



Technology Policy Agreement

2026-2027

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY POLICY

All USL students must adhere to strict guidelines governing digital citizenship, network safety, and device custody.

A. Device Management & Hardware Damage Liability

- **Assigned Laptops:** Intermediate (IS) and Middle School (MS) students will exclusively use USL-assigned laptops while on campus.
- **Bring Your Own Device Guidelines:** Upper School (US) students may use an assigned laptop or bring their own device.
- **Care and Custody:** Students are responsible for avoiding physical damage to any laptop in their possession.
- **Hardware Damage Liability Clause:** Parents/guardians assume full financial responsibility for the cost of repair or total replacement of any USL-owned hardware, accessories, or protective cases assigned to their child if damage occurs due to negligence, abuse, or improper handling. USL will assess the hardware and bill the family account directly for necessary repairs or replacement parts.

B. Network Rules & Security

- **Prohibited Access:** Students may not bypass school network filters, use VPNs, or view inappropriate content.
- **Privacy Expectation:** School-assigned devices and accounts remain the property of USL and are subject to administrative monitoring.
- **Academic Integrity:** Technology must be used honestly; plagiarism or unauthorized artificial intelligence usage is strictly forbidden.

C. Digital Citizenship & Behavior

- **Cyberbullying:** Harassment, bullying, or tracking others online will result in immediate disciplinary review.
- **Personal Accounts:** Accessing personal social media accounts or gaming during instructional time is prohibited.



TECHNOLOGY POLICY DISCIPLINARY PENALTIES

Violations of the Technology Policy accumulate across the academic year. USL reserves the right to skip steps in the track for malicious or severe violations (e.g., cyberbullying, severe academic dishonesty, or hardware destruction).

- **First Offense:**
 - Verbal warning from the faculty member.
 - Immediate confiscation of the device for the remainder of the class period.
- **Second Offense:**
 - Written notification sent to parents/guardians.
 - Device confiscated and held in the main office until the end of the school day.
- **Third Offense:**
 - Mandatory parent-teacher-student conference.
 - Loss of device privileges for one week.
- **Fourth Offense / Severe Infraction:**
 - Referral to the Head of School.
 - Indefinite suspension of all on-campus technology privileges.
 - Further administrative action, up to and including out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

COMPLIANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND SIGNATURES

By signing below, we certify that we agree to fully abide by the University School of the Lowcountry Acceptable Use of Technology Policy, its disciplinary consequences, and the hardware damage liability terms.

- **Student Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____
- **Parent/Guardian Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____