



McDonnell Area Catholic Schools Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Families, please read, sign and return this form to your school at the beginning of each school year.

[The Internet](#) | [Purpose](#) | [Responsibility](#) | [Personal Safety](#) | [System Security](#) | [Consequences](#)

The Internet is a global network linking computers at public and private education, government and businesses institutions and many other sites where one can communicate through many services, discussion forums, social media, and electronic mail to name a few. One can interact with prominent scientists, world leaders or simply to a friend at another school. However, along with great educational potential comes potential abuse. The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines so that all who use the Internet at MACS or with MAC devices do so in a manner consistent with the system's [mission, core values](#) and educational philosophy as well as the Childhood Internet Protection Act ([CIPA](#)) and the [Diocese of La Crosse Pastoral Guidelines For the Use of Social Networking and Technology](#). [MACS](#) requires a student and parent/guardian agreement to the guidelines below and this AUP.

I. Educational Purpose - Use the Internet only for school activities.

- A. The MACS Internet connection has been established for educational purposes. These include class activities, career development, and various high-quality discovery activities.
- B. McDonnell schools have the responsibility to place reasonable restrictions on material accessed or posted through its network or devices.

II. Personal Responsibility - Where you go on the Internet may not be a secret.

- A. Users should keep in mind that when they use the Internet, they are entering a global community, and any actions taken by them reflects upon them and the school as a whole. Therefore, all users will behave in an ethical and legal manner.
- B. Internet, lab or network maintenance and monitoring may lead to individual data scans or security reviews if there is reasonable suspicion that a user has violated this policy. This includes camera surveillance.
- C. When you use a computer network:
 - 1. You leave electronic footprints. The odds of getting caught doing something illegal or immoral are as good as they are in the real world. Your use of the Internet can be a mirror that will show what kind of person you are.
 - 2. There is always one person who knows if what you have done is right or wrong. That person is you.
 - 3. McDonnell uses firewalls and filtering software to monitor content and activity 24/7 together with student and teacher vigilance as promoted by class instruction and/or staff development.

III. Unacceptable Uses

A. Personal Safety Issues - Do not give out personal information about yourself or others.

- 1. Beyond that, users should not post personal contact information that reveals your location such as an address or telephone number. Students should not reveal another person's name, address, or telephone number, nor transmit or use pictures of others without their consent.
- 2. Users agree not to meet someone in person who they have met online without parent approval.
- 3. Users should promptly tell a teacher or an administrator about any message that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.
- 4. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, obscene or profane material, and other antisocial

behaviors are unacceptable in any communication.

5. As protection against a claim that you have intentionally violated this policy, should you mistakenly access inappropriate information, immediately inform your teacher, principal, guidance counselor, technology director or administrator.

6. The MACS system fully expects that students will follow your parent's instructions as to access to appropriate material.

7. Each of the schools will integrate digital literacy into portions of the curriculum.

B. System Security - Do not use technology to go where you are not supposed to go.

1. Do not attempt to gain access to any other computer system through the Internet beyond your authorized access. Do not look for security problems. This may be construed as an illegal attempt to gain access. Immediately notify a teacher or the technology director if you have identified a possible security problem.

2. Do not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or destroy data.

3. Do not attempt to bypass security restrictions that are in place to protect network integrity, including any internet filtering mechanism.

C. Respecting Resource Limits - Share our resources with others.

1. MACS has a reasonably fast network, internet connections and 1:1 and Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiatives. Nonetheless, network resources and availability may at times be limited. Academic use always takes priority.

2. Paper use is monitored. Please conserve and use print resources wisely.

D. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement - Do not copy without giving proper credit.

1. All information accessible online should be assumed to be subject to copyright protection. Internet sources should be credited appropriately, as with the use of any copyrighted material.

2. Users will not transfer or store copyrighted materials through the network because, in some cases, such actions may result in legal action being taken against MACS as well as the user.

IV. Consequences for Violation of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Violations of this Internet Acceptable Use Policy may result in the loss of certain network privileges. Repeated or severe violations may result in disciplinary action. McDonell Area Catholic Schools will cooperate fully with law enforcement officials in any investigation related to any illegal activity conducted through the MACS digital network.

We understand and agree to abide by the MACS Internet Acceptable Use Policy. *(All students from the family may sign one form. This policy may also be accepted by a signature of the student/parent handbook or staff contract.*

	Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Date
<i>Student or user</i>			
<i>Student</i>			
<i>Student</i>			
<i>Student</i>			
<i>Student</i>			
Parent / Guardian			

Add a sheet if needed.