Iowa Mennonite School
Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Introduction
Students who wish to use Iowa Mennonite School's facilities to access the Internet must first read and agree to abide by the conditions stipulated in this **Acceptable Use Policy**. Iowa Mennonite School teachers and staff will review this document with students and provide them with the instructions necessary to acquire the skills to make appropriate use of the Internet. Internet access at IMS will be provided only where teachers are providing supervision. With access to computers and the internet comes the availability of materials that are not of educational value and that may be morally objectionable. Students may find sites that are offensive, defamatory or illegal. For this reason, it is important that parents discuss the proper use of the Internet with their students.

Educational Goals
The Internet is a worldwide computer network that allows the personal computers of individual users to access files located on remote servers in every part of the world. Most of these remote computers are located on university campuses, in government departments, corporations, and more recently, individual elementary and high schools. Internet access is appropriate for Iowa Mennonite School students because it enables students to conduct research that supplements the more traditional text-based resources like encyclopedias, magazines and reference books. Iowa Mennonite School teachers and the librarian will work together to help students develop the critical thinking skills necessary to discriminate between various informational sources and to evaluate and use information that is appropriate for their goals.

Appropriate Use of the Internet
Students may use the internet to complete assignments that include a list of Web sites or bookmarks that are appropriate for those assignments. Students may also search out Internet resources independently as part of their list of references for research projects. The Internet provides access for the pursuit of interests in areas like news, sports, politics and hobbies when personal and computer time permit.

Guidelines for Internet Use
1. Do not attempt to harm or destroy hardware, software or data of another user.
2. Use a broad range of resources and never rely on a single source like the Internet for research.
3. Respect copyright laws by citing sources and not representing the work of others as your own.
4. Do not waste computer file storage space or paper by excess printing.
5. Use appropriate language at all times.
6. Do not access websites for the purpose of viewing/downloading obscene, degrading or offensive material. Games are not to be downloaded.
7. Do not attempt to break into password-protected areas.

User Agreement and Parent Permission Form
As a user of the Iowa Mennonite School computer network, I understand and agree to observe the above terms and conditions for Internet use. I realize that any violation of this policy constitutes a breech of trust between me and my fellow students, teachers and parents/guardians and any violation of this agreement will result in a withdrawal of Internet privileges and/or disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the administration.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

As the parent or guardian of the student signing above, I give permission for my student to use Iowa Mennonite Schools' computers and their access to Internet. I will accept responsibility for discussing appropriate use of the network as described above with my student. I recognize that it is impossible for Iowa Mennonite School to restrict my student's access to all materials that IMS and/or I may deem to be unacceptable. I will not hold IMS, its teachers or officers responsible if my student is able to deliberately or inadvertently access unacceptable materials.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

General Computer Guidelines:
1. Computer use is for educational enrichment. Go to the computer with a plan in mind.
2. Only school approved games are to be used on computers.
3. Computers are not to be used for chat rooms or listening to music.
4. E-mail use is only for the lunch hour and before and after school hours (except for first library computer)
5. Printing for personal use requires 5 cents per page payment at time of printing.
6. Do not add to or change the hard drive, screen saver, or desktop.