District School Board of Niagara

Acceptable Use Agreement
For Students Using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

Agreement

In order to create and maintain an effective and safe electronic learning environment for students, the District School Board of Niagara requires that all students follow the sets of rules and netiquette stated in this Acceptable Use Agreement. Information and Communication Technologies include, but are not limited to, the use of computers, the Internet, our Intranet and e-mail.

The granting of a computer account and the access given to curricular resources on the Internet/Intranet is a privilege, not a right. **It is the intention that every student will use school computers and network resources wisely and for educational purposes only as directed by your teacher.** Parents and guardians, students and teachers are asked to read the contents of this Acceptable Use Agreement carefully. A parent/guardian signature is required on the attached Agreement and Consent Form before student access is granted for use of the ICT services provided by the District School Board of Niagara.

Netiquette and Ethical Behaviour

- You are expected to use appropriate language online and to be polite and respectful at all times. Obscene, vulgar, socially offensive, sexist, profane or other objectionable language is not to be used or transmitted on any of the networks.
- Bullying or harassment, via the Internet or any other communication device, is totally unacceptable. Never post, publish or display defamatory, abusive, embarrassing, sexually oriented, racially offensive, harassing or threatening material.
- This Acceptable Use Agreement extends to cover use of the Internet from non-DSBN computers and networks where any inappropriate reference is made to DSBN staff, students, programs or properties.
- Do not access or transmit pornographic, sexually explicit, or other inappropriate materials including violence and gore. If such material is accessed by accident, the incident must be reported immediately to a teacher.
- Posting messages and attributing them to another user, or otherwise misrepresenting yourself online, is unacceptable.
- Do not broadcast a private message sent to you without permission of the sender.
- Non-academic use of DSBN computers (e.g., instant messaging, social networking, playing online games), except where directed by a teacher, will not be tolerated.

Plagiarism and Copyright

- Do not plagiarize works found on the Internet/Intranet. It is unlawful to take the ideas, writings or images of others and present them as if they were yours.
- Do not transmit or download information, media or software in violation of copyright laws.
- Use information accessed on the Internet judiciously. The information may not be accurate, factual or without bias.

Safety

- Never reveal personal information online. This includes your name (first, last or nickname), address, phone number, age, e-mail address, school name and location, etc., as well as anyone else's personal information.
- Do not share your password or account information with anyone.
- Never send a picture of yourself, another person or a group over the network without the proper permission.

Vandalism

- The introduction of malicious programs, e.g., viruses, worms, Trojan horses, into a single computer, server or network is strictly prohibited.
- Adding, deleting or modifying installed software is not permitted.
- Any malicious attempt to modify, erase, harm or destroy the files of other users on the network will not be tolerated.
- Do not cause damage to any computer hardware or peripherals including keyboards, monitors, mice, printers, etc.

System and Security

- Logging into the system as another user is strictly prohibited.
- Do not attempt to access information for which you are not authorized. This includes the unauthorized access to DSBN files or servers.
- Adding, deleting or modifying installed software is not permitted.
- Keep the use of network services within reasonable limits in terms of time and volume of information transferred through the system. Sending mass mailings of large documents or transferring large files at times of peak system usage may disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- Do not transmit or place unlawful information on the system or carry out unlawful activities using the network (e.g., the illegal installation of software).
- Do not use the DSBN network to buy or sell anything.

The Disciplinary Process

In the event that a student violates the DSBN Acceptable Use Agreement, the school administrator may deny, restrict or suspend the student's access to the DSBN system. Disciplinary action will be tailored to meet the concerns related to the violation and to assist the student in gaining the self-discipline necessary to behave appropriately on our electronic network.

If the violation is an infraction of the school Code of Conduct, the violation will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the school's code. Legal authorities will be contacted if there is any suspicion of illegal activities.

District School Board of Niagara

Acceptable Use Agreement for Student Use of ICT
Agreement and Consent Form

Note: Please complete the Agreement and Consent Form and return this page to your school.

Student

I have read the District School Board of Niagara's Acceptable Use Agreement for students using Communication and Information Technologies (ICT) which includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, the Internet, DSBN Intranet and e-mail. I understand that ICT access is provided for educational purposes only and hereby agree to comply with the rules and netiquette as stated in the DSBN Acceptable Use Agreement. I also understand that failure to comply will result in disciplinary measures.

_____

Date

_____

Student Name (Please Print)

_____

Student Signature

_____ _____

School *Grade*

Parent/Guardian

As parent/guardian of the above student, I grant permission for my child to access the Information and Communication Technologies Services provided by the District School Board of Niagara. I have read and agree to the DSBN Acceptable Use Agreement for ICT which includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, the Internet, DSBN Intranet and e-mail. I recognize that it is impossible for the District School Board of Niagara to completely control access to controversial materials online and therefore, will not hold the Board responsible for inappropriate materials that are accessed on occasion. In support of the Acceptable Use Agreement, I will help to guide my child and convey to him/her appropriate standards and uses for selecting, sharing and/or exploring information and media online.

_____

Date

_____

Parent/Guardian Name (Please print)

_____

Parent/Guardian Signature