

TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARENTS

We have the following advice for students:

- Never reveal your name online
- Never reveal your age
- Never reveal your address
- Do not post photos of yourself or send photos of yourself to people you do not know or trust
- Do not reveal your school (York Catholic)
- Do not communicate with people you do not know, particularly in chat rooms or IM-ing
- Do not give your passwords/logins to anyone, other than your parents
- Do not make “idle” threats or even make fun of others in your online conversations. Messages can be forwarded quickly and easily and threats are always taken seriously. You could face legal and/or criminal charges.

We have the following advice for parents:

- Place your computer in a public area of the house, such as the kitchen, where it is visible to everyone in the family
- Block access to inappropriate sites; while it may not completely stop access, it may slow it down
- We recommend that you do not permit your sons and daughters to IM without you being present
- If your son or daughter is harassed by IM’s or email, report it to your provider and immediately block that person from accessing you
- Limit your son or daughter’s time online
- Monitor websites, chat-rooms and posting boards that they visit
- Don’t be afraid to ask tough questions about their Internet use
- Do not consider this an “invasion of privacy.” It is your parental duty to keep your child(ren) safe. In this day and age, it is wise to stay up-to-date with technology and its potential dangers.

Please understand that students can be held responsible for everything that they put on the Internet. Nothing is private. Also, under school rules, they can be held responsible for bringing disfavor to this institution.

We say in our handbook that anything that could reflect negatively upon the school, including electronically posted information on the Internet, email, posting boards, or others is liable for disciplinary action, and if necessary, dismissal.

Be aware that the school cannot file charges if your son or daughter is harassed at home. It is a long and difficult process to gain access and to find out who really may have brought disfavor to your son or daughter.