



INTERNET, CELL PHONE, IPAD/TABLET POLICY

ACCEPTED USE POLICY - INTERNET

Bethel Christian Academy, through our Technology Program, offers Internet access to its students and teachers. The Internet is a worldwide network. It connects millions of computers all over the world. It also provides thousands of resources for students to use in their classroom. Technology is a very useful tool and it is important that we understand that it is under our control, and should be used in ways that honor God. Ephesian 5:15 prompts us to “walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise”.

BCA has installed Barracuda internet filter on all Internet-accessed computers. The parameters are set very conservatively. Students are expected to use responsible behavior when on the Internet. Bethel Christian Academy has created the following policy to make sure using the Internet is safe for all students. Please review and discuss this policy with your child.

Students are expected to follow these rules when on the internet:

- Students will be polite, and use appropriate language when communicating with others on the Internet.
- Students will respect copyright laws.
- Students will respect the privacy of others, and will not reveal their own name, personal address or telephone number, or that of any other student.

Using the Internet for non-school related activities is forbidden. The use of the Internet is a privilege, and unacceptable use will end this privilege.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones are not required for any student of BCA. Parents may choose not to allow their child to have a cell phone at school. In emergencies your child will be allowed to use the school office phone or the school will contact you. The cell phone is only a matter of convenience not necessity. Kindergarten - 6th grade students may have cell phones at school, but they may not be used (seen or heard) during the school day (8:00a-3:00p) without special permission from the teacher.

Jr. & Sr. High School students (gr. 7-12) may have cell phones at school but they must not be used (seen or heard) during instructional and class periods. Cell phones will not be allowed to interfere directly with the educational process. The policy allows a student to utilize their cell phones before school, after school, during lunch, and during class changes. Students who are caught using (seen or heard) their cell phones during a class period (including Study Hall) will result in the following:

1st offense - student will have their cell phone confiscated and be issued a detention by the teacher. The teacher will give the phone back to the student at the end of class and after the student has signed the detention slip.

2nd offense (within the same semester) - the teacher will issue a detention and confiscate the phone until the student checks out of school that day. The next day, the student will be required to leave phone with the teacher before 8:00 a.m. It will be returned when student checks out of school.

3rd offense (within the same semester) - the teacher will issue a detention and confiscate the phone. Student will lose the privilege of having the phone during school the rest of the semester. The phone must be turned in to the school office each day before 8:00 a.m. until student check out.

No one should allow their phones “hotspot” to be used at school. All “hotspots” should be turned off. Students are not allowed to use the school Wi-Fi.

Cell phone use has its privileges but also great responsibilities. Your child may not be responsible enough to have a cell phone at school because of the serious consequences of its misuse. It is your responsibility as a parent to monitor them, not the school's. Sounds must be turned off. The teacher/administration has the right to confiscate and check/monitor/search any cell phone on school property for improper use or material. If asked, student must enter passcode and unlock the device for any school official. Any “Standard of Conduct” infractions (listed on page 12) found on student's cell phone will result in detentions and/or suspensions. By bringing the cell phone to school, you forfeit privacy and allow the school to search the device at any time. Remember you don't have to bring it to school, but if you do we have the right to search it. You will be held responsible for anything on your cell phone. Serious infractions such as illegal activity/pornographic pictures/cyber bullying will also be reported to the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office.

IPAD/TABLET POLICY

iPads/tablets are not required for any student of BCA. Parents may choose not to allow their child to have one of these devices at school. Everything done during the school day can be done using the traditional textbooks with pen/pencil. iPads/tablets are only a matter of choice not necessity.

Kindergarten – 6th grade students must have special permission from the teacher to bring an iPad/tablet to school.

Jr. & Sr. High School students (gr. 7-12) may use these devices at school for certain applications which the individual teacher allows. For example: e-textbooks, reading books, note taking, calendars and homework assignments which must all be used off-line. There will never be anytime that a student will be using the internet on their device at school. If the device has internet access, please disconnect it before you allow them to bring it to school. If a device is found connected to the internet at school, they will lose the privilege and will not be allowed to have it at school.

iPad/tablet use has its privileges but also great responsibilities. Your child may not be responsible enough to have a device at school because of the serious consequences of its misuse. It is your responsibility as a parent to monitor them, not the school's. Sounds must be turned off. The teacher/administration has the right to confiscate and check/monitor/search any cell phone on school property for improper use or material. If asked, student must enter passcode and unlock the device for any school official. Any "Standard of Conduct" infractions (listed on page 12) found on student's device will result in detentions and/or suspensions. By bringing the device to school, you forfeit privacy and allow the school to search the device at any time. Remember you don't have to bring it to school, but if you do we have the right to search it. You will be held responsible for anything on your cell phone. Serious infractions such as illegal activity/pornographic pictures/cyber bullying will also be reported to the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office.

CELL PHONE & IPAD/TABLET MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

- Academy students and parents must agree to adhere to all of the technology guidelines prior to bringing their technology to school.
- BCA strongly recommends parents add a filter/accountability system (www.coventeyes.com) to these devices and that you occasionally search your child's device.
- Since technology changes at such a fast speed, these policies may change during the school year to keep up with technology.

Internet, Cell Phone, iPad/Tablet Policy

I have read and understand the Policies above for Bethel Christian Academy.

The signatures below indicate that I agree to follow these policies.

(Please return this form to your classroom teacher).

Name of Student: _____

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of
Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Name of Teacher: _____ Grade: _____