



Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Updated August 2022

The aim of this Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is to ensure that students will benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's technological resources in a safe and effective manner. Internet use and access is considered a school resource and privilege. Therefore, if the school AUP is not adhered to, this privilege will be withdrawn and appropriate sanctions – as outlined in the AUP – will be imposed. Please be aware that the AUP is subject to annual revisions.

General

- **Internet sessions will always be monitored by filtering software.**
- Filtering software will be used in order to minimize the risk of exposure to inappropriate material. On school provided devices, student's internet usage is filtered both on and off campus. All internet usage regardless of the device is filtered on campus.
- Uploading and downloading of non-approved software will not be permitted on any school device.
- Students have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy regarding account/computer usage or storage, regardless of being school-related or personal. Devices, files, and communications may be accessed and reviewed by administration and/or technical personnel at ANY time.

Online Behavior

- Students will not intentionally visit internet sites that contain obscene, illegal, hateful or otherwise objectionable materials.
- Students will report accidentally accessing inappropriate materials.
- Students will use the internet for educational purposes only, not for playing games.
- Students will never disclose or publicize personal information.

Email

- Students will not send or receive any material that is illegal, obscene, defamatory or that is intended to annoy or intimidate another person.
- Students will not reveal their own or other people's personal details, such as addresses or telephone numbers or pictures.
- Students will never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they only know through emails or the internet.
- Do not transmit language/material that is profane, obscene, abusive, or offensive to others.

- Do not send mass emails, chain letters, or spam.

Legal Propriety

- Students are required to follow all copyright laws around all media including text, images, programs, music, and video. Downloading, sharing, and posting online illegally obtained media is against the Acceptable Use Policy.
- Plagiarism is a violation of the South Merrimack Christian Academy's code of conduct. Give credit to all sources used, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, such as graphics, movies, music, and text.

Sanctions

Misuse of the internet may result in disciplinary action, including written referrals, withdrawal of access privileges and, in extreme cases, suspension or expulsion. The school also reserves the right to report any illegal activities to the appropriate authorities.

Digital Citizenship

Students will be required to complete the SMCA Digital Citizenship course and abide by the values presented in the course.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

ANY attempt to override or bypass any protection measure that has been put in place by South Merrimack Christian Academy to monitor, block and/or filter access to the network or internet usage that is not in accordance with policies of South Merrimack Christian Academy will result in the loss of the privilege of using school issued technology for a prescribed period and may result in suspension or expulsion.