

ENVIRONMENTAL CHARTER SCHOOLS

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Environmental Charter Schools believes in the strong educational values of providing electronic services to students to enhance learning and exchange information. Our goal in providing these services is to promote educational excellence in the school facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that those using the technology provided by Environmental Charter Schools will do so in accordance with the mission and educational goals of ECS.

The Internet links computer networks around the world and provides access to a wide variety of computer and information resources. However, it is important for the users to recognize that the Internet also contains sites that have materials that are objectionable, adult-oriented or otherwise inappropriate. All users, parents, and guardians are advised that communications on the Internet cannot be completely monitored by ECS. By participating in the use of the Internet, students may gain access to information and communications, which they or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, or controversial. While ECS will do everything in its power to insure that this does not happen, parents/guardians need to be aware of this risk when they allow their students to participate in the use of the Internet. The user is responsible for his/her own actions while accessing material on the Internet, and may not access, download, or print from inappropriate sites. The following are our agreements about the use of technology at Environmental Charter Schools.

Terms of Agreement

Prior to gaining Internet access on Environmental Charter Schools computer networks, students and their parents/guardians must sign a copy of the Student Acceptable Use Agreement.

1. **Vandalism/Hacking:** Students will not use their Environmental Charter Schools access or other Internet access to interfere with or disrupt network users, services, Environmental Charter Schools data or data of another student, or equipment, either locally or off campus.
2. **Unauthorized Entry:** Students will not access or try to make unauthorized entry to any machine accessible via the network or on remote networks. If a student notices a security problem, the student must notify school personnel immediately.
3. **Inappropriate Messages:** Students will not use their Environmental Charter Schools access to transmit threatening, obscene or harassing materials, including chain-letters, solicitations, inappropriate photos, or broadcast messages via our network or email system.
4. **Inappropriate Material:** The Internet contains certain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. Students will not use their Environmental Charter Schools access to knowingly visit sites that contain this material nor import, transmit and/or transfer any of this material to other computers.
5. **School Personnel:** Students should not post to websites or blogs, images, photos or video of employees of Environmental Charter Schools. This includes the creation of fan pages or groups on social networking sites.
6. **Private Use:** Students will not provide their Environmental Charter Schools access or password or share another student's password with any other student or non-student. Students may not use another individual's account or log onto the Internet as anyone else.
7. **Personal Privacy:** Students will not communicate their address, phone number or other personal information to any person or company on the Internet or through email.
8. **Unauthorized Programs or Computers:** Students may not use, copy, delete, or install any program on a school computer or save any executable program without the permission of school personnel. Students may not use personal laptop computers without prior permission from the Director of Operations.

9. **Copyright:** Students are not to post to websites or blogs any photos or logos that are the property (intellectual property) of Environmental Charter Schools. Students must comply with all copyright laws
10. **Lost and Damages:** Environmental Charter Schools will not be responsible for any damages (consequential, incidental or otherwise), which a student may suffer arising from access to or use of the ECS's computers and computer network, including damages arising as a result of the actions of the ECS. These damages include loss of data and delayed, lost or damaged electronic correspondence or files due to system or service provider interruptions and system shutdowns for emergency or routine maintenance of the system. Use or conveyance of information via ECS computer technology is at the user's own risk.

Any unauthorized technology used for the purpose of bypassing security systems, including internet filtering is not permitted. This included the use of ssh, proxy-bypass software, remote desktop sessions, anonymizing websites/software and other technologies.

Any costs, charges, liabilities or damage by misuse of the computers are the individual student's responsibility. Any consequences of service interruption or privacy violation, will lead to disciplinary action. Such action can include suspension and/or expulsion.

Acceptable Use Policy

Student: I have read and agree to follow the ECS Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that any violation of the procedures may result in the loss of technology privileges for the remainder of the year. Additional consequences may be determined and carried out by the administration.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: I have read the ECS Acceptable Use Policy. I understand the access is for educational purposes, and the ECS system has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material from being viewed by users. However, I recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial materials. I will not hold ECS, or any staff member, responsible for materials acquired over the Internet. I hereby give permission for my child to be given the privilege of Internet access.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____