

# YESHIVA UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

## THE MARSHA STERN TALMUDICAL ACADEMY

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### Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy 2019-2020

Yeshiva University High School for Boys provides technology resources to its talmidim solely for educational purposes. Through technology, YUHSB provides access to resources from all over the world. The goal in providing these resources is to promote educational excellence in our yeshiva by facilitating resource sharing, collaboration, and communication with the support and supervision of parents, teachers, and staff. In the area of technology, an engaged positive partnership between the home and yeshiva is more important than ever, and we encourage all talmidim and parents to read these guidelines carefully.

Talmid use of technology, including but not limited to, school computers, software, and network access, is a privilege, not a right. Failure to adhere to the standards and guidelines set forth will result in having privileges suspended or revoked. It may also result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from yeshiva.

**1:1 Equipment** YUHSB is a 1:1 school, and every talmid is provided with a Chromebook for usage throughout the year. Devices and their chargers are the property of YUHSB and are on loan to the talmid while enrolled. This equipment is distributed at the beginning of the school year, and is to be returned, in its original condition, at the end of the school year. YUHSB reserves the right to collect and/or inspect the device or charger at any time.

If the talmid withdraws from YUHSB prior to graduation, the Chromebook and supplied accessories must be returned to the YUHSB Technology Department immediately. Failure to return the equipment will result in transcripts and report cards being held until the equipment is returned or payment is submitted.

Proper care of the equipment is expected at all times. Talmidim may not alter the physical features of their device. Talmidim are responsible for all damage to their 1:1 equipment (hardware and software), with limited exceptions made for talmidim enrolled in the Device Protection Plan, as stated below. Talmidim must treat all computers with care and good sense and must refrain from eating or drinking near them. Any purposeful damage will also be considered vandalism and may incur disciplinary measures as well.

YUHSB will provide technical support for standard problems with 1:1 to devices. Any issue with

a device should be promptly reported to our IT Department.

With the exception of a cell phone, personal electronic devices, including tablets and non-school issued laptops, are not permitted on campus.

**School Computers and Equipment** Talmidim may not disconnect any computer equipment, plug into any outlet, or use any classroom media equipment in any classroom under any circumstances unless supervised by a faculty member who is actively monitoring in the room.

**Computer Use and Conduct Policies** Technology resources are provided to promote educational excellence. During school hours, computers and the Internet are to be used for academic purposes only. Talmidim agree never to use the school computers for purposes such as the following:

- Intentional or neglectful transmission of viruses or other destructive computer files.
- Hacking into school or external computers.
- Attempting to gain access to another's resources, programs, or data.
- To falsify one's identity to others.
- Intentionally bypassing school filters.
- Use of USB, bootable CDs, or other devices to alter the functions of a computer or a network.
- Use of the school email account for personal or non-school related purposes.
- Use of personal e-mail accounts on the school network are not permitted.
- Online sharing of any talmid's or staff member's name, home address, phone number or other personal information.
- Non-educational uses such as games, role-playing multi-user environments, gambling, junk mail, chain mail, jokes, or raffles.
- Participating in online chat rooms or using instant messaging, unless specifically assigned by a teacher.
- Use of school resources for commercial purposes, personal financial gain, or fraud.
- To post, send, store, or download copyrighted material without permission. Transferring copyrighted material to or from the school's computer without the expressed permission of the owner is a violation of federal law. This includes but is not limited to, copyrighted movies, music, and software.
- To access, send, or retrieve pornographic material.
- To post files dangerous to the integrity of any network.

School distributed computing equipment is required every day and talmidim are expected to bring devices to school, fully charged. The talmid will use the Chromebook only in conjunction with schoolwork at YUHSB. Only the talmid to whom the device was assigned may use that Chromebook; no other person shall possess or use another's Chromebook.

Talmidim must be connected to the designated YUHSB student wireless network at all times. Creating ad-hoc networks or turning off the device Wi-Fi is prohibited. Software designed to circumvent network protections on the YUHSB network is prohibited.

YUHSB is a Google Suite for Education school. Each YUHSB talmid is given a YUHSB G-Suite account, which includes an email address, as well as access to Google Drive. All email communications between YUHSB administration, faculty, and talmidim will be via YUHSB accounts only, and talmidim are expected to check and read their email on a frequent basis (at minimum, daily). Talmidim must use only their own G-Suite accounts and are prohibited from signing on with another talmid's credentials. Each talmid is responsible for all activity generated by his account, so it is important to choose a strong password and not share it with others. Administration and faculty should only be contacted via their YUHSB accounts, and emails should not be sent to them after 11:00 p.m. unless it is an emergency.

**Misuse of YUHSB-Issued Technology During Class** Misuse of YUHSB-issued devices for non-class related purposes or for purposes not in line with teacher articulated expectations, will be subject to disciplinary measures, including but not limited to, the confiscation of the YUHSB-issued device. A first offense will result in the device being taken until the end of the day, a 2nd offense will result in the device being kept until the following school day, and a 3rd offense will result in the device being confiscated for one week.

