

SAINT BERNARD PREPARATORY SCHOOL INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

July 2006

Please read carefully before signing this document. Refusal to sign prohibits one from using, or having access to Internet connections on the campus at any time, with or without approval from fellow students, faculty, staff, and administration.

Internet access is available to students and faculty of Saint Bernard Preparatory School, herein frequently referred to as the "School". We believe the Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our primary goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence at Saint Bernard Preparatory School by adding technological resources to the learning environment and also to enhance communication between faculty, staff, students and parents. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers and millions of individual users. Students and teachers have access to:

1. Electronic mail communication with people throughout the world;
2. Information and news from countless individuals, groups, and agencies;
3. Public domain and shareware of all types;
4. Discussion groups on many topics;
5. Access to colleges, universities, and research institutions, including many library catalogs, the Library of Congress and other educational sites.

With world-wide access to computers and people comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Access to such material is strongly discouraged, but on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and any user may discover controversial material. We firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs risks inherent in the procurement of questionable material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the school. The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you accept when using the network. In general, this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Saint Bernard Student user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be closed and future access could be denied. The signatures at the end of this document are legally binding and indicate the party who signed has read the terms and conditions carefully and understands their significance.

SAINT BERNARD PREP SCHOOL
COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND INTERNET ACCESS
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Acceptable Use – The purpose of Saint Bernard Preparatory School’s network and its link to the Internet is to support research and education among its students by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the School. The transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. You may not use the system for commercial activities, nor may you use it for product advertisement or political lobbying.

Privileges – The Internet is a privilege, increasingly essential to learning, that offers new freedoms and demands new responsibilities. Guidelines for use are practical and logical extensions of St. Bernard's commitment to conduct that is legal, responsible, ethical, and considerate. The use of the Internet is not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of the privilege. Access to the Internet at St. Bernard is permitted only via the school's local area network (LAN) system. Use of telephone connections with a modem to access the Internet is strictly prohibited and will result in both the termination of telephone and Internet privileges. School officials, to include dorm directors and, where appropriate, system administrators, will deem what is inappropriate use, and their decision is final. The School, system administrators, and law enforcement officials may access the personal files of any computer on our campus, if necessary, at any time. School officials may request that the system administrators deny, limit, or revoke specific user accounts and Internet access.

Specifically Acceptable Uses Within

1. Contact with researchers, educators, students and databases in connection with research, instruction, or exploration of the Internet's resources;
2. Communication and exchange for professional development, to maintain currency or to debate issues in a field or subfield of knowledge;
3. Use in applying for college applications, requests for financial aid, or inquiries regarding research or instruction
4. Any other communications or activities which support and further St. Bernard Prep's goals and objectives;
5. Communications with family, friends, school faculty and staff.

Netiquette – The rules of the Saint Bernard Handbook apply to all Internet browsing, email communications, etc. You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Be polite. Do not be abusive in your messages to others. You are responsible for messages sent from your computer and any material viewed on your computer as well. Keep in mind how easily your words can be passed to others without your knowledge.
2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
3. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number or those of other students or colleagues.
4. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) and files stored on the network or one’s personal computer are not guaranteed to be private. No student may invade or attempt to access a

fellow student's computer or any other computer (school, dorm director, classroom, faculty, staff or administrative) on the campus.

5. Do not use the network in such a way that your actions could or would embarrass the School.
6. Be wary of viruses that could disrupt the service for the student body.
7. Do not use another individual's account or passwords.
8. You may not browse websites which provide material that would be considered distasteful and/or inappropriate in a classroom, or that are in direct violation of the *Student Handbook*.
9. Access to the network is intended to exploit the educational resources provided by the Internet. Accordingly, the use of chat rooms, game playing, recreational browsing, and audio files is discouraged and excessive use of the same may result in having your access limited or revoked.
10. Internet purchases are strongly discouraged. The school will not be responsible for any purchases made under your account or for any misuse or misrepresentation involving materials or services purchased over the Internet.
11. Respect software licensing agreements and the laws covering intellectual property. Do not copy licensed software or copyrighted files.

Service – Saint Bernard makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Saint Bernard will not be responsible for any damages you suffer resulting from the computer's connection to the network. This includes loss of data resulting from viruses, delays, or service interruptions. Saint Bernard specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the network.

Security – Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security shortfall or breach on the internet, you must notify the school administration immediately. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not attempt to log in to servers as a system administrator. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the School's network. A student who attempts to defeat the logical or physical separation of networks, or who attempts to defeat the intended functions of the installed security measures/firewalls, will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include permanent dismissal from the School.

Vandalism – Vandalism will result in cancellation of Internet privileges and will lead to severe disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy computer hardware, software, or data of another user (local or external) accessed via the Internet backbone. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or their intentional promulgation.

End

(See Terms and Conditions Acceptance)