

# DIGITAL LEARNING (INTERNET, SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL DEVICES)

## PURPOSE

To ensure that all students and members of our school community understand:

- (a) our commitment to providing students with the opportunity to benefit from digital technologies to support and enhance learning and development at school
- (b) expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices (including computers, laptops, tablets)
- (c) the school's commitment to promoting safe, responsible and discerning use of digital technologies, and educating students on appropriate responses to any dangers or threats to wellbeing that they may encounter when using the internet and digital technologies
- (d) our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour on digital technologies and the internet
- (e) the various Department policies on digital learning, including social media, that our school follows and implements when using digital technology
- (f) our school prioritises the safety of students whilst they are using digital technologies

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all students and staff at Canterbury Primary School.

Staff use of technology is also governed by the following Department policies:

- [Acceptable Use Policy for ICT Resources](#)
- [Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Digital Technologies](#)
- [Digital Learning in Schools](#) and
- [Social Media Use to Support Student Learning](#).

Staff, volunteers and school councillors also need to adhere to codes of conduct relevant to their respective roles. These codes include:

- Canterbury Primary School's Child Safety Code of Conduct
- [The Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#) (teaching staff)
- [Code of Conduct for Victorian Sector Employees](#) (staff)
- [Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities](#) (school councillors)

## DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, "digital technologies" are defined as digital devices, tools, applications and systems that students and teachers use for learning and teaching; this includes Department-provided software and locally sourced devices, tools and systems.

## POLICY

### Vision for digital learning at our school

The use of digital technologies is a mandated component of the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies, including the internet, apps, computers and tablets, can provide students with rich opportunities to support learning and development in a range of ways.

Through increased access to digital technologies, students can benefit from learning that is interactive, collaborative, personalised, engaging and transformative. Digital technologies enable our students to interact with and create high quality content, resources and tools. It also enables personalised learning tailored to students' particular needs and interests and transforms assessment, reporting and feedback, driving new forms of collaboration and communication.

Canterbury Primary School believes that the use of digital technologies at school allows the development of valuable skills and knowledge and prepares students to thrive in our globalised and inter-connected world. Our school's vision is to empower students to use digital technologies safely and appropriately to reach their personal best and fully equip them to contribute positively to society as happy, healthy young adults.

### Personal Devices at Canterbury Primary School

Canterbury Primary School operates a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, available to students in Years 3 – 6, if a family chooses to do so. Canterbury Primary School has iPads and laptops available in all learning centres, and no student will be disadvantaged if a student does not have a personal device.

Students are invited to bring their own device to school each day to be used during class time for different learning activities. When bringing their own device to school, the following points should be considered:

- It is recommended, but not required, that they are Apple or Windows devices, as they have been tested against the Department's enterprise standard wireless network, and are known to be compatible with the various apps and programs that make up the school curriculum
- The devices should operate on the following systems:
  - Windows version 10 or later
  - Mac OS 12 (Monterey) or later
  - iPad 6<sup>th</sup> generation or later, supporting iOS17
- Devices should be fully charged each morning and brought to school in a protective case
- The device does not use a virtual private network (VPN)

Please note that our school does not have insurance to cover accidental damage to students' devices, and parents/carers are encouraged to consider obtaining their own insurance for their child's device.

Students, parents and carers who would like more information or assistance regarding our BYOD program are encouraged to contact the school office who can refer the query to the appropriate member of staff.

### Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies

Digital technologies, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. At Canterbury Primary School, we are committed to educating all students to use digital technologies safely, equipping students with the skills and knowledge to navigate the digital world.

