

## Informed Consent

This school year, our class will be using Edmodo, a free and secure online learning platform where teachers and students can collaborate, share content, and use educational apps to supplement in-class learning. In this private learning environment that is managed by the teacher; students can only interact with others in the class. Edmodo provides a safe and easy way to support learning beyond the classroom, and help students develop important online skills.

### Why Edmodo is beneficial to students:

- Participate in class or group discussions that are monitored by the teacher (students cannot send private messages to other students)
- Communicate directly with the teacher to ask questions and get help with work
- Keep track of important due dates, events, and tasks
- Receive and turn in assignments and quizzes
- View missed work when absent from class
- Access files links and resources provided by the teacher
- Access Edmodo from any computer or mobile device with Internet capabilities and receive notification reminders via email or text (optional)

### How Edmodo is beneficial to parents:

- Parents may also sign up for a parent account on Edmodo, which connects to your child's account. This is a great way to keep informed of due dates, assignments, grades, school events, and any direct communication between your child and me. To sign up for a parent account, you will need your child's unique parent code, which can be found in your child's account (on the bottom left of their home page). Parent accounts are not required, but I recommend signing up for one to stay engaged with your child's learning experience. For more information about how to sign up for a parent account, please visit <https://support.edmodo.com/home#forums/20888720-how-to-sign-up-as-a-parent> .

### Because Edmodo is hosted "in the cloud" it is important for parents to understand some key points:

- The cloud is everywhere. This means that you are able to access it from any device that is connected to the internet, you also need to be aware that others can also do the same so keeping your password private is essential.
- The cloud stores your information so that you don't have to. This means that there will be much more room on your device because once something is uploaded on to the cloud it will remain there and be accessible.

Adapted from original document created by W. Blancher. Changes may occur; this document is current as of terms of service on Sept. 16, 2014. Check with your own school to make sure it meets your school's privacy policy. Review completed by Breanne Quist.

## Edmodo's Privacy Key Points

- Edmodo does collect and use information about your child. However, this information is statistical and collected in the form of cookies and analytics software, not personal, and is used to improve services that Edmodo provides. Your child's information is not shared with any third parties.
- Edmodo stores and processes all information in the United States and complies with the U. S. – E.U. Safe Harbor Framework and the U.S. – Swiss Safe Harbor Framework set forth by the U.S. Department of Commerce regarding the collection, use and retention of personal data from European Union member countries and Switzerland. Edmodo has certified that it adheres to the Safe Harbor Privacy Principles of notice, choice, onward transfer, security, data integrity, access, and enforcement. To learn more about the Safe Harbor program, and to view Edmodo's certification go to: <http://export.gov/safeharbor/>.
- If your child registers and you (as a parent or guardian) have signed up for Edmodo with an Access Code provided by your teacher, you as a parent or guardian can view all information within or associated with your child's Edmodo account, including, without limitation, messages between your child and teacher and grades your child received on assignments.
- Edmodo uses the Children's Personal Information for creating your child's individual account, customizing their experience, and for sending notifications via Edmodo from your teacher, school, district, fellow Limited Access Group members, and from Edmodo (regarding your use of their services). Please note that you as a parent or guardian, as well as an administrator from your school and/or district, can view all activity and content associated with your child's account, including the Children's Personal Information.
- If your User Category allows it, students may choose to populate their user profile on Edmodo with Personal Information or Children's Personal Information, including, without limitation, their name, photograph, and school affiliation. This user profile information will be displayed to other users to facilitate user interaction within Edmodo or facilitate interaction with Edmodo. The only users who may view your child's profile are those who belong to their Limited Access Group(s). However, please keep in mind that information (whether Personal Information or Children's Personal Information or not) or content that students voluntarily disclose online (in "communities," your Limited Access Groups, to your connections , etc.) becomes available to other users and can be collected and used by others, in accordance with the privacy settings selected in your child's account preferences, or in accordance with the User Category to which they belong.
- The Edmodo account Personal Information or Children's Personal Information is protected by a password for privacy and security. Edmodo also uses coding practices which take steps to prevent attack on their services from web browsers and malicious scripts, by processing all actions through several permission verifications checks.
- To request removal of your child's Personal Information or Children's Personal Information from Edmodo's public forums, contact them at [privacy@edmodo.com](mailto:privacy@edmodo.com). In some cases, they may not

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be able to remove your information, in which case they will let you know if they are unable to do so and why.

- You may request deletion of your child's Edmodo account. Please note that some unrevised information may remain in their records after revision of such information or deletion of your account, or in cached and archived pages. Some information may remain viewable elsewhere to the extent that it was copied or stored by other users.

## Why Informed Consent?

Your consent is required for your child to use Edmodo because the information your child provides to set up a user profile is not stored in Canada. Edmodo is an American company and as such, all information is stored on American servers. For more information, please read Edmodo Terms of Service (<http://www.edmodo.com/corporate/terms-of-service>) and the Edmodo Privacy Policy (<http://www.edmodo.com/corporate/privacy-policy>). Edmodo takes privacy seriously and has received the TRUSTe Children's Privacy Seal to verify this. The only information required from students to set up an Edmodo account is the teacher's class code, their name, and a username and password.

Please review the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy with your child and note that these policies may change over time. You should review them again when you or your child receives a notification that they have been updated.

To enhance learning activities, I may choose to use certain educational applications from the Edmodo Store, if this happens, a notification will be sent in the form of an email. This digital content is offered by vetted third-party publishers who have their own privacy policies but are required to abide by Edmodo's privacy policy standards.

I hope that your child will enjoy using Edmodo to assist their learning this year. You can learn more about Edmodo by visiting [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com)

Please keep page 1-3 for your records and complete page 4 to be sent back to me for my records. Thank you.

**Teacher Name**

**Contact Information**

We understand the privacy risks and management strategies as they have been shared with us.

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Parent / Guardian Signature

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Date

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Student Signature

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Date

Received by teacher on: \_\_\_\_\_