

# **Homeschool Connections Student Online Resource Acceptable Use Agreement**

## **Scope**

The following procedures apply to student use of Homeschool Connections "Connections" online resources, including email, use of Teams, and any other online resources available through a Connections account.

## **Appropriate Use**

Connections expects students to exercise good judgment and use the available online resources in an appropriate manner for educational purposes or community purposes to meet shared goals of Connections.

## **Unacceptable/Prohibited Network Use by Students Includes**

- Commercial Use: Using Connections resources for personal or private gain, personal business, or commercial advantage is prohibited.
- Illegal or Indecent Use: Using Connections online resources for illegal, bullying, harassing, vandalizing, inappropriate, or indecent purposes, or in support of such activities is prohibited. Illegal activities are any violations of federal, state, or local laws. Harassment includes slurs, comments, jokes, innuendoes, unwelcome compliments, cartoons, pranks, or verbal conduct relating to an individual that (1) have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, a hostile, or offensive environment; (2) have the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or school performance, or (3) interfere with co-op operations.
- Disruptive Use: Connections online resources may not be used to interfere or disrupt other users, services, or equipment. For example, disruptions include distribution of unsolicited advertising ("spam"), propagation of computer viruses, distribution of large quantities of information that may overwhelm the system (chain letters, network games, or broadcasting messages).

## **Network Security and Privacy**

Passwords are the first level of security for a user account. System logins and accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account or by the parent or guardian of the authorized owner. Students are responsible for all activity on their account and must not share their account password except for their parent or guardian.

## **Privacy**

Connections online resources are not inherently secure or private. Connections reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store, without prior notice, information about the content and usage of:

- The network;
- User files and disk space utilization;
- User applications and bandwidth utilization;
- User document files, folders and electronic communications;
- E-mail;
- Internet access; and,
- Any and all information transmitted or received in connection with network and e-mail use.

Connections reserves the right to disclose any electronic message to law enforcement officials or third parties as appropriate.

### **Copyright**

Downloading, copying, duplicating, and distributing software, music, sound files, movies, images, or other copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is generally prohibited. However, the duplication and distribution of materials for educational purposes are permitted when such duplication and distribution fall within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC) and content is cited appropriately.

### **Discipline**

Violation of any of the conditions of use explained in these Acceptable Use Procedures could be cause for disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board, including, but not limited to, the restriction or removal of account access or expulsion from Connections without refund of any paid fees.