At Canterbury Primary School, we:

- use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning, and focus our use of digital technologies on being learning-centred
- use digital technologies in the classroom for specific purpose with targeted educational or developmental aims
- supervise and support students using digital technologies for their schoolwork
- effectively and responsively address any issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students
- have programs in place to educate our students to be safe, responsible and discerning users of digital technologies, which is delivered through our Health program from P - 6
- educate our students about digital issues such as privacy, intellectual property and copyright, and the importance of maintaining their own privacy and security online
- actively educate and remind students of our *Student Engagement* policy that outlines our School's values and expected student behaviour, including online behaviours
- have an Acceptable Use Agreement outlining the expectations of students when using digital technologies for their schoolwork, with a tailored version for junior school (Prep – 2) and senior school (Year 3 – 6) (See Annexure A)
- use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces, which includes reviewing the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities and removing offensive content at the earliest opportunity
- educate our students on appropriate responses to any dangers or threats to wellbeing that they may encounter when using the internet and other digital technologies
- provide a filtered internet service at school to block access to inappropriate content
- refer suspected illegal online acts to the relevant law enforcement authority for investigation
- support parents and carers to understand the safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home.

Distribution of school owned devices to students and personal student use of digital technologies at school will only be permitted where students and their parents/carers have completed a signed Acceptable Use Agreement.

It is the responsibility of all students to protect their own password and not divulge it to another person. If a student or staff member knows or suspects an account has been used by another person, the account holder must notify their classroom teacher, immediately.

All messages created, sent or retrieved on the school's network are the property of the school. The school reserves the right to access and monitor all messages and files on the computer system, as necessary and appropriate. Communications including text and images may be required to be disclosed to law enforcement and other third parties without the consent of the sender.

Information on supervision arrangements for students engaging in digital learning activities is available in our Yard Duty and Supervision Policy.

### **Social media use**

Our school follows the Department's policy on [Social Media Use to Support Learning](#) to ensure social media is used safely and appropriately in student learning and to ensure appropriate parent notification occurs or, where required, consent is sought. Where the student activity is visible to the public, it requires consent.

In accordance with the Department's policy on social media, staff will not 'friend' or 'follow' a student on a personal social media account, or accept a 'friend' request from a student using a personal social

media account unless it is objectively appropriate, for example where the student is also a family member of the staff.

If a staff member of our school becomes aware that a student at the school is 'following' them on a personal social media account, Department policy requires the staff member to ask the student to 'unfollow' them, and to notify the school and/or parent or carer if the student does not do so.

### Student behavioural expectations

When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with Canterbury Primary School's *Statement of Values, Student Wellbeing and Engagement* policy, and *Bullying Prevention* policy.

When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community (including cyberbullying, using digital technologies to harass, threaten or intimidate, or viewing/posting/sharing of inappropriate or unlawful content), Canterbury Primary School will institute a staged response, consistent with our student engagement and behaviour policies.

Breaches of this policy by students can result in a number of consequences which will depend on the severity of the breach and the context of the situation. This includes:

- removal of network access privileges
- removal of email privileges
- removal of internet access privileges
- removal of printing privileges
- other consequences as outlined in the school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and *Bullying Prevention* policies.

### COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction and child safety training processes
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

### POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2024
Consultation	Community Consultation, August 2024
Approved by	Principal, Carly Pluck
Next scheduled review date	September 2026

## ANNEXURE A: ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

### Acceptable Use Agreement



#### **Canterbury Primary School Acceptable Use Agreement for the Internet and Digital Technologies**

At Canterbury Primary School we support the right of all members of the school community to access safe and inclusive learning environments, including digital and online spaces. This form outlines the school's roles and responsibilities in supporting safe digital learning, as well as the expected behaviours we have of our students when using digital or online spaces.

At Canterbury Primary School we:

- have policies in place that outline our school's values and expected behaviours when students use digital technology and the internet
- have a digital citizenship program to promote the responsible use of digital technologies
- have updated our Acceptable Use Agreements (see attached) to ensure that they are developmentally appropriate for our students
- provide information to all CPS staff about digital access issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright
- supervise and support students using digital technologies for school-directed learning
- use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces. This includes reviewing the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities, removing offensive content at earliest opportunity
- provide a filtered internet service to block inappropriate content. We acknowledge, however, that full protection from inappropriate content cannot be guaranteed
- use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning
- address issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students
- support parents and caregivers to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home. The following resources provide current information from both the Department of Education & Training and The Children's eSafety Commission:
  - [Bullystoppers Parent Interactive Learning Modules](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx)  
([www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx))
  - [iParent | Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner](https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent)  
(<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>)

#### Mobile Phones & Wearable Devices

Parents are encouraged to read our school's Mobile Phone Policy, which is available on our website.

