

## Responsible Use Student Contract

The Responsible Use Policy is crafted in the spirit of the Purpose and Direction for Blount County Schools, which includes our Mission “to create life-long learners by providing quality education and meeting the needs of all students” and our Vision to collaborate with all “stakeholders to prepare responsible citizens ready to succeed in an ever-changing global society.” The policy also fully represents our Beliefs as a school system and is undergirded by the three tenets framing the Purpose and Direction: College and Career Readiness for Every Student; Commitment to Continuous Improvement; and a Positive, Collaborative, and Safe Learning Environment.

All technology resource use will be governed by the requirement that it must add to the standards-based educational experience and growth of the user and not disrupt the educational process in any way.

The Responsible Use Policy outlines the guidelines and behaviors that users are expected to follow when using school technologies or when using personally-owned devices on the school campus.

- The BCS’ network is intended for educational purposes only.
- All activity over the network or using district technologies may be monitored and retained.
- Access to online content via the network may be restricted in accordance with our policies and federal regulations, such as the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
- Students are expected to follow the same rules for good behavior and respectful conduct online and offline.
- Misuse of school resources can result in disciplinary action.
- Blount County Schools makes a reasonable effort to ensure students’ safety and security online but will not be held accountable for any harm or damages that result from use of school technologies.
- Users of the district network or other technologies are expected to alert staff immediately of any concerns for safety or security.

Students should keep personally-owned devices (including laptops, tablets, smartphones, and cell phones) turned off and put away during school hours—unless permission has been granted by an instructor or administrator in accordance with the BCS’ Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy. All devices must use the Blount County Schools’ guest network through Wi-Fi enabled airplane mode rather than a cellular data plan in order to meet Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliance. They must be turned off, charged, and only in use with permission. Students will not be allowed to bring chargers to charge devices. Electronic communication devices and other digital devices will not be allowed to be present in standardized testing situations based on State Department of Education Policy. Neither the Blount County Board of Education nor local schools are responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items as this is a *voluntary* program.

### Examples of Acceptable Use

I will:

- Use school technologies for school-related activities.
- Follow the same guidelines for respectful, responsible behavior online that I am expected to follow offline.
- Treat school resources carefully and alert staff if there is a problem.
- Encourage positive, constructive discussion if allowed to use communicative or collaborative technologies.
- Alert a teacher or other staff member if I see threatening, inappropriate, or harmful content (images, messages, posts) online.
- Use school technologies at appropriate times, in approved places, for educational pursuits.
- Cite sources when using online sites and resources for research.
- Recognize that use of school technologies is a privilege and treat it as such.
- Be informed about online safety and be cautious to protect the safety of myself and others.
- Help to protect the security of school resources.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Users should exercise good judgment when using school technologies.



Examples of Unacceptable Use

I will not:

- Use school technologies in a way that could be personally or physically harmful.
- Attempt to find inappropriate images or content.
- Engage in cyberbullying, harassment, or disrespectful conduct toward others.
- Try to find ways to circumvent the school's safety measures and filtering tools.
- Use school technologies to send spam or chain mail.
- Plagiarize content I find online.
- Post personally-identifying information, about myself or others.
- Agree to meet someone I meet online in real life.
- Use language online that would be unacceptable in the classroom.
- Use school technologies for illegal activities or to pursue information on such activities.
- Attempt to hack or access sites, servers, or content that is not intended for my use.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Users should use their own good judgment when using school technologies.

Any user who violates this policy may have computer/Internet privileges revoked at any time and without prior notice. Employee violations of this policy may also result in administrative leave, suspension, and possible termination. Student users are also subject to discipline according to the Blount County Student Code of Conduct. Any illegal use will also result in civil and/or criminal liability.

I have read and understood the Responsible Use Policy and agree to abide by it:

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Student Printed Name

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent Printed Name

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Parent Signature

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Date