

CYBERSAFETY AT HARRIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

CYBERSAFETY USE AGREEMENT FOR K-4 STUDENTS



This document is comprised of this cover page and three sections:

Section A: Introduction

Section B: Cybersafety Rules for Junior Primary Students

Section C: Cybersafety Use Agreement Form.

Instructions for parents*/caregivers/legal guardians

1. Please read sections A and B carefully. If there are any points you would like to discuss with the school, let the school office know as soon as possible.
2. Discuss the cybersafety rules with your child.
3. Sign the Use Agreement Form (Section C) and return that page to the school office.
4. Please keep sections A and B for future reference.

*** The term 'parent' used throughout this document also refers to caregivers and legal guardians.**

Important terms used in this document:

- (a) **'Cybersafety'** refers to the safe use of information and communication technology (ICT) equipment/devices, including mobile phones
- (b) **'School technology'** refers to the school's computer network, Internet access facilities, computers, and other school technology equipment/devices as outlined in (d) below
- (c) The term **'technology equipment/devices'** used in this document, includes but is not limited to, computers (such as desktops, laptops, tablets), storage devices (such as USB and flash memory devices, CDs, DVDs, iPods, MP3 players), cameras (such as video, digital, webcams), all types of mobile phones, gaming consoles, video and audio players/receivers (such as portable CD and DVD players, e-book readers), and any other, similar, technologies as they come into use
- (d) **'Objectionable'** in this agreement means material that deals with matters such as sex, cruelty, or violence in such a manner that it is likely to be injurious to the good of students or incompatible with a school environment. This is intended to be inclusive of the definition used in the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1993.

SECTION A

INTRODUCTION – CYBERSAFETY GRADES K-4

The measures to ensure the cybersafety of Harris County Schools outlined in this document are based on our core values.

The school's computer network, Internet access facilities, computers and other school technology equipment/devices bring great benefits to the teaching and learning programs in Harris County, and to the effective operation of the schools in the district.

Our school has rigorous cybersafety practices in place, which include cybersafety use agreements for all school staff and students.

The overall goal of the school in this matter is to create and maintain a cybersafety culture which is in keeping with the values of the school, and legislative and professional obligations. This use agreement includes information about your obligations, responsibilities, and the nature of possible consequences associated with cybersafety breaches which undermine the safety of the school environment.

All students will receive a use agreement and once signed consent has been returned to school, students will be able to use the school technology equipment/devices.

The school's computer network, Internet access facilities, computers and other school technology equipment/devices are for educational purposes appropriate to the school environment. This applies whether the technology equipment is owned or leased either partially or wholly by the school, and used on or off the school site.

The school may monitor traffic and material sent and received using the school's technology network. The school may use filtering and/or monitoring software to restrict access to certain sites and data, including email.

The school may audit its computer network, Internet access facilities, computers and other school technology equipment/devices or commission an independent forensic audit.

SECTION B

RULES TO HELP KEEP HARRIS COUNTY K-4 STUDENTS CYBERSAFE

These rules will help us to stay safe when using technology at school

1. I cannot use school technology equipment until my parents have signed my use agreement form (see Section C) and the completed form has been returned to school.
2. I can only use the computers and other technology equipment for my schoolwork and only with my teacher's permission.
3. I can only go online or use the Internet at school when a teacher gives permission and an adult is present.
4. If there is something I'm not sure about I will ask my teacher.
5. I will not use the Internet, email, mobile phones or any other technology equipment to be mean, rude, or unkind to other people.
6. I will not tell anyone my password.
7. If I find anything that upsets me, is mean or rude, or things I know are not acceptable at our school, I will:

- Not show others
- Turn off the screen and
- Tell a teacher immediately

8. I must not bring any technology equipment/devices to school. This includes things like mobile phones, iPods, games, cameras, USB drives and software without permission from my teacher.
9. If I am allowed to bring my own technology to school, I will only access the internet through the school's network system and under the direct supervision of my teacher. I will not try to go online by any other means.
10. I will ask my teacher's permission before I put any personal information online. Personal information includes
 - Name
 - Address
 - Email address
 - Phone numbers
 - photos
11. I will be careful and will look after all our school technology equipment by:
 - Not being silly and playing around with it
 - Following our school cybersafety rules
 - Telling a teacher about anything wrong or damaged.
12. I understand that if I break these rules the school may need to tell my parent(s), and I may lose the permission to use the school's technology.

SECTION C

HARRIS COUNTY K-4 CYBERSAFETY USE AGREEMENT FORM

To the parent/caregiver/legal guardian, please:

1. **Read this page carefully**, to check you understand your responsibilities under this agreement
2. **Sign the appropriate section on this form**
3. **Detach and return this form to the school office**
4. **Keep the document for future reference**, as well as the copy of this signed page which the school will provide.

I understand that Harris County School District will:

- Do its best to enhance learning through the safe use of technology. This includes working to restrict access to inappropriate, illegal or harmful material on the Internet or school technology equipment/devices at school, or at school related activities
- Work progressively with children and their families to encourage and develop an understanding of the importance of cybersafety through education designed to complement and support the use agreement initiative. This includes providing children with strategies to keep themselves safe in cyberspace, which includes appropriate behaviour while online and in social networking sites.
- Keep a copy of this signed use agreement on file
- Respond to any breaches in an appropriate manner
- Welcome enquiries from parents or students about cybersafety issues.

My responsibilities include:

- I will read this cybersafety use agreement document
- I will discuss the information with my child and explain why it is important
- I will return the signed agreement to the school
- I will support the school's cybersafety program by encouraging my child to follow the cybersafety rules, and to always ask the teacher if they are unsure about any use of technology
- I will contact the teacher or principal to discuss any questions I might have about cybersafety and/or this use agreement and I am welcome to do this at any time.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.gadoe.org/Technology-Services/Instructional-Technology/Pages/Cybersafety.aspx>

Please detach this page, sign, and return to your child's teacher

**HARRIS COUNTY CYBERSAFETY
USE AGREEMENT FORM
GRADES K-4**

I have read this cybersafety use agreement and I am aware of the school's initiatives to maintain a cybersafe learning environment, including my child's responsibilities.

Name of student:

Name of parent/caregiver/legal guardian:

Parent's signature: Date:

Please note: This agreement for your child will remain in force as long as he/she is enrolled at this school, and must be renewed each school year. If it becomes necessary to add/amend any information or rule, parents will be advised in writing.