

GCVI Internet Policy

Electronic information, services, and network provided directly or indirectly by the P. G. Reid Resource Centre, the GCVI, are accessible to all staff and students to support curriculum needs.

Students will receive information, instruction, training and assistance necessary to use information technology effectively to support curriculum needs.

Rationale

Internet access is now available to staff and students at the Guelph Collegiate-Vocational Institute. This service provides students with online access to an infinite amount of information located outside the walls of our school. Some of this information is stored on computers at universities, some stored on *government sites*, and some stored in *commercial or private sites*. This vast information source can serve as a valuable resource in supporting student research. It also serves as a vital component in the development of student information literacy skills.

What is the Internet?

In non-technical terms, the Internet is a valuable source of information linking ideas and peoples around the world. Technically, it is a world-wide network of computers all speaking a common language and connected together by telecommunication links. Using the Internet, students have access to a number of information resources including: electronic mail, file transfer from one computer to another, (FTP), discussion groups (USENET), direct links to other computers (Telnet), and the World Wide Web (WWW).

Student Responsibilities

Student use of the Internet is a privilege and not a right and includes certain student responsibilities. Students who do not meet these responsibilities will have their Internet privileges suspended or revoked.

Information retrieved on the Internet is only for student research to support classroom assignments.

Students are responsible for assessing the accuracy of all information retrieved and for using it appropriately.

Students are expected to act in a responsible, ethical and legal manner in accordance with the GCVI's code of conduct.

The teacher will determine what appropriate use is, and the decision is final.

All students are expected to abide by the generally-accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following: be polite; use appropriate language; do not reveal your personal address or phone number; do not reveal other students' personal addresses or phone number; do not use the network in such a way as to disrupt its use by others.

This includes your **personal laptop** that you bring into the school. You are using the UGDSB's Internet and we expect the same guidelines to be followed on our computers or your laptop.

All information obtained on the Internet must be cited or referenced and credit given to the author.

Controversial Material

As well as being a valuable resource for information related to the curriculum, Internet also contains sites which may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some.

The GCVI accepts no responsibility for the appropriateness, accuracy, quality, or reliability of any information retrieved; nor is it responsible for any damages suffered, data lost, or services interrupted.

The GCVI assumes no responsibility for any costs, liability or damages caused by a student using the Internet.

Unacceptable Uses

These include but are not limited to the following uses:

- any form of vandalism which includes uploading or creating computer viruses, stealing or damaging equipment
- using inappropriate language in public or private messages, and in material posted on Web pages
- using the network for any illegal activity including violation of copyright or other contacts
- sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- wastefully using finite resources
- gaining unauthorized access to resources or any other computer systems
- invading the privacy of individuals
- using an account owned by another user
- posting personal communications about others without their consent
- allowing others to access your account or use your password

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Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the GCVI Internet.

Prepared by: W. G. McKinnie
(Retired) Head, School Library Information Services,
June 1996

Updated: May 2007