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www.thenewtonschool.org

The Newton School's Acceptable Use Policy is to prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful activities by users online, prevent unauthorized disclosure of or access to sensitive information, and to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act. As used in this policy, "user" includes anyone using the computers, Internet, email, and any other forms of direct electronic communications or equipment provided by The Newton School. **Only current students, their parents, or employees are authorized to use the network and any accounts associated with the Google Education Suite.**

The Newton School will use technology protection measures to block or filter, to the extent practicable, access of visual depictions that are *obscene*, *pornographic*, *and harmful to minors* over the network. The Newton School reserves the right to monitor users' online activities and to access, review, copy, and store or delete any electronic communication or files and disclose them to others as it deems necessary. Users should have no expectation of privacy regarding their use of Newton School property, Chrome Books, network and/or Internet access or files, including email or internet site history

Acceptable Uses of the Newton Computers or the Internet

Students, faculty, parents and any other users with access are required to follow this policy. All users must follow this policy and report any misuse of the network or Internet to a teacher, supervisor or other appropriate Newton School personnel. Access is provided primarily for education and Newton School business. Staff may use the Internet for incidental personal use during duty-free time. If a user is uncertain about whether a particular use is acceptable or appropriate, he or she should consult a teacher, supervisor or other appropriate school personnel. By using a Newton School computer or accessing a newtork, users have agreed to this policy.

<u>Unacceptable Uses of the Computer Network or Internet</u>

These are examples of inappropriate activity on The Newton School network, but The Newton School reserves the right to take immediate action regarding activities (1) that create security and/or safety issues for The Newton School, students, employees, schools, network or computer resources, or (2) that expend Newton School resources on content The Newton School in its sole discretion determines lacks legitimate educational content/purpose, or (3) other activities as determined by The Newton School as inappropriate.

- Violating any state or federal law or municipal ordinance, such as: Accessing or transmitting pornography of any kind, obscene depictions, harmful materials, materials that encourage others to violate the law, confidential information or copyrighted materials;
- Criminal activities that can be punished under law;

- Selling or purchasing illegal items or substances;
- Obtaining and/or using anonymous email sites; spamming; spreading viruses;
- Causing harm to others or damage to their property, such as:
 - 1. Using profane, abusive, or impolite language; threatening, harassing, or making damaging or false statements about others or accessing, transmitting, or downloading offensive, harassing, or disparaging materials;
 - 2. Deleting, copying, modifying, or forging other users' names, emails, files, or data; disguising one's identity, impersonating other users, or sending anonymous email;
 - 3. Damaging computer equipment, files, data or the network in any way, including intentionally accessing, transmitting or downloading computer viruses or other harmful files or programs, or disrupting any computer system performance;
 - 4. Using any Newton School computer to pursue "hacking," internal or external to The Newton School, or attempting to access information protected by privacy laws; or
 - 5. Accessing, transmitting or downloading large files, including "chain letters" or any type of "pyramid schemes".
- Engaging in uses that jeopardize access or lead to unauthorized access into others' accounts or other computer networks, such as:
 - 1. Using another's account password(s) or identifier(s);
 - 2. Interfering with other users' ability to access their account(s); or
 - 3. Disclosing anyone's password to others or allowing them to use another's account(s).
- Using the network or Internet for Commercial purposes:
 - 1. Using the Internet for personal financial gain;
 - 2. Using the Internet for personal advertising, promotion, or financial gain; or
 - 3. Conducting for-profit business activities and/or engaging in non-government related fundraising or public relations activities such as solicitation for religious purposes, lobbying for personal political purposes.

Student Internet Safety

- 1. Students under the age of eighteen should have a parent or legal guardian supervises their usage at all times. The student's parent or guardian is responsible for monitoring the minor's use outside of The Newton School building;
- 2. Students shall not reveal on the Internet personal information about themselves or other persons. For example, students should not reveal their name, home address, telephone number, or display photographs of themselves or others;
- 3. Students shall not meet in person anyone they have met only on the Internet; and
- 4. Students must abide by all laws, this Acceptable Use Policy and all Newton School security policies.

Penalties for Improper Use

The use of a Newton School account is a privilege, not a right, and misuse will result in the restriction or cancellation of the account. Misuse may also lead to disciplinary and/or legal action for both students and employees, including suspension, expulsion, dismissal from Newton School employment, or criminal prosecution by government authorities. The Newton School will attempt to tailor any disciplinary action to the specific issues related to each violation.

Disclaimer

The Newton School makes no guarantees about the quality of the services provided and is not responsible for any claims, losses, damages, costs, or other obligations arising from use of the network or accounts. Any additional charges a user accrues due to the use of The Newton School's network are to be borne by the user. The Newton School also denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through user access. Any statement, accessible on the computer network or the Internet, is understood to be the author's individual point of view and not that of the Newton School, its affiliates, or employees.