

Responsible Use of Technology

at

Central Valley Christian School

www.cvc.org/technology

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"Grateful for the advances in science and technology, we make careful use of their products, on guard against idolatry and harmful research, and careful to use them in ways that answer to God's demands to love our neighbor and to care for the earth and its creatures." (Paragraph 52, Our World Belongs to God, CRC Publications, 1988.)

Central Valley Christian School expects users of technology to act as responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to them. To be a responsible steward is to show:

- Respect for others' values and well-being
- Respect for others' property
- Respect for others' privacy
- Respect for self
- Respect for authority

Any user of the technology resources available at CVC must comply with the guidelines listed above and the policies in the laptop handbook. Violating the guidelines set out in this policy will result in disciplinary actions dependent on the severity of the violation. The following further defines the above points, but does not limit the scope of this policy to what is described below.

Respect for others' values and well-being

As young and developing Christians and as members of the body of Christ, CVC students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with Biblical standards for Christian conduct. All words, actions, and activities should conform to Biblical Guidelines and through that glorify our heavenly Father. "Say those things that are helpful for building others up according to their needs. Be imitators of God and live a life of love just as Christ loved us." (Eph 4:29, 5:1)

-Excerpt from the CVC Conduct Policy, Student Handbook

Just as students show respect for others in their words, actions, and activities, that behavior applies to electronic communication as well. As ambassadors of both CVC and our Lord, students must maintain a level of personal integrity that is a reflection of Christ. Any sort of degrading communication using either personal or CVC resources is unacceptable, whether by email, social networking sites, the display or distribution of inappropriate material, or otherwise.

Respect for others' property

The respect for others' property refers to the tangible and intellectual property of both the school and other people. Computer hardware and peripherals owned by the school must not be used without permission, and must be treated with care. Consumable resources (such as printing) provided by the school must not be used frivolously.

In addition to tangible property, students must respect the intellectual property of others. Unauthorized access to intellectual property owned by either another individual or CVC, allowing unauthorized access to said property, or plagiarism is a breach in this agreement.

Respect for others' privacy

Privacy in the digital age is becoming something more difficult to maintain, and students at CVC must strive to maintain the highest level of privacy they can. Information sent over the internet is subject to tampering by others. As such, students must not jeopardize their own privacy or the privacy of others by transmitting personal information insecurely over the internet or sharing credentials with someone other than to whom it was given. Gaining unauthorized access to others' files, snooping, or looking for the sake of looking is also an infringement on the privacy of others.

Respect for self

In addition to respecting others, students must exercise the same level of respect for their own well-being. Recognizing that technology can be used as a tool both for good and also for harm, students must strive to enrich their lives using technology. Students must refrain from viewing degrading resources and exercise discernment when accessing content either online or locally, always seeking to transform the world for Christ.

Respect for authority

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. - Romans 13:1 (NLT)

Students are subject to the authority of CVC employees, and must respect the task at hand and obey their superiors' instructions. The use of CVC computing resources (whether hardware or network access) for non-academic activities must be done responsibly.

Certain measures have been put in place as an authoritative control for accidental or intentional breaches in security or policy. Any attempt to bypass, disable, or otherwise tamper with any preventative software is unacceptable. To ensure that technology and communications systems are being used for proper educational purposes, CVC reserves the right to monitor, access, retrieve, read, and disclose all data, messages, activity, and other information stored on any and all school systems at any time. By using the school's technology and communications systems, students consent to monitoring and disclosure of their use and activity.

CVC has approved a list of online services (found at cvc.org/technology) that students use as part of the curriculum. Because these are used for educational purposes, CVC provides consent on behalf of parents for students under the age of 13.

As a user of the Central Valley Christian School computer network, I agree to comply with the standards of respect that have been laid out in this policy.

Student Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I agree to support the officials of CVC in the enforcement of this policy and consent to their use of the apps approved by the Technology committee

Parent Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Portions of this policy have been adapted from
Calvin University's [Responsible Use of Technology](#)