

Bnei Akiva Schools - Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for School Technology

It is the responsibility of each individual to use personal or other electronic devices legally, ethically, and in accordance with the halachic principles espoused by the Bnei Akiva Schools. While students may access the school's wireless Internet through electronic devices, Internet access is a privilege and not a right. If a user violates any of the acceptable use provisions outlined in this document, his/her account will be terminated and future access will be denied. Some violations may also constitute a criminal offense and may result in legal action. Any user violating these provisions, applicable provincial and federal laws, or posted classroom, library, lab or school policies is subject to loss of access privileges and any other school disciplinary options, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

We are all familiar with the plethora of social media platforms and apps that are used for positive means of keeping in touch, for sharing photos, and connecting with people near and far. Communications via the Internet must always reflect the same degree of dignity and sensitivity for all members of our school community as is expected in face-to-face interactions. Please be aware that cyber-bullying, harassment, biased and discriminatory language, and/or insensitivity to any member of our school community at all times - including outside of school hours - will each be regarded as a serious offense and may result in suspension or expulsion.

To ensure the safety and stability of our school networks, certain filters, safeguards and limitations are imposed on how these resources are accessed. These limitations are determined by the school with the educational goals and Torah values of our school in mind. In certain situations, the school may be required to access, move, store, destroy and/or disclose messages, files or documents stored in or sent over its network or technology, such as in the course of regular maintenance of the network or technology; or where the school has reason to believe that the network or technology is being or may be used in violation of this policy. As with any computer network, user activities are logged including websites visited, apps accessed, and communications sent and received. The school reserves the right to inform appropriate law enforcement authorities or other officials of any offences or possible offences under the Criminal Code or other statutes.

By signing in to the school wireless Internet, or using any of the school's technology, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the terms of this AUP, and I agree:

- **To be a responsible digital citizen:** I am responsible for everything that I write, post, or repost online. I will not write or link to anything that would reflect poorly on myself, friends, parents, teachers, or my school. I will monitor my digital media content regularly and remove anything that is inappropriate.
- **To treat all technology and everyone on our network with respect:** I recognize that in having access to the school's network, I have been provided with a privilege that can be revoked at the discretion of the administration. I will not attempt to circumvent the school's Internet filter or firewall through the use of VPN software or other web services.

I will work only in the account assigned to me and take responsibility for the activity in my account. I will use my real name in all activities associated with school resources.

- **To always use technology and digital media in a legal, ethical, and halachically appropriate manner:** I will not use the network for any illegal activities. This includes sites that have inappropriate content, such as adult sites, as well as gambling sites, even if the sites have not been blocked by the school's Internet filter or firewall. I will not copy commercial software from the Internet in violation of copyright laws. I will not use the school's technology to create, print, or distribute material that is inappropriate, malicious, copyrighted, illegal or intentionally wasteful. I understand that in certain situations, inappropriate content in email or other communications over the school network may be flagged and the school may review these.
- **To use technology in class for educational purposes only:** I am free to use technology in the classroom only in the capacity that the teacher and school designate. I will not play computer games, browse the Internet, or access my social media outlets during class time or other supervised academic time. I understand that violation of this may result in limitations to my access of school technology.
- **To be mindful of my effect on other students and staff:** My school email account is owned by Bnei Akiva Schools and granted to me for educational purposes only. I will avoid any hostile, profane, or threatening speech in any communication medium. This includes recording or filming of faculty or students without their explicit permission or knowledge. Such activity may be considered bullying/cyberbullying and will not be tolerated at Bnei Akiva Schools. I understand that I am encouraged to alert school staff if I see other students acting or being treated in any of these ways.
- **I understand that incidents relating to any of the aforementioned terms and restrictions, even if they occur outside of school hours, may have consequences as outlined in this policy and the Code of Conduct Agreement.**