

Acceptable Use Policy for VHS Students

The intent of this policy is to ensure that all uses of the school and VHS network are consistent with the purpose of the network.

Purpose: The purpose of the network is to advance and promote educational opportunities, innovation and educational excellence, and to provide students and teachers access to a worldwide array of educational resources.

Network Use: The network shall be used in a manner consistent with the purpose of the network, the administrative rules for using the network, and with Virtual High School policies. Communications using networked resources will be considered publications and will be governed by administrative policies and Virtual High School policies regarding publications. Users are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner while using the network. Staff and student access to the Internet is provided with the understanding that some material that can be accessed on the Internet may be inaccurate; and that some resources may contain material that is deemed contrary to prevailing community standards or inappropriate for classroom use. Access of such resources will not be permitted. If such inappropriate material is inadvertently encountered, it shall be the user's responsibility to disengage immediately.

Responsibilities: Access to the network is a privilege, not a right, extended by the school to staff, students, and other users for the purpose stated above. Users have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of other users in our network community and on the Internet. Users are expected to act in a responsible, ethical and legal manner, in accordance with the school and Virtual High School policies, in conformance with the purposes of the other networks they use on the Internet, and in compliance with state and national laws. A user who commits a violation may have his/her access privileges revoked, as well as whatever other disciplinary action may be assigned by the school building Principal/designee.

Network Use Guidelines: All use of the network will be consistent with its purpose as stated above. This policy does not attempt to articulate all required behaviors by users of the network. In any specific situation, we rely upon each individual's judgment of appropriate conduct. To assist in such judgment, the following guidelines are offered:

- Any use for illegal purposes, or in support of illegal activities, is prohibited.
- Any use for political or commercial purposes is prohibited.
- The use of electronic mail in any manner that is contrary to school policy is prohibited.
- Any use that disrupts the educational and administrative goals of the school or the Virtual High School is prohibited.
- Any use of a school network or VHS NetCourse account by anyone but the authorized owner of the account is prohibited.

- Any reproduction of copyrighted material without explicit permission is prohibited.
- Privacy: Network storage areas will be treated like school lockers, which may be inspected at any time. Network administrators or other appropriate staff may review communications to maintain integrity system-wide and ensure that students are using the system in a responsible manner.
- Illegal copying: Users should neither download nor install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have written permission from the Network Administrator or other appropriate staff; nor should they copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.
- Inappropriate language: No profane, abusive, or impolite language should be used to communicate on the network or on the Internet.
- Inappropriate materials: Access of material that has been deemed inappropriate for educational use is prohibited. Should users encounter such material by accident, they should disengage. Students should report such encounters to their teacher immediately.

Passwords: The password given to each student should be kept private and not shared with anyone. Only the student should only log into their account and be sure to log off when finished using the d2L site. The site coordinator will keep a list of each student's password. The site coordinator will be logging into each student's account to check on academic progress and grades. If a student loses his/her password, he/she should contact the site coordinator immediately to obtain a new one.