

The Columbus Academy Network Acceptable Use Policy

The computer network environment supported by The Columbus Academy is designed to enhance the learning and teaching activities of the Academy's students, faculty, and staff. The term "network" refers to a number of computers and other electronic tools that are connected to each other for the purpose of communication and data sharing. The Columbus Academy Network is a part of the Internet. The Internet is a global network made up of many smaller contributing networks. Its services are intended to support open research and education in and among U.S. research and instructional institutions. The number of users is in the millions and growing daily. The power of the Internet comes from the energy of these many dispersed minds working together to solve problems and discuss issues. There is little in the way of hierarchy or control of the discourse, and it is virtually impossible to prevent students from accessing objectionable materials while preserving their status as full members of the Internet community. The purpose of this statement is to provide an acceptable use policy for the use of The Columbus Academy network facilities and services, internal as well as Internet. The Academy reserves the right to modify this policy at any time.

It is the policy of The Columbus Academy to maintain access for its community to local, national, and international sources of information. The Columbus Academy works to create an intellectual environment in which students, staff, and faculty may feel free to create and to collaborate with colleagues at any institution, without fear that the products of their intellectual efforts will be violated by misrepresentation, tampering, destruction and/or theft.

The Columbus Academy characterizes as unethical, unacceptable and just cause for taking disciplinary action, removal of networking privileges and/or legal action, violation of the following directives:

- Users will not seek to gain or gain unauthorized access to information resources including other students' accounts.
- Users will not destroy, alter or otherwise interfere with the integrity of The Columbus Academy resources.
- Users will not invade the privacy of individuals or entities.
- Users will not use this or any other interconnected network for illegal or criminal purposes.
- Users will not share one's password, allow another to use one's account, or use another person's account with or without their permission.
- Users will not transmit threatening, obscene, or harassing materials.
- Users will use appropriate language. Profanity or obscenity will not be tolerated.
- Users will avoid offensive or inflammatory speech.
- Users will adhere to the rules of copyright, licensing agreements and all other contracts.
- Users will not re-post personal communications without the original author's prior consent.
- Users will avoid the knowing or inadvertent spread of computer viruses and worms.
- Users will not send or receive any obscene or pornographic material.
- Users will not share personal information with anyone over the Internet.

Exemplary behavior is expected at all times. When "visiting" locations on the Internet, users must conduct themselves as representatives of both their school and their community as a whole.

This policy is applicable to any member of The Columbus Academy community, whether at The Columbus Academy or elsewhere.

The Columbus Academy faculty has the right and obligation to determine what is acceptable or unacceptable use of the technology facilities at The Columbus Academy.

All users have a reasonable expectation of privacy, however, if a user is believed to be in violation of the guidelines stated in this policy, a system administrator or teacher may need to gain access to private correspondence or files.

All users have the responsibility for the use of their account. All violations of this policy that can be traced to an individual account name will be treated as the sole responsibility of the owner of that account. Under no conditions should you give your password to another user.

Users should bring to the attention of the system administrator any threatening or unwelcome communications.