

Chatham Charter School

Internet Permission Form

We are pleased to offer students of Chatham Charter School (CCS) access to the school's computer network for the Internet. To gain access to the Internet, all students under the age of 18 must obtain parental permission and must sign and return this form to their HOMEROOM TEACHER. This agreement will define the educational objectives and guidelines for use as well as unacceptable uses which will lead to revocation of access and possible disciplinary actions.

CHATHAM CHARTER SCHOOL REGULATIONS

Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards throughout the world. Users (and parents of users, if the user is younger than age 18) must understand that CCS cannot control the content of the information available. Some of the material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. CCS does not condone the use of such materials and takes all reasonable precautions to filter access to these materials. The responsibilities accompanying freedom of speech and access to information will be taught. School employees, students, and parents must be aware that access to the Internet will be withdrawn from users who do not respect the rights of others or who do not follow the rules and regulations established by CCS.

While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. But ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, Chatham Charter School supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access. Following is a listing of CCS Computer Lab goals and the types of information students will be able to access:

CCS Computer Lab Goals:

1. To support the implementation of Chatham Charter School's Performance Standards and the North Carolina Standard Course of Study,
2. To enhance learning opportunities by focusing on the application of skills in information retrieval, searching strategies, research skills, and critical thinking, and
3. To promote life-long learning.

Access Includes:

- Information, news, and resources from businesses, libraries, educational institutions, government agencies, research institutions, and a variety of other sources,
- Telecommunications with individuals and groups around the world, and
- Public domain and shareware software.

I. ACCEPTABLE USE

The Internet will be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner and must be in support of the educational objectives and the student behavior guidelines of Chatham Charter School. Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state regulation is prohibited. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Violating copyright laws
- B. Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- C. Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- D. Trespassing in another's folders, work or files
- E. Using threatening or obscene material
- F. Distributing material protected by trade secret
- G. Employing the network for commercial purposes

II. NETIQUETTE RULES

Users must abide by network etiquette rules. These rules include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Be polite; rudeness is never acceptable
- B. Use appropriate language; do not swear, use vulgarities or other abusive or inappropriate language

- C. Do not reveal personal addresses or phone numbers
- D. Do not disrupt the use of the network
- E. Assume that all communications and information accessible via the network is private property

III. PRIVILEGES

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in limitation or cancellation of user privileges and possible disciplinary actions.

IV. DISCLAIMER

Chatham Charter School will not be responsible for any damages suffered, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, service interruptions, or inaccurate information. The user accepts personal responsibility for any information obtained via the Internet.

V. SECURITY

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Attempts to tamper with the program, access the system as any other user, or to share a password will result in cancellation of user privileges. Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private; system operators have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities, and disciplinary action will follow.

VI. VANDALISM

Vandalism will result in cancellation of user privileges and disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy equipment and/or data of anyone connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to uploading, creating, or transmitting computer viruses.

VII. AGREEMENT

Students must sign this form prior to accessing the Internet via the CCS computer network. Parent or guardian must sign this form prior to students under age 18 accessing the Internet via the CCS computer network. Parents/students need only sign the Internet Permission Form once. The form will then follow your child while at Chatham Charter and you will not have to sign a form every year. If at some time in the future you change your mind about internet use you may fill out a new form.

I, (typed or printed name), understand and will abide by Chatham Charter School's Internet Acceptable Use rules and regulations for the CCS network. I further understand that any violation will result in the loss of access privileges and school disciplinary action.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

I, (typed or printed name), have read the Chatham Charter School's Internet Acceptable Use rules and regulations for the CCS network and understand that this access is designed for educational purposes only. I also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all inappropriate materials. However, I accept full responsibility for my child's compliance and, hereby, give my permission for my child to use the CCS network.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____