**Ethical Dilemmas Around Acceptable Use of School Computers Policy**

Consider below the following scenarios. And discuss these questions:

* How ethical or unethical do you consider the situations to be?
* As a student, what would you do in each situation?
* What would you do if you supervised the person(s) (as a teacher or school administrator) involved in each situation?

**You got mail…**

You log into your student email and notice ten email messages from another student in class. All the emails are jokes or chain letters. The next time you log into your email, you notice the same student has sent even more jokes or chain letters. As a student you would:

1. Speak directly to the student and ask them not to send anymore junk emails.
2. Ignore the emails and just delete them.
3. Tell the teacher about the emails.
4. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**Saving face...**

Another student was using the netbook you are about to use and he/she forgot to log off and the system is still active. As you begin to log the student off (so you can log in), you notice the student has Facebook open even though it is blocked by the district. The student has broken through the network filters and has gained access to Facebook. As a student, you would:

1. Warn the student that what they are doing is violating policy and they could have their computer privileges revoked.
2. Ask the student how he/she gained access to Facebook so you can do it too.
3. Log the student out of the system and forget about it.
4. Take the system to the teacher or school administration to show them what was done.
5. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**Not so smart...**

A student is using a smartphone to take photos of other students. You are sitting at the back of the class and so is this student. It is obvious very few other students or the teacher realize what this student is doing. A few days later some of the photos are circulating on the Internet through social media sites. One of the students whose photo was taken is being made fun and some people are trying to figure out who took the photos. As a student, you would:

1. Tell the student who had his/her photo taken which student had taken the photo.
2. Tell everyone online who took the photo.
3. Decide not to say anything to anyone about the incident.
4. Ask your parents/guardians what they think you should do.
5. Inform the class teacher or school administration of what happened.
6. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**The right to copy?**

You are working on a major project with some other students. One of the group members is responsible for collecting copyright free or friendly photos for the assignment as part of the class presentation. When the work is completed, it is so well-received by your teacher that he/she would like to show it to other classes in the school and also post it online for other teachers and students to see it. Your group gets a very good mark on the assignment. However, you realize after the presentation that a number of the photos used are copyrighted and are obviously the property of different organizations. As a student, you would:

1. Ask the student who collected the photos if they knew they were copyright photos and tell him/her the teacher needs to be informed.
2. Inform the teacher yourself about the use of copyright images.
3. Decide not to tell anyone since the assignment is completed and you already got a mark.
4. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**A sticky situation...**

The teacher has given your group permission to use the classroom computer because you need access to a printer. One of you log into the system and then it is noticed that a USB memory stick is still in the computer. One of the other students opens up the memory stick on the desktop and notices a number of tests. This student observes that the teacher is on the other side of the room and decides to open one of the tests so he/she can print it off. As a student, you would:

1. Immediately tell the teacher what the other student is doing.
2. Keep on the lookout for the teacher and tell the other student to print a copy for yourself.
3. Warn the student to close the file or you will tell the teacher.
4. Ignore what the student is doing and continue with the group work.
5. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**Game on…**

A student in your class has forgotten their password, so you log him/her on a computer under your username and password. A few days later you are asked to go to the school office where you are told your hard drive space on the network is filled with non school related files, including games, video and music files. Some of the files are offensive in nature. You are told this violates the acceptable use of school computers and your will not have access to the school computers for two weeks. As a student you would…

1. Accept the decision and never share your username and password again.
2. Tell the school administration that someone else was using a school computer under your username and must have downloaded all the files.
3. Accept the decision, butplot your revenge on the other student.
4. Other?

On a scale of one to ten (one being not unethical at all to ten being very unethical) where would you place this situation on the scale?

**Your Turn: Roleplay**

Looking at the Acceptable Use of School Computers Policy, decide in your group on an issue that addresses one or more of the policy’s statements and create a situation that you can roleplay.

In your roleplay consider two outcomes: what you would consider would happen when the right decision is made versus what happens when the wrong decision is made.