

# Acceptable Use Policy for Technology

*Cedars Christian School (revised: June 2012)*

## **Values**

- We value the freedom to create and responsibly use tools for the benefit of others. We recognize, however, that technology is not only a tool we use; it has the power to shape us as well. We encourage reflective dialogue around how technology is shaping us.
- We value face-time (eye contact, open ears, verbal dialogue) over screen-time (texting, email, digital messaging). We desire to be fully present and open to others during our time together.
- We recognize that our identity is defined by God alone - not by the many, virtual identities we feel the urgency to maintain (Facebook, Twitter, texting, email).
- We recognize that we need to “turn off” technology periodically and intentionally to show what and who we value.
- We value the learning of the past as well as the present. Although new media (images, music, video, movies) and older media (books, texts, audio, drama) capture our imaginations in different ways, both will be used to enhance learning in our building.

## **Guiding Practices and Principles**

- Content filtering applied to all Internet access through wired and wireless connections. It is the student’s responsibility to report inadvertent viewing of inappropriate material (sexual, obscene, violent, coarse language) on the Internet to a staff member.
- Students will be given access to Public WiFi on personal technology devices (smart phones, iPods/iPads, laptops) in the school foyer and library to access the Internet for personal use and course work.
- Google Apps accounts will be given to each student entering high school. These accounts may be monitored and/or disabled if used inappropriately. All digital interactions should be “life-giving” and in the spirit of Philippians 4:8 - “...*whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*”
- School technology devices (laptops, desktop computers, video cameras, etc.) are to be handled with care, and signed out/returned to assigned storage areas in the library tech center.
- Students may use personal technology devices (smart phones, iPods/iPads, laptops) during class time when given express permission to do so, and for the purposes outlined by the classroom teacher. Devices used at times and/or in ways not outlined by the classroom teacher may be confiscated. Students should assume that devices are not to be used in class unless instructed otherwise.
- Students are encouraged to access media (music, video) that is consistent with a Christian worldview and is a “shared value” at Cedars in ways that include others. Open dialogue about all media should be welcomed by both students and staff.
- Students should refrain from malicious hacking and/or altering the settings of technology devices in the building that negatively affect their use by another user. Users that are deemed a security risk or engage in intentional abuse will face disciplinary action and/or expulsion.
- Students should give credit where credit is due - citing references and sources, respecting copyright laws, and not plagiarising others’ work.