

J. E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School

Policy for Acceptable Use of Internet 2011-2012

The Internet is a tremendous resource for our children and staff at J. E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School and gives them access to the rest of the world and to a vast information system. At the same time, we recognize that the Internet can provide access to some material that is not of educational value for a Catholic school and may be inappropriate, offensive, or obscene. We believe our children need to and can learn to use this resource in an appropriate manner to enhance their learning experience. J. E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School has taken steps to restrict access to controversial materials; however, it is impossible to control access to all materials. Therefore, it is important that both students and parents read, understand and sign this *Policy for Acceptable Use of Internet*.

Terms and Conditions of this Policy

- 1) **Acceptable Use** - The purpose of the backbone networks making up the Internet is to support research and education in and among academic institutions by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of this network must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of J.E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School. The use of computers are restricted to the activities as set forth by the teacher.
- 2) **Privileges** - The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator and principal will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final.
- 3) **Inappropriate Use** - The following are deemed inappropriate uses of the Internet at J.E. Cosgriff and are subject to suspension from the use of computers if administrators highly suspect or have concrete evidence that such violation occurred:
 - a. Transmission of any material in violation of any national or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.
 - b. Swearing, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language while communicating on a computer or verbally in the computer lab.
 - c. Making threats to other students/staff over the Internet or verbally in the computer lab.
 - d. Viewing inappropriate materials such as pornography, communicating with any other person over the network, and use of "Instant Messaging" or "Social Networking" sites are strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to the use of Facebook, MySpace, Google Chat, MSN Messenger, Yahoo Instant Messenger, AOL/AIM Instant Messenger and Meebo.
 - e. Viewing any websites that are not directly related to the assignment as given.
 - f. Revealing your personal information, such as name, address, or phone numbers over the Internet.
 - g. Downloading any programs, games, and music are strictly forbidden.
 - h. The use of e-mail for any purpose other than the saving/transferring files to one's own e-mail account.
 - i. Any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user or computer equipment within the lab. This includes, but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or hacking computers/networks, and accessing other students' files.
- 4) **Suspension** – Students are subject to suspension from the use of computers if teachers and/or administrators suspect or have concrete evidence that such inappropriate uses have occurred.

1st Offense: Student will be accompanied by their parent/guardian during computer class for a specified amount of time as deemed appropriate by school administration.

2nd Offense: Student will be removed from computer classes for the rest of the current school year and will not be allowed to access any computer within J.E. Cosgriff.
- 5) **Students are subject to immediate expulsion from J.E. Cosgriff if caught viewing pornographic material.**