

### ECS Technology Belief Statement

We believe that technology is given by God as a tool to enhance communication and learning. The use of technology is both about what we see and what we share. Scripture speaks to our use of sight by describing the eye as the lamp of the body and if your eye is healthy then your whole body will be full of light but if your eye is bad then your whole body will be full of darkness. Scripture also speaks to the power of what we share when we are warned about the power of the tongue and the problems which results when we use it to both bless and curse (Ja. 3:10).

ECS employs laptops, iPads, and Chromebooks as ways to enhance the teaching of skills, knowledge, and behaviors students will need as successful and responsible adults in the community as a whole. In order to make these resources available to everyone, students who use the school's technology will do so in a way that is consistent with its educational purpose. The use of the computers must be in support of education and research and must be consistent with academic expectations of ECS.

The policy is simple and broad:

1. Do not cause damage to or change any settings on the computer;
2. Use the computer for school related work only;
3. And do not seek to access any areas that would embarrass the school or dishonor the Lord.

Several examples of what the policy means are listed below. ***This is not an all-inclusive list.*** These examples are to help guide you in your understanding of the policy. If you have questions, discuss it with a faculty member.

- No student will deliberately or willfully cause damage to computer equipment or software or assist others in doing the same.
- No student will deliberately access educationally inappropriate materials or show others how to do the same. This particularly important in light of the very strength of the internet, its largely unregulated offering of thousands of different places to visit, means that some internet sites contain sexually explicit or other material which is clearly unrelated to the school's educational purpose.
- The use of "chat rooms" and the unauthorized "downloading" of files are strictly prohibited.
- No student will falsely identify themselves in communications nor misrepresent Evangelical Christian School.
- Each student will respect and uphold copyright laws.
- Each student will follow any other regulations posted in the computer lab or other room where computers are in use.
- Each student will follow the directions of the adult in charge of the computer lab or other room where computers are in use.

**Security and Privacy**

While powerful content filters are in place, **ECS** cannot assure that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information. Any such material should be immediately brought to the attention of the technology instructor.

**Network storage areas will be treated like school lockers.** Network and/or school administrators and teachers *may review files, bookmarks, and communications under the same standards set for school lockers to insure the integrity of the electronic media.* **Privacy is not guaranteed for files stored on school servers.** Files will not be maintained indefinitely.

**Student Responsibilities**

The network is provided for students as a rich and powerful education resource. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Student use must be consistent with the educational objectives of **ECS**.

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

**Sanctions**

The use of the electronic networks and internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of privileges and possible disciplinary action. Access entails responsibility.

**School administrators will deem what is inappropriate use, and their decision is final.**

**I understand and agree to the policy guidelines and procedures stated in this document when using the computers of ECS.**

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature\_\_\_\_\_

Print student's name\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission for my child to be given a created email account

Parent's signature\_\_\_\_\_

Print parent name\_\_\_\_\_