



Student Acceptable Use Policies

Midlothian ISD (MISD) prioritizes the integration of technology into the learning environment. However, student access to technology, including devices, software, and the Internet, is a privilege, not a right. Student users of MISD technology must read, understand, and acknowledge receipt of these policies, which govern the use of "District technology" which includes telephones, District-issued email accounts, servers and network equipment, computer hardware and electronic devices, software and applications, digitized information, databases, District-provided filtered Internet access, District-provided filtered guest Wi-Fi, and any related programs, tools, devices or other technologies. **Failure to comply with these policies may result in suspension or termination of a student's access to MISD technology, as well as other disciplinary action consistent with MISD policies.**

These Acceptable Use Policies are adopted pursuant to MISD Board Policy CQ (LEGAL) and (LOCAL).

Note To Parents and Guardians

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, MISD educates its staff and students regarding appropriate online behavior, including the use of electronic devices, email, software, applications, and the Internet, and has deployed Internet filtering technology and other protection measures to restrict access to inappropriate or harmful content. MISD personnel may also monitor emails and other use of MISD technology to ensure appropriate use. For those platforms or applications that require parent or guardian consent prior to access by a child under the age of 18, a District employee will provide consent on behalf of the student and shall supervise student use of such platform or application. By signing these Acceptable Use Guidelines, a parent or guardian consents to the student's use of such platform or application. The list of platforms or applications which teachers may use in student instruction can be found at the following link: <https://www.midlothianisd.org/departments/departments-of-learning/misd-approved-applications>.

While MISD strives to provide the most secure learning environment, it is not possible for the district to absolutely prevent student access (accidental or otherwise) to inappropriate or harmful content. It is each student's responsibility to follow these policies for acceptable use of technology. Parents/guardians are responsible for the online activities and behavior of their children while away from school.

Disclaimer of Liability

Midlothian ISD shall not be liable for a student's inappropriate use of the district's technology or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, a student's mistakes or negligence, or any costs incurred by a student through the use of MISD technology. MISD shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy or usability of any information found on the internet.

Rules for Acceptable Use of MISD Technology

1. You will be assigned an individual username and password for access to MISD hardware, software, and Internet. Do not share your log-in credentials with others. Do not pose as another person in the use of MISD technology, including when posting, transmitting, or receiving messages. Attempts to log on to the computer/network/Internet impersonating a system administrator or District employee, student, or individual other than oneself, will result in revocation of the student's access to MISD technology.



2. Take reasonable care of all MISD technology that you possess or use and do your best to avoid damaging the technology. The District may hold you responsible for costs related to any damages you cause to any MISD technology.
3. Do not use another person's username, password, and/or identification to access MISD technology.
4. Do not open, view, modify, and/or delete any other person's files, messages, or other electronic content.
5. MISD technology, including the internet, shall primarily be used for educational purposes as determined by the District; however, limited personal use of MISD technology may be permitted to the extent that such use does not interfere with District operations or violate these Acceptable Use Policies and has been approved by your teacher or appropriate campus administrator. Personal use of MISD technology is not private and may be subject to student discipline.
6. Email names and email or e-messaging services provided by MISD are considered school property. All emails and messages sent, received or stored in MISD systems are considered school property and may be monitored by designated school administrators.
7. Immediately report any inappropriate or harmful content (for example, threatening messages) to a MISD teacher or administrator.
8. When communicating via MISD technology, be kind and respectful. Do not use language that is harassing, bullying, vulgar, abusive, inflammatory, or otherwise harmful.
9. Do not engage in cyberbullying. You must immediately report any cyberbullying that you become aware of (regardless of whether you or another person is the victim) to a teacher or administrator. Cyberbullying is defined as the use of any Internet-connected device for the purpose of bullying, harassing, or intimidating another person. Prohibited examples of cyberbullying include:
 - Sending or posting messages and/or content that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, illegal, or intended to bully.
 - Posting abusive comments on social networking sites.
 - Creating a social networking profile or web page that masquerades as the victim's profile or personal site and using it to embarrass him or her.
 - Making it appear that the victim is posting malicious comments about others.
 - Posting the victim's personally identifiable information on a site to put them at greater risk of contact by predators.
 - Recording and distributing videos or other media with the intent to manipulate or embarrass others.
10. Do not post or share photos or videos of others without their permission. Any content shared must be in compliance with the Student Code of Conduct and these Acceptable Use Policies.
11. Do not use MISD technology for any illegal purpose or in violation of any Midlothian ISD policy.
12. Do not use MISD technology in any manner that causes disruption to the educational environment.



