

CONTRACT FOR APPROPRIATE INTERNET USE BY MINORS

The Internet is a place where I go to learn, meet friends and play games. I know that through the Internet I can reach diverse people all over the world who are of good will and who, like me, sign on to the Internet to share ideas, feelings and what we've discovered about ourselves and the world around us. It's a place where I can be myself or sometimes pretend to be someone else. I can have deep discussions or let my imagination roam. I can be creative and do serious work. But I also know that the Internet can be a place where I can get lost, waste time and sometimes say or do things that I shouldn't. It's also a place where I need to be careful about people who could harm me.

Because I want to be the best person I can be and live my life as a friend of Jesus, I promise to follow these rules:

- If I find a site where I see hate, racism, pornography or violence of any kind, I will leave it immediately.
- I will not give my personal information online to people I have not met in person. This includes my name, address, email address, telephone number, credit card numbers or school or parish location.
- I will use a nickname in Internet communications when I communicate with people I don't know personally.
- I will never give personal information online about anyone else without that person's permission
- I will not buy anything online without my parents' permission.
- I will not download music or videos or games without paying for them, except if they say they are free of charge.
- I will not copy anything I find online without asking for and getting permission from the creators, because they have the right to protect their creations.
- I will practice good manners and be polite to other people when I communicate with them on the Internet. I will say nothing about anyone else that I wouldn't want someone to say about me.
- If I receive a message that bothers me, or that would be considered inappropriate, I will log off immediately and tell a responsible adult. I will not respond to the message.
- I will not arrange to meet a friend I have met on the Internet unless one of my parents has been informed and goes along with me to meet that person.
- I will not impersonate others.
- I will not bully, lie, invite or participate in improper private relationships and I will not encourage others to do so.

I understand that if I violate any of these rules, I may be disciplined by:

- Losing use of the school or parish network, computers and software, including Internet access. I will then be expected to complete my work on a stand-alone computer that is not connected to the Internet.



- Being suspended or dismissed by the school or, as applicable, the parish activity in which I am participating when the violation occurs. Depending on what I did, my parents and I may also be subject to legal action by the school or parish or by civil authorities or other people involved.

I have read this Contract, understand it, and I agree to abide by what it says.

Name of Student/Youth Participant:

Signature of Student/Youth Participant:

Date: _____

As the parent of _____ I understand and agree with the contents of this Contract, and I accept full responsibility for supervising my child when my child's use of the Internet is not in a school or parish setting.

Name of Parent or Guardian:

Signature of Parent or Guardian:

Date: _____

