

St. Joseph School Use of Technology and Social Media Policy

INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

In compliance to CIPA (Child Internet Protection Act), St. Joseph School has adopted an Internet Safety Policy as well as our own Anti-Bullying Policy to protect our students from the dangers of internet use when not used properly.

Technology is an integral part of our 21st Century learning curriculum. The internet is used as a resource tool by our teachers and students, allowing them to gain access to various research material. Because we use the internet as a main resource, we are careful about the content that can become accessible to the user (teacher, student, staff, administration or employee of St. Joseph School) therefore; we use filtering software that will not compromise the function of our network and/or be of danger to the user. We restrict access to websites that contain obscenity, child pornography, or any adult-rated material that is against our Internet Safety Policy. For the safety of our students, we do not authorize the opening of the following: social network accounts, email accounts, chat room accounts, video conferencing accounts, etc. If the student is given an email account through the school's email portal, we reserve the right to terminate its use when suspected or used improperly until further investigated.

We do not encourage any means of bullying: bullying in person, cyber-bullying or bullying through technology devices/forms (i.e. text messaging, social networks, e-mail, blogging, etc.) Any student in direct violation of St. Joseph's Anti-Bullying Policy may be expelled and may face criminal charges if pursued by the other party.

Furthermore, we respect the identity of each person and we will not tolerate any student in direct offense of or engaged in the use and/or dissemination of personal information regarding minors.

St. Joseph School takes precautionary measures to keep our students safe. Computer classes are taught by a Computer Teacher who also serves as the Technology Coordinator and makes sure that students are monitored when using the internet. Wireless access passwords are restricted and kept private so students do not have direct access to the wireless connection at the school.

St. Joseph School takes pride in keeping our students safe. We are strong advocates for our students and are careful that they do not fall victims of any kind through lack of education with technology. We encourage our parents/guardians to be consistent with our approach to safety over the internet at their homes as well.

The use of computer services at St. Joseph School is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to make responsible, ethical and appropriate use of computers and information services at all times. Network and computer services include, but are not limited to: use of personal and school computers and peripherals, the Internet, and/or e-mail and all associated software. Students should realize that these services are finite and costly and that such things as time, money and hardware are wrongfully restricted or appropriated when these services are abused.

St. Joseph School holds specific expectations for students at each grade level regarding their use of computers before, during, and after school in the computer lab, library or classroom.