13. Do not use MISD technology for financial or commercial gain, advertising, or political activities.
14. Do not engage in inappropriate dialogue with others online, post or transmit any personal information about yourself or others (such as addresses or phone numbers) or make appointments to meet in person with someone you meet online. You must immediately report any warning signs of "catfishing" or online predators to a MISD teacher or administrator.
15. Do not download applications or software or otherwise attempt to modify any District technology.
16. Do not use MISD technology to plagiarize the work of another or to violate a copyright, including by placing copyrighted software or data on any MISD technology without permission from the copyright holder.
17. Do not use MISD technology or any application on MISD technology to transmit school materials for any unethical purposes, such as cheating.
18. Do not attempt to gain unauthorized access to restricted information or resources or attempt to disable any Internet filtering device or software.
19. Do not encrypt communications.
20. Students are strictly prohibited from using any VPN or proxy sites to circumvent the MISD filters.
21. Do not attempt to hack, vandalize, introduce viruses to, or tamper with any MISD equipment, programs, files, software, systems, or networks and must never be in possession of hacking software.
22. Do not attempt to access or explore any online locations or materials that do not support the curriculum and/or are inappropriate for school, including but not limited to pornographic materials. A student who gains access to any inappropriate or harmful material with MISD technology is expected to immediately discontinue the access and report the incident to a MISD teacher or administrator. Failure to immediately discontinue access may result in disciplinary consequences.
23. You must never engage in sexual harassment or use racist, terroristic, abusive, sexually explicit, threatening, demeaning, slanderous, or other objectionable language in any public or private communications.
24. The District is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen personal electronic devices. Student personal electronic devices are subject to search in accordance with state and federal law and MISD Board Policies. Do not attempt to perform any repairs on any District-issued device without prior approval or notice to your campus administrator.
25. Upon unenrollment, withdrawal or graduating from MISD, you are to return all District-issued devices back to your campus administrator.
26. MISD administrators, teachers and staff members have the right to prohibit use of devices at certain times or locations (*i.e.*, campus presentations, theatrical performances, or guest speakers) during the school day or school-sponsored activities.



The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA imposes certain requirements on operators of websites or online services directed to children under 13 years of age, and on operators of other websites or online services that have actual knowledge that they are collecting personal information online from a child under 13 years of age. The primary goal of COPPA is to place parents in control over what information is collected from their young children online. The Rule was designed to protect children under age 13 while accounting for the dynamic nature of the Internet. The Rule applies to operators of commercial websites and online services (including mobile apps) directed to children under 13 that collect, use, or disclose personal information from children, and operators of general audience websites or online services with actual knowledge that they are collecting, using, or disclosing personal information from children under 13. The Rule also applies to websites or online services that have actual knowledge that they are collecting personal information directly from users of another website or online service directed to children.

Student Acknowledgment

I have read these Acceptable Use Policies and agree to abide by their provisions. I understand that I do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in the information or data related to my use of MISD technology, including internet activity, location data, email or other electronic communications, photos, videos, etc. I understand that violation of these Acceptable Use Policies may result in suspension or revocation of system access as well as appropriate disciplinary action. I also agree to immediately notify a MISD teacher or administrator if I am aware of a security problem or come across any information or messages that are inappropriate, dangerous, or otherwise potentially harmful.

Printed Name _____ MISD ID# _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment

I have read these Acceptable Use Policies and agree to encourage my student to abide by their provisions. I understand that my signature on this document also indicates that my student(s) have read and understand these Acceptable Use Policies and they agree to abide by their provisions. I understand that my student's use of MISD technology is not private and that MISD will monitor activity on its devices and networks. I understand that violation of these policies may result in suspension or revocation of system access as well as appropriate disciplinary action. I hereby release the Midlothian ISD, its operators, and any of its affiliated institutions from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my student's use of, or inability to use, these resources.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____