



## Internet Acceptable Use Policy

By virtue of the values professed in Catholic Schools of the Diocese of St. Augustine, appropriate use of the Internet is assumed. We are very pleased to bring this access to our school community and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in our school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Internet is a vast, global, electronics communication network linking computers at universities, high schools, science labs and other sites. Through the Internet, one can communicate with people all over the world through a number of discussion forums, as well as through electronic mail. In addition, many titles are available for downloading on the Internet, most of which are of educational value. Because of its enormous size, the Internet's potential is endless. It is possible to speak with everyone from prominent scientists to world leaders to a friend at college.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. It is impossible to control all materials on this global network, and an industrious user may discover controversial information.

We firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational and religious goals of our community.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users, who must adhere to strict guidelines. It is the purpose of these guidelines, as well as the contract for Internet use, to make sure that all who use the Internet, both students and faculty, use this valuable resource in an appropriate manner. If a user violates any of these guidelines, his/her access will be terminated and future access could be denied. The Internet Coordinators reserve the right to examine all data at any time.

The most important prerequisite for someone to receive an Internet access privilege is that he/she take full responsibility for his/her own actions. Diocesan Schools and the

sponsors of Internet connections will not be liable for the actions of anyone connecting to the Internet through their hook-up. All users/their parents shall assume full liability, legal, financial, or otherwise, for their actions