

THE GRACE ACADEMY

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Network Responsibility Contract

The Grace Academy provides Internet access for students and staff in a supervised classroom or library setting. The use of the Internet enhances learning opportunities by focusing on the application of skills in information retrieval, searching strategies, research skills, and critical thinking. Access includes electronic mail (e-mail) communication with people all over the world and includes information, news, and resources from businesses, libraries, educational institutions, government agencies, research institutions, and a variety of other sources.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of some materials that are unacceptable and objectionable. TGA provides a filtered Internet on student accessible computers.

Here are some of the guidelines provided to establish the responsibilities you are about to acquire. If any user violates any of these provisions, his or her account or access privileges may be terminated and all future access could be denied.

- I. **ACCEPTABLE USE:** The purpose of the Internet is to support research and education by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of TGA. Use of other organizations' networks or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any materials in violation of any U.S. or state organization is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or materials protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities by for-profit institutions is generally not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.
- II. **PRIVILEGES:** The use of TGA network services is a PRIVILEGE, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges. The site and/or system administrator(s) will deem what is inappropriate use, take appropriate action and determine consequence. Also, the site and/or system administrator(s) may close an account or deny access at any time as required. The site administration and/or staff of TGA may request the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts.
- III. **NETWORK ETIQUETTE:** The use of an account/access requires that you abide by accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - **BE POLITE.** Do not send abusive messages to ANYONE.
 - **USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE.** In all messages, do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Anything pertaining to illegal activities is strictly forbidden.

(Note that e-mail is not guaranteed to be private. All files and communications are subjected to review by TGA administration.)

- PRIVACY. Do not reveal the personal address or phone numbers of yourself or any other person. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed private.
- CONNECTIVITY. Do not use the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by others.

IV. SERVICES: TGA will not be responsible for any damages you may suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by our own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via TGA network services is at your own risk. TGA denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through network services.

V. SECURITY: Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem within the TGA network, you must notify a system administrator either in person or via the network. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account, forge messages or post anonymous messages. Attempts to login to the system as any other user may result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to TGA network services.

VI. VANDALISM: Vandalism may result in cancellation of privileges and/or criminal prosecution. This includes, but is not limited to, contamination, deletion or reconfiguration of data or degradation of system performance in any way.

“I understand and will abide by the Terms and Conditions for use of TGA network services. I further understand that any violation of the regulation above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action pursued.”

Student Name: (please print) _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____