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**ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

Sage Oak Charter Schools (“SOCS” or the “Charter School”) adopt this Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to apply to students enrolled in SOCS. SOCS provides technology resources to its students solely for educational purposes. Through technology, SOCS provides access for students and staff to unlimited resources. Expanding technology provides tremendous opportunities for enhancing, extending, and rethinking the learning process. The goal of providing these resources is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication with the support and supervision of the parent/guardian and credentialed teacher.

This access brings the potential exposure to material that may not hold educational value or may be harmful or disruptive to the student’s learning experience.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that student internet access on school-owned computers will be appropriate and used only for educational purposes, consistent with the acceptable standards of the Charter School.

All computer equipment, programs, supporting materials, and peripherals of any nature that the student receives from the Charter School are loaned to the student for educational purposes only and belong to SOCS. As a condition of receiving and using any such equipment, the student and student’s parents/guardians acknowledge that there is no right nor expectation of privacy whatsoever related to the student’s use of such equipment. The Charter School retains the right to monitor, at all times, Internet/computer activity accessed by this equipment, review any material stored in files on such equipment, and edit or remove any material which the Charter School staff, in its sole discretion, believes violates the above standards.

Information services such as online educational resources provided by SOCS may occasionally require new registration and account information to continue the service. This will require the Charter School to give out certain portions of student’s personal information to one or more 3rd party(s) required for this requested service, such as login information, etc. Student and parent/guardian’s signatures of this policy and the use of said computer equipment or school-provided online resources indicate specific consent to such release of personal information.

Students using the Internet shall be closely supervised by the parent/guardian. Students and their parents/guardians are ultimately responsible for the materials accessed through the use of student Internet accounts. Parents/guardians will be responsible for the supervision of students using the Internet.

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The California Computer Crime Bill (1979) added section 502 to the Penal Code making it a felony to intentionally access any computer system or network for certain purposes, including:

1. Devising or executing any scheme or artifice to defraud or extort or,
2. Wrongfully control or obtain money, property, or data.
3. Knowingly accesses and without permission adds, alters, damages, deletes, or destroys any data, computer software, or computer programs that reside or exist internal or external to a computer, computer system, or computer network.
4. Knowingly and without permission access or causes to be accessed any computer, computer system, or computer network
5. Knowingly introduces any computer contaminant into any computer, computer system, or computer network.

Anyone committing acts of this kind, or any other actions prohibited by law with SOCS-owned computers and/or equipment will face legal action and disciplinary procedures.

It is the intent of this policy to protect students from inappropriate information. However, the staff cannot screen all of the materials available on the Internet. Willful access to inappropriate material in any form by students as well as the importation of any material from “outside sources” on SOCS-owned computers and/or equipment is a violation of this policy and may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, the revocation of school-provided computer and/or equipment and/or discipline, up to and including, expulsion of the student. Students, staff, and parents/guardians hold a joint responsibility to ensure that inappropriate material is not displayed or available on any computer.

Parents/guardians will teach the student about Internet safety, including how to protect online privacy and how to avoid online predators using resources such as materials available at: <http://www.digitalcitizenship.net>. SOCS has also adopted internet safety policies in accordance with applicable law, including the Children’s Internet Protection Act, which will be provided to parents/guardians.

This policy does not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behavior by users. Misuse may come in many forms; it is commonly viewed as any transmission(s) sent or received that suggest or indicate pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, and inappropriate language.

The following characterize, but do not exhaustively list all unacceptable behavior:

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1. Using the Charter School-funded Internet/computer system for illegal, inappropriate, or obscene purposes or in support of such activities
2. Utilizing the Charter School-funded Internet/computer system for any illegal activity, including violation of copyrights or other contracts relating to licensed uses.
3. Intentionally disrupting equipment of system performance.
4. Downgrading the equipment or system performance.
5. Damaging or misusing any hardware or software.
6. Utilizing the Charter School's computing resources for commercial/financial gain or fraud.
7. Pirating and/or theft of data, equipment, or intellectual property.
8. Gaining or seeking to gain unauthorized access to resources or entities.
9. Utilizing the system to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco or any promotion or attempt to promote any unethical behavior.
10. Using harassing, abusive, or obscene language.
11. Annoying, harassing, or intentionally offending another person.
12. Introducing computer viruses into the system.
13. Forging electronic mail messages or using an access owned by, or used by another.
14. Wasting of resources.
15. Invading the privacy of others.
16. Possessing data in any form (including hard copy or disk) that might be considered a violation of these rules.
17. Sharing of virtual class meeting links (for example Zoom, Google Hangouts, Microsoft Teams, or any other virtual meeting platform) with any individual. This includes the posting or sharing of the link on any virtual platform.
18. Obscuring personal identity in virtual sessions by changing your name or any other means to shroud your identity.
19. Participating in any behavior that disrupts a virtual session by "bombing", which for the purposes of this policy is to mean facilitating the sharing of media that is unrelated to the subject material of the session with the intent of disrupting the session. Sharing or posting virtual class meeting links on any platform.
20. Ensure AI tools are used with proper authorization and solely for educational purposes while avoiding manipulations that breach ethical guidelines and sharing data without appropriate consent.

**Consequences of Non-compliance**

As with any other violation of the Charter School's rules and regulations, consequences of violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

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1. Limitations of school-funded computer access
2. Revocation of school-funded computer access
3. Disciplinary processes up to expulsion or involuntary withdrawal
4. Legal action and prosecution
5. Financial liability for loss of Internet/computer system

The parent/guardian is responsible for abiding by and to ensure the student abides by the provisions and conditions of this policy and that any violations of the above provisions may result in disciplinary action, the revoking of the user account, and appropriate legal action.

The parent/guardian is also responsible for reporting any misuse of the information system to the Charter School administration.