



Venture

Technology Acceptable Use Policy (TAUP)

Academic Year: 2024-2025

General Statement:

The TAUP sets general standards when using technology resources both in and out of school. Venture expects students to follow specific classroom expectations for technology use as designated by their teachers. It is the responsibility of Venture Academy students, parents, and staff to ensure that all technology use is efficient, ethical, and lawful. Students and parents, please read and acknowledge agreement with the TAUP.

Lower School Families: Please take time to explain in child-friendly language what the TAUP outlines.

Definitions:

Technology is a broadly defined term covering any communication tool that will store, retrieve, manipulate, transmit, or receive information electronically in a digital form.

Device:

Any tool a student uses that communicates electronically, sends, receives, stores, reproduces, or displays text or voice information or data. These include, but are not limited to, cell phones, tablets, smart devices, media players, gaming devices, and computers.

Responsible use of technology:

When using technology, remember that as a student or a family, you are a representative of the Kingdom of God. As a reflection of Christ, please use extreme caution and good Christian judgment in all online postings and interactions as you have the potential for a worldwide audience.

Below are the Venture Academy requirements relating to the responsible use of technology resources:

1. All technology is to be used solely for school purposes. Teachers and Administrators reserve the right to prohibit the use of devices in the classrooms and within the school and school grounds. Including personal devices brought into the classroom/school.
2. Fraudulent, harassing, threatening, discriminatory, offensive, inappropriate, sexually explicit, or obscene messages or materials are not to be created or shared, accessed, printed, or stored.
3. Gaming, filesharing, and streaming services (ex. YouTube, and Netflix) should not be used during the school day unless the teacher gives specific permission.
4. Downloading materials, images, or videos not relevant to school is not permitted.
5. Taking and sharing photos and videos without permission is not acceptable.
6. Venture does not allow students to bring a computing device from home. This includes computers, laptops, MacBooks, iPads, Chromebooks, etc.
7. Students issued a device by Venture will need to make sure the device is fully charged and ready to go when they arrive at school each day.

Student Accounts:

1. Venture Academy provides student accounts through Microsoft for educational purposes. Students in grades 3 and above will be issued accounts through Venture Academy's IT department. Each student is responsible for protecting their passwords. Sharing user IDs, passwords, and account access codes is prohibited and may result in loss of account privileges. Students are held accountable for ANY activity that occurs under their account.

2. Students should use email and chat features for school related, educational purposes only.
3. Students shall not use their Venture Academy student email accounts to sign up for personal accounts on gaming sites, social media, or any other purpose outside of the school setting.
4. Administrators and faculty may review files, emails, and message logs to maintain system integrity and, if necessary, to ensure users are acting responsibly.
5. Venture Academy students should be aware that data and other materials and files maintained on the school system may be subject to review, disclosure, or discovery under the Wisconsin guidelines. Venture Academy will cooperate fully with local, state, and federal authorities in any investigation concerning any illegal activities or activities not in compliance with school policies conducted through the school system.

Use of Venture Devices

1. All devices that are property of Venture Academy must be cared for appropriately.
2. Students should immediately report any devices malfunctioning or damaged to a staff member. Negligent use of school devices by a student resulting in repairs or damages, may incur charges to the student's billing account if necessary.
3. Students will not have access or permission to download software to any school device. Bypassing the systems set in place by IT will result in the loss of privileges and possibly additional consequences.

Network and Internet Usage:

Venture Academy offers students filtered access to the internet. With the ever-changing nature of the internet, please be aware that the filtering and monitoring system cannot filter out **all** inappropriate material. If a student encounters something inappropriate, offensive, or pornographic, they should report it immediately to a staff member so our IT department can prevent future access.

1. The use of network privileges to engage in any form of cheating is prohibited. Appropriate consequences will follow.
2. No student is permitted to use encryption devices or VPNs on a device without express written authorization.

3. Introducing or using software designed to destroy, compromise, or corrupt the schools' systems and network is prohibited and may result in expulsion from the school.

Social Media:

Venture Academy students must adhere to the following social networking and media guidelines:

1. Abide by the school's Honor Code.
2. Use good judgment in all information shared. Remember, privacy settings aren't fail-safe; all data shared on a social network is public information.
3. Don't share confidential information, including birthdate, address, or cell phone number.
4. Don't post pictures or videos of others without their permission. This includes classroom activities.
5. Don't post offensive, inappropriate, or controversial topics.

Above all else, remember that you represent Christ in all things you do!

Corrective Actions:

The privilege of technology use extended by Venture Academy may be withdrawn at any time. A student's use of devices may be suspended immediately upon the discovery of a possible violation of these policies. A violation of the provisions of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to, including, loss of device privileges or expulsion.

If the administration is made aware of cyberbullying, harmful messages, or postings hurtful to others or those associated with Venture Academy, originating from any device including personal devices, follow-up with the student will occur, and parents will be informed. Depending on the offense, there is potential for additional disciplinary actions.