Please note that wearable devices, iPads and other personal devices are excluded from the policy, however, if they are brought to school, students must switch off all notifications during the school day and not use this device to make contact with other individuals via messaging applications.

## CANTERBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL



### Acceptable Use Agreement for Internet & Digital Technologies (Prep - 2)

*A note for parents:* Your child has participated in a lesson regarding this agreement. They have discussed ways to be a safe and responsible user of digital technology. Please support them with an additional conversation at home, prior to your child and yourself signing this agreement.

When I use digital technologies, I **communicate respectfully** by:

- always thinking and checking that what I write, or post is polite and respectful
- being kind to my friends and classmates and thinking about how the things I do or say online might make them feel
- not sending mean or bullying messages
- creating and presenting my own work, and if I copy something from online, letting my audience know by sharing the website link to acknowledge the creator.

When I use digital technologies, I **protect personal information** by being aware that my full name, photo, birthday, address and phone number is personal information and is not to be shared online.

This means I:

- protect my friends' information in the same way
- protect my passwords and don't share them with anyone except my parent or teacher
- never answer questions online that ask for my personal information
- know not to post three or more pieces of identifiable information about myself.

When I use digital technologies, I **respect myself and others** by thinking about what I share online.

This means I:

- stop to think about what I post or share online
- use spaces or sites that are appropriate, and if I am not sure I ask a trusted adult for help
- protect my friends' full names, birthdays, school names, addresses and phone numbers because this is their personal information
- speak to a trusted adult if I see something that makes me feel upset or if I need help
- speak to a trusted adult if someone is unkind to me or if I know someone else is upset
- don't deliberately search for something rude or violent
- turn off or close the screen if I see something I don't like and tell a trusted adult
- am careful with the equipment I use.

I will use this knowledge at school and everywhere I use digital technologies

### Student Agreement

**I agree to be a polite, safe and responsible user of digital technology.  
I will ask a trusted adult for help whenever I am unsure or feel unsafe.**

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## CANTERBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Acceptable Use Agreement for Internet & Digital Technologies (Year 3 – 6)



When I use digital technologies and the internet, I agree to be a safe and responsible user at all times by:

- Respecting others and communicating with them in a supportive manner
- Never participating in online bullying (e.g. forwarding messages and supporting others in harmful, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours)
- Protecting my privacy by not giving out personal details, including my full name, telephone number, address, passwords and images
- Protecting the privacy of others by never posting or forwarding their personal details or images without their consent
- Use the internet and social networking sites for educational purposes only
- Only taking and sharing photographs, sound or video recordings when others are aware the recording is taking place and have provided their consent as part of an approved lesson
- Talking to a teacher or a trusted adult if I personally feel uncomfortable or unsafe online, or if I see others participating in unsafe, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviour
- Reference sites if I use information that has been posted on the internet by others
- Protecting the privacy and security of my school community by not sharing or posting the link to a video conferencing meeting with others
- Seek to understand the terms and conditions of websites and online communities and be aware that anything I upload or post is my digital footprint
- Handling ICT devices with care and notifying a teacher of any damage or attention required
- Not downloading unauthorised programs, including games
- Not interfering with network systems and security or the data of another user
- Not attempting to log into the network or online service with a username or password of another person
- Not use software from home in school without teacher permission and supervision, for example, games.
- If I own and bring a wearable device or iPad to school, I will make sure all notifications are switched off, and I will not contact other individuals via messaging applications.

This agreement also applies during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.

I have read the Acceptable Use Agreement carefully and understand the significance of the conditions and agree to abide by these conditions. I understand that any breach of these conditions will result in internet and technology access privileges being renegotiated, suspended or revoked.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_