

ACCEPTABLE USE / INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD) provides a wide range of technology resources for student and adult use while on campus. This document outlines the provisions of your agreement regarding computer, network and internet use, along with prohibited activities when using all GSD technology resources and electronic devices.

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), it is the policy of Georgia School for the Deaf to implement measures that protect users when using any form of electronic communications while on the GSD network. GSD employs the use of a content filter to monitor any computer with online access. This layer of protection is designed to block or filter minors and adults from accessing online content considered: (a) obscene; (b) pornographic; or (c) harmful to minors. Due to the nature of the internet, GSD network administrators cannot guarantee that students will not reach an inappropriate site, even with adult supervision. It is the student's responsibility to report an inappropriate site to a teacher.

By signing this Acceptable Use Policy, students and parents/guardians acknowledge their consent to the following rules and conditions:

SECTION 1. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Misuse is defined as any violation of this policy or any other use not included in the policy, but results in harming other individuals or his/her property. By signing this form, you are agreeing not only to follow the rules in this policy, but are agreeing to report any misuse of the network to GSD's Superintendent or a teacher.

SECTION 2. TERMS OF THE PERMITTED USE

A student who submits a properly signed handbook acknowledgment form and follows the policy to which she or he has agreed, will have computer network and internet access during the course of the school year only. Students will be asked to sign a new policy acknowledgement form each year they are students at GSD. Technology access will not be granted prior to receipt of this form.

SECTION 3. ACCEPTABLE USES

Educational Purposes Only

- The Georgia School for the Deaf provides access to its computer networks primarily for administrative and educational purposes. If you are questioning if your activity is appropriate, you may consult with a teacher or the school superintendent.
- Users shall comply with software licensing and copyright laws.

Unacceptable Uses of the Network

- Users should not violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Users should not download, view or transmit obscene or pornographic materials; use the internet to threaten, harass or bully others; attempt to intrude, alter, destroy, hack into or attempt to gain access to unauthorized or restricted areas of GSD's network; offer to sell any unlawful substance prohibited by the State Schools Policy.

Last review: May 2020.

SECTION 4. CYBER BULLYING

Georgia School for the Deaf promotes a safe learning environment that is free from bullying and cyber-bullying. GSD provides age appropriate education to students about appropriate online behavior, including cyber-bullying awareness and response.

It is a violation of this policy for any student to engage in cyber-bullying or for any GSD employee to condone or fail to report an act of cyber-bullying. Bullying is defined as the repeated use of written, verbal, or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at an unwilling participant that: (a) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim's property; (b) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself or of damage to their property; (c) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (d) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (e) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school.

SECTION 5. NO EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY

The Georgia School for the Deaf's electronic network is part of the curriculum. Users should understand that email accounts and network files are not private. Network administrators reserve the right to log technology use, to monitor fileserver space utilization by users, and to examine users' files and materials as needed, and at its discretion.

SECTION 6. OWNERSHIP / RIGHTS

Users are authorized to possess and use technology as long as they comply with the Acceptable Use Policy. Users do not have any ownership rights to GSD technology.

By signing this form, you agree to follow the above guidelines. If any user violates this policy, the user is subject to complete denial of technology access or technology suspension for an established period of time. He or she may also be subject to additional disciplinary action.

I _____ understand and agree to operate within the guidelines of the policy as outlined above.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

(Required for all students)

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parent/ Guardian work phone: _____

Last review: May 2020.