

Acceptable Use Policy @ LHA

"If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow."

- John Dewey

Setting the Stage for 21st Century Learning

A brief glimpse into any typical classroom will reveal that today's students are not the same learners that we were. These digital natives have grown up surrounded by computing technology as a natural part of their everyday lives. They live in a multimedia world, they constantly connect and collaborate, and they access information that is live and on-demand through mobile devices. Today's education system is evolving to take full advantage of the potential of mobile technology devices to inspire learning and create independent, critical thinkers. Bring your own device (BYOD) models have shown greater student accountability and engagement when the device is personally owned.

Educational Impact

LaurenHill Academy (LHA) strongly believes in the educational value of electronic services; it recognizes their potential to support its curriculum and student learning by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The use of individual personal devices in a BYOD program highlights the shifting roles of both teachers and students in a technology-rich classroom environment. Teachers are moving towards more of a facilitator role as students take more ownership of their own learning and share what they have learned using integrative technology tools. BYOD embraces the idea that when students are viewed as key contributors to their learning process, they tend to take ownership, and when they are given important responsibilities, they tend to perform better.

We believe that the tremendous value of technology and the information technology network as an educational resource far outweighs the potential risks. We encourage the use of technology as a means to learn and thrive in the 21st century. This will help prepare our students for success in achieving their goals in the competitive global, electronic age.

We, at LHA, are pleased to offer our students, staff, and guests' access to computer technology, including access to the Internet for educational purposes. The guest network is meant primarily to provide Internet access to non- English-Montreal-School-Board (EMSB) employees or connectivity to non-EMSB computers. Minimal security is established, and users are responsible for maintaining their own system security such as anti-virus program, spam filters, etc. In addition, there is no guarantee of availability or performance. As a user of this service, your child will be expected to abide by LaurenHill Academy's rules of network etiquette (see separate document)

Security and Damages

The responsibility of keeping the device secure rests with the individual owner. LaurenHill Academy is not liable for any device stolen or damaged. EMSB/LHA is not responsible for any loss or damage to users' data or storage devices, neither for any other problems incurred as a result of using its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) System. Protective cases for personal devices are encouraged.

Student Agreement

At LHA we believe that access to the tools and resources of a world-wide network and the understanding of when and how these tools are appropriately and effectively used is essential to every student's education. The use of technology to access educational material is not a necessity but a privilege as this access will benefit the learning environment. However, when the rules are abused, privileges and devices will be taken away. Students and guests participating in the BYOD must adhere to the Student Code of Conduct as well as to English Montreal School Board's policies, particularly Internet Acceptable Use and Internet Safety. Additionally,

- The student takes full responsibility for his/her own device. The school is not responsible for the security or damage of any device.
- The student will not post personal contact information about him/herself without the permission of parents and teachers (photo, address, telephone number, parents' work addresses or telephone numbers, credit card).
- The student shall inform the teacher right away if he/she comes across any information that is inappropriate or makes him/her feel uncomfortable.
- The student will not give out her/his password to anyone other than the teacher. Each student is responsible for the activity associated with her/his account.
- The student must access the Internet through his/her own EMSB account.
- The student understands that access to the internet is provided by the EMSB and, as such, the EMSB has the legal right to monitor usage of the service. Anyone can read messages sent, and the work on the device is not private.
- The student complies with teachers' request to shut down the device, close the screen or hand over the device when asked.
- The student accesses only those files on the device or Internet sites which are relevant to the classroom curriculum. Games are not permitted.
- The student understands that infecting the network with a virus, Trojan, or programs designed to damage, alter, destroy, or provide access to unauthorized data or information is a violation and will result in disciplinary actions.
- The student realizes that printing from personal devices will not be possible at school.
- The student is prohibited from using EMSB Internet access to operate a business, conduct an external job search, solicit money for personal gain, campaign for political causes or candidates, or promote or solicit funds for religious or other personal causes.
- The student is not permitted to wear earphones during passing time or class time.
- Devices must be in silent mode while on school grounds.
- **Devices may not be used for non-instructional purposes, such as making personal phone calls, text/instant messaging and social media during class time or passing time.**
- The device cannot be used during assessment, unless otherwise directed by the teacher.
- Devices may not be used to record, transmit or post photographic images or videos of a person, or persons during school activities and/or hours.
- The school has the right to collect and examine any device that is suspected of causing problems or of being the source of an attack or virus infection.
- The device is charged prior to bringing it to school and runs off its own battery while at school. Students will not be permitted to use electrical outlets at school.
- The owner is responsible for the repair of any malfunctioning/damaged devices. LHA will not supply technical services for the student-owned devices.

Enforcement

Inappropriate use will result in disciplinary measures deemed appropriate by administration at the school level. Instances of probable inappropriate use may be investigated. The EMSB shall act discreetly and in a confidential manner in conducting such investigations,

Investigations that uncover inappropriate use may result in the EMSB:

1. Cancelling or limiting access to the network or ICT systems;
2. Disclosing information found during the investigation to EMSB authorities, or law enforcement agencies.
3. Taking disciplinary measures, including suspension or expulsion, depending on the degree and severity of the violation.