**Safe and Healthy Communication** Communications via the Internet, text, and WhatsApp messaging must always reflect the same degree of dignity and concern for all members of our school community as is expected in face- to-face interactions. Please be aware that cyber-bullying, harassment, biased and discriminatory language, and/or insensitivity to any member of our school community will be regarded as a serious offense and may result in suspension or expulsion. Talmidim should use appropriate "netiquette."

To establish good habits and healthy boundaries, when after-school communications between faculty and talmidim are necessary, email is strongly preferred. Any necessary evening phone calls should be placed to the family phone line and not through student cell phones. Talmidim should also not call staff on their cell phones.

Texting is not permitted between YUHSB staff members and talmidim. During school trips and emergencies texting may be necessary for safety reasons. While the yeshiva cannot take responsibility for WhatsApp groups, all groups, including bus groups, class groups, and grade groups, must include an MTA administrator.

While social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc., can be wonderful networking mechanisms and valuable communication tools, faculty and talmidim are not permitted to communicate on personal social media sites, and should not "friend," "follow," "comment," "like," post personal messages or otherwise connect on these forums. Exceptions for educational technology tools such as Edmodo, Remind, Google Docs, Moodle, etc. may be

made by the administration. Prior approval of the administration is also required for the use of Skype and similar technology between a teacher and talmid.

**Parent Partnership** Giving talmidim access to technology tools is an important part of our mission in providing an outstanding education. At the same time, ensuring safe and appropriate usage is of paramount importance as well. The yeshiva uses a firewall and filter on the school network and talmid devices to maintain a safe environment and to keep talmidim focused on academic endeavors. At the same time, we ask all parents/guardians to actively monitor their son's online activities. We strongly encourage the use of software in the home to filter network access at a level that is consistent with the household values, and to monitor activity on computers, tablets, and cell phones. We encourage parents to engage in ongoing communication with their sons regarding expectations for appropriate technology usage. We also strongly encourage parents to create home usage policies that encourage safe technology usage, including only allowing internet connected devices to be used in open areas of the house (not in a locked bedroom), and for laptops, cell phones, and tablets to be charged overnight in a location outside of the bedroom.

Please also note that cell phones are not connected to the YUHSB WiFi network, and as such, it is up to each parent to set expectations, monitor activity, and apply consequences as needed for inappropriate usage.

**Disclaimers** Users should not have an expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send, or receive on or using YUHSB provided technology and/or equipment, both on and off campus.

YUHSB has the right, but not the duty, to monitor any and all aspects of YUHSB's technology, including, but not limited to, monitoring and reviewing any aspect of user activity or keystrokes, sites visited by users on the internet, monitoring and reviewing instant message chat and emails, and reviewing material downloaded or uploaded by users and any emails, documents, data, files, or other information saved on users' computers or to any network drive. Users should be aware that emails, documents, data, files, and other information may be able to be retrieved even though they have been deleted.

Cell phones and smart watches are permitted on campus with the consent of the parents. YUHSB is not responsible for information transmitted or received on a talmid's personal device. The parent agrees to monitor their son's cell phone and smart watch usage as the yeshiva will not actively monitor these devices. Phone usage is only permitted during free time or breaks. Teachers may request that cell phones be placed in a secure location during class, including the teacher's desk. Teachers may request that talmidim remove their smart watch during class. YUHSB is not responsible for loss or damage of a talmid's personal device at any time.

This AUP may be modified by YUHSB at its exclusive discretion, and you will be provided with notice of any such changes. Changes to the AUP may be sent by email to the talmid's YUHSB

email and to the parent, if an email is on file at YUHSB. You agree to be bound by any changes to this AUP which have been sent to you via email.

YUHSB is not responsible for any data loss on talmid devices. It is recommended that talmidim use Google Drive or other backup methods to protect from data loss.

### **Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Only: Mandatory Device Protection**

Effective for the 2019 incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade, there is a mandatory \$100 device protection fee for each Chromebook. Payment can be made by navigating to [the YUHSB TouchNet site](#) and then selecting the “New Chromebook Device Protection Fee” option.

In the case of defect or accidental damage, the Chromebook will be repaired or replaced by YUHSB. Repairs caused by accidental damage by the talmid will be limited to one per academic year. A Chromebook that is damaged, while the case is off, will not be covered by the school’s protection policy and must be paid for by the talmid.

Any incident of loss or theft of a Chromebook must be reported to the YUHSB Technology Team immediately. All cases of theft will be fully investigated. In the event of loss or theft, a talmid will be required to purchase a new Chromebook at his own expense.

## Acceptable Use Policy Acknowledgement Form 2019-2020

### **Student Acknowledgment**

I have read the YUHSB 2019-2020 Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). I agree to follow the rules contained in these policies. I understand that if I violate the rules my account can be terminated, and I may face other disciplinary actions. By signing below, I demonstrate that I understand and agree to abide by the policies, rules, and regulations contained in the AUP.

Talmit Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Talmit Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent Acknowledgment**

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the 2019-2020 YUHSB Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). I will review the AUP with my son, and I will emphasize to my son the importance of following YUHSB's policies at all times.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_