

Bradley County Schools Acceptable Use Policy - Abridged

(For a full copy of the AUP, see the BCS website at www.bradleyschools.org)

The following uses of the BCS Network system are considered unacceptable:

Personal Safety (Personal safety restrictions are for students only.)

- a. Users will not post personal contact information about themselves or other people. Personal contact information includes address, telephone, school address, work address, etc.
- b. Users will not agree to meet with someone they have met online without their parent's approval and participation.
- c. Users will promptly disclose to their teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.

Inappropriate Language

- a. Restrictions against Inappropriate Language apply to messages and material posted on Web pages.
- b. Users will not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language.
- c. Users will not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
- d. Users will not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
- e. Users will not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a user is told by a person to stop sending those messages, they must stop.
- f. Users will not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization.

Respect for Privacy

- a. Users will not repost a message that was sent to them without permission of the person who sent them the message.
- b. Users will not post private information about another person.

Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

- a. Users will not plagiarize works that they find on the internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were original to the user.
- b. Users will respect the rights of copyright owners. Copyright infringement occurs when an individual inappropriately reproduces a work that is protected by a copyright. If a work contains language that specifies acceptable use of that work, the user should follow the expressed requirements. If the user is unsure whether or not they can use a work, they should request permission from the copyright owner. The use of peer to peer networks for downloading files without proper permission from the copyright owner is prohibited.

Your Rights

1. Free Speech

The BCS Network system is considered a limited forum, similar to the school newspaper, and therefore Bradley County Schools may restrict your speech for valid educational reasons. Bradley County Schools will not restrict your speech on the basis of a disagreement with the opinions you are expressing.

2. Search and Seizure

- a. You should expect no privacy in the contents of your personal files or messages on the BCS Network. As a Bradley County Schools student the situation is similar to the rights you have in the privacy of your locker.

- b. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the BCS Network may lead to discovery that you have violated this policy in your use of the BCS Network. You will be provided with a written notice of the suspected violation and an opportunity to present an explanation before your building principal.
- c. If the violation also involves a violation of other provisions of the building level disciplinary code, it will be handled in a manner described in the building level disciplinary code. Additional restrictions may be placed on your use of your Internet account.

Personal Responsibility

When you are using the BCS Network, it may feel like you can more easily break a rule and not get caught. This is not really true because whenever you do something on the BCS Network you leave little “electronic footprints,” so the odds of getting caught are really about the same as they are in the real world. But the fact that you can do something or think you can do something without being caught does not make it right to do so. Even if you don’t get caught, there is always one person who will know whether you have done wrong-- and that person is you. Your use of the Internet can be a mirror that will show you what kind of person you are.

I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and agree to follow the guidelines set forth by Bradley County Schools.

Student Name

Date

I understand that works created by my child may be posted on the school website or other venues where his/her picture or name may appear as part of the curriculum within the Discovery Labs. I agree to allow these postings in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy for the county.

Parent/Guardian Name

Date

Contact Information (Please Print)

Student Name

Parent/Guardian Name

Phone

Email Address