misuse of the computer information system, as outlined above, to an appropriate staff member.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN:**

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read this contract and understand that computer use at school is intended solely for educational purposes. I understand that it is impossible for St. Mary's School to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the network. I also agree to report any misuse of the information system to a St. Mary's School staff member. Misuse may come in many forms, but may be viewed as any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, inappropriate or demeaning language, and other misuses as outlined above.

St. Mary's School makes no guarantee of any kind for the Internet service provided to the student. St. Mary's School will not be held responsible for any damages claimed or suffered by any student or parent relating to the use of the Internet. This includes a child's exposure to materials that a parent would otherwise have a Right of Notice and/or Consent to, pursuant to state or federal law. **Use of any information obtained via the Internet, e-mail or message board is at the student's and parent's own risk.**

I hereby give permission to issue Internet access for my St. Mary's student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Parent or Guardian Name**                      **Parent or Guardian Signature**                      **Date**