

# Mt. St. Mary Academy

## Internet Use Approval

***This form must be returned to school office on or before August 24, 2009***

Mt. St. Mary Academy encourages the use of the Internet when appropriate to meet student needs. The Internet can be a valuable source for research on a wide variety of topics. It can also facilitate communications with students around the world, government leaders, etc.

However, the very nature of the vast expanse of material and people on the Internet also leads to certain needs for care in Internet use (etiquette). Students must agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Students will be instructed on polite and responsible use guidelines. Parent permission is required for minors. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Before using the Internet, a student must have on file the attached form signed by both the student and his/her parent or guardian.

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I understand that use of the Internet requires care and responsibility. I agree to follow school guidelines when using it. In addition to any directions received from school staff, I understand that all of the following activities should be avoided:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures.
- Using obscene language.
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others.
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks.
- Violating copyright laws.
- Using others' passwords.
- Trespassing in others folders, work or files.
- Intentionally wasting limited resources.
- Employing the network for commercial purposes.
- Attempting to find sources promoting violence.
- Attempting to find sources of sexually explicit material.
- Attempting to find sources promoting any illegal activity.
- In addition, attempting to find such items, I agree to immediately leave any Website which I may accidentally come across which contains such items and notify the supervising adult.
- I will avoid giving out any information which might expose me, my classmates, the school, its staff, etc. to any potential threat or harm.
- I will stop using the Internet when asked by a school staff member for any reason.
- Violations may result in loss of access.
- Additional disciplinary action may be determined in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior.
- When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.
- Individual users of the school computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that the user will comply with school standards and will honor the agreements they have signed.
- Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on school servers will always be private.
- During school, teachers of younger students will guide them toward appropriate materials. Outside of school, families bear responsibility for such guidance as they must also exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio and other potentially offensive media.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_