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DUNRAVEN SCHOOL INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

What is possible?

Access to e-mail and the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, museums, and other sources of information and to exchange personal communication with other Internet users around the world. Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive. While the purposes of the school are to use Internet resources for educational objectives, students may find ways to access other materials. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration outweigh the disadvantages. But ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Therefore, we support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

What is expected?

Students are responsible for appropriate behaviour on the school's computer network just as they are in a classroom or around the school. Communications on the network are often public. Our school rules for behaviour and communications apply. We expect all users to comply with our standards and the specific rules set out below. The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and may be withdrawn if abused. The user is personally responsible in accessing and using the school's computer resources. Students are advised never to access, keep or send anything that they would not want a parent or a teacher to see.

What are the rules?

Privacy - Network storage areas are like school lockers. Network administrators may review communications to maintain system integrity and to ensure that students are using the system responsibly.

Storage capacity - Users are expected to remain within allocated disk space and to delete e-mail or other material which ties up excessive storage space.

Illegal copying - Students should never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have written permission from the Network Administrator. Nor should students copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.

Inappropriate materials or language - In line with the Dunraven Code of Conduct, no profane, abusive or impolite language should be used to communicate nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behaviour. A good rule to follow is that students should never view, send, or access materials which they would not want a teacher and parent to see. Should students encounter such material by accident, they should report it to their teacher immediately.

Dunraven School reserves the right to use appropriate sanctions with students if they:

- use a computer to harm other people or their work.
- damage the computer in any way.
- interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, shareware or freeware.
- violate copyright laws.
- view, send or display offensive messages or pictures.
- share a password with another person.
- waste limited resources such as disk space or printing capacity.
- trespass in another's folders, work or files or use another student's password.
- do not notify an adult immediately if they encounter materials which violate the rules of appropriate use.

Students will be held accountable for their actions if these Rules of Appropriate Use are violated. Students are encouraged to change their private password regularly.