



PLEASE PRINT OUT THIS FORM, SIGN, & SUBMIT TO THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OR PRINCIPAL

ACCEPTABLE USE INTERNET/TECHNOLOGY POLICIES

Internet Safety during School

Our goal is to teach our students to make smart, honest decisions as they use Internet apps, websites, and now (AI) artificial intelligence with ethics and standards based on Biblical principles. The Potomac Conference Office of Education has mandated that their SDA schools offering Internet access to students must also have a system preventing students from accessing illegal, potentially offensive, or dangerous material. Our Internet server has a filtration system, and our Chromebooks utilize GoGuardian to filter out offensive material, block websites, and allow teachers to monitor student screens. Still, like all filtering software, it is not 100% foolproof. K-10 DTD students are only to use school-supplied devices. No personal Internet or smart device is permitted by K-10 DTD students. APLE® students use their own laptops and are not enrolled as students at Desmond Doss Christian Academy. These students are expected to be mature enough to abide by all DTD technology policies if they wish to do their APLE® work on our campus.

Social Media and Cyberbullying

Through the Internet, students can access endless amounts of information and share ideas instantly by e-mail and social media. Parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards their children should follow when using the Internet. Therefore, viewing and posting on social media should only be done at home with parental supervision. Our school policy is that no social media sites should be accessed at school.

Access to the Internet varies depending on the grade level of the student. Grades K-2 have limited access to the Internet. They primarily use computers and iPads for testing, to practice reading, and to develop phonics skills. Grades 3-10 have access to the Internet on Chromebooks for testing, online textbooks, conducting research, and developing skills in math, keyboarding, and other subjects.

Cyberbullying is using the Internet to post texts or images intended to hurt or embarrass another person. Personal attacks and hateful/hurtful communications occurring at any time between DTD students will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action from the school administration.

It takes a collaboration of family, teachers, and students to create a successful safety net in this complex digital age. Individual students must understand and demonstrate accountability for their online activities and digital footprints. Responsible families will hold their children accountable for this process, just as DTD teachers promise to do.

Technology Rules and Guidelines:

DTD provides students with opportunities to enhance their learning by using various devices at school. These devices are on loan. They are not to be taken home unless a teacher grants special permission. DTD devices need to be cared for gently. The devices are intended for multiyear use. Students receive supervision while using DTD devices, including Chromebooks, but are expected to behave maturely even when teachers are not watching them individually. Those who intentionally misuse our equipment, use social media, or go to unapproved/inappropriate Internet sites during school are subject to loss of use of DTD devices, Internet privileges, and/or other disciplinary actions. The use of electronic devices is a privilege, not a right, and will be revoked if warranted. Charges for replacing lost or damaged equipment/devices may be incurred.

Desmond T. Doss Christian Academy students are expected to comply with the following specific rules as related to all DTD devices and internet use:

- a. Never give out your home address, phone number, or any other personal information to anyone online.
- b. Use of any technology aspect to harm people or their work is prohibited.
- c. DTD devices/equipment are not to be harmed or damaged in any way. This includes scratching, writing, drawing, or placing stickers on devices.
- d. Care must be taken when downloading images, documents, etc., to ensure that no malicious software is accidentally installed. Therefore, opening links and downloading information may only be done with permission.
- e. Never use any storage device that came from an unknown source to save work.
- f. Respect all copyright laws.
- g. Do not view, send, or display offensive messages or pictures. Do not use profane, abusive, or impolite language to communicate. All materials accessed must be in accordance with school behavior rules. Never view, send, or access materials that you would not want your teachers and parents to see.
- h. Keep all passwords and login information secret.
- i. Print only with permission.
- j. Respect the folders, work, and files of others. Students should not copy other people's work or intrude into other people's files.
- k. Notify an adult immediately if you or someone else encounters materials that violate the rules of appropriate use.
- l. No school owned device or equipment should leave school property without permission.

Personal Electronic Equipment

Personal electronic equipment (such as iPods, mp3 players, electronic games, cameras, etc.) should not be brought to school or school-sponsored functions without special permission. Electronic equipment brought to school or school-sponsored functions without teacher authorization will be confiscated and given back only when a parent comes to the teacher to retrieve the item. While DTD does its best to protect confiscated property, the school accepts no responsibility for its safekeeping.

**"I understand and will comply with the Acceptable Use Internet/Technology Policies at
Desmond T. Doss Christian Academy."**

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Revised
July 2024

