Internet Use Agreement

I will follow The Branch School's Standards of Conduct while on-line.

Unselfishness: I will treat others as I wish to be treated. I will respect and protect the privacy of others by not revealing passwords, home addresses, phone numbers, birthdays, social security numbers or credit card numbers without permission. I will not damage or destroy the data of others. I will only use accounts I am authorized to use.

Goodness: I will be obedient and respectful while on-line. I will treat the school's equipment with respect, never knowingly slowing down the school's network or attempting to gain access to unauthorized information.

Mercy: I will be a peacemaker on-line. I will share computer time and equipment appropriately. I will not write anything hurtful or unkind.

Justice: I will do what is right and legal. I will follow all copyright laws. I will not plagiarize. I will only access, upload, download or distribute appropriate material. I will only install software that I legally own.

Health: I will uphold the standards of The Branch School online pertaining to health. I will view or download information relating to health only with the permission of a teacher.

Holiness: I will only participate in appropriate activities online. I will not view websites that contain inappropriate material.

Love: I will be polite and use good manners while on the Internet. All of my communications will be loving and respectful.

In addition to our Standards of Conduct I will follow the government laws as follows:

GOVERNMENT LAWS
Students will use computers in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Texas. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criminal Acts – These include, but are not limited to, "hacking" or attempting to access computer systems without authorization, harassing email, cyber bullying, cyber stalking, child pornography, vandalism, and/or unauthorized tampering with computer systems.
2. Libel Laws - Publicly defaming people through either published (or the publishing of) material on the internet, email, etc…
3. Copyright Violations - Copying, selling or distributing copyrighted material without the express written permission of the author or publisher (users should assume that all materials available on the Internet are protected by copyright), engaging in plagiarism (using others' words or ideas as your own).

In addition, the use of apps that allow people to send messages that self-destruct after a set window of time is prohibited as the apps can be used for hazing, bullying and cyberbullying. Examples include: YikYak, SnapChat, Ask.fm, Secret-SpeakFreely, BurnNote, Omegle. Furthermore, using social media at school is prohibited, unless expressly authorized and supervised by a teacher or administrator.

If the above standards are not followed, computer and iPad privileges may be revoked as well as the right to bring technological devices. Student handbook rules also apply to technology and its use.

Although children are monitored closely in the use of the Internet, we cannot guarantee total compliance under these guidelines. The staff of The Branch School will exercise all reasonable care in monitoring student use of technology equipment such as computers; tablets, iPads and phones, however, there is some risk inherent in any use of the Internet.

The Branch School Google Drive is a closed network. Parents wishing to access their student's account must do so using their student's ID and password.

Parent

I have read The Branch School's Internet Use Agreement and discussed it with my child. My child may use the Internet at The Branch School.

_____ _____

yes no

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Student's Name (please print) _____

Student

I agree to abide by these rules.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

All parents need to sign and return this form to the main office on the first day of school. Students in second through eighth grade must also sign the form.