



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



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Office.

### 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 Footscray City 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:

- Footscray City 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



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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.

Footscray City 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.

### iPads/Chrome Books at Footscray City Primary School

Classes at Footscray City Primary School are delivered with the use of iPads and or Chrome Books.

Digital technology, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users’ safety or wellbeing. At Footscray City 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 Footscray City 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, including Cyber Safety
- 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



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- have an Acceptable Use Agreement outlining the expectations of students when using digital technologies for their schoolwork
- 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 through parent information sessions and correspondence from classroom teachers

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 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 Footscray City Primary School's *Statement of Values, Student Wellbeing and Engagement* policy, and *Bullying Prevention* policy.



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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), Footscray City 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
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Discussed at student forums/through communication tools
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	30 March, 2023
Approved by	Principal and School Council
Next scheduled review date	March, 2025

## ANNEXURE A: ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

### Acceptable Use Agreement

### Acceptable User Agreement

At Footscray City 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 school and home.

At our School we:

- Have a **Student Engagement Policy** that outlines our School's values and expected student behaviour. This Policy includes online behaviours;
- Have programs in place to educate our students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies.
- Educate our students about digital issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright;
- Supervise and support students using digital technologies in the classroom;
- 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, and other measures;
  - See: [Duty of Care and Supervision](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/prindutyca-re.aspx)  
([www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/prindutyca-re.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/prindutyca-re.aspx))
- 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;
- Refer suspected illegal online acts to the relevant Law Enforcement authority for investigation;
- Support parents and care-givers 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 &



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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>)

## Safe, responsible and behaviour

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 (*ask students to reflect on how they would feel.*)
- not sending mean or bullying messages or forwarding them to other people.
- 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.
- only ever join spaces with my parents or teacher's guidance and permission.
- 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.



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- 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 or scared.
- 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.

At school we/I have:

- discussed ways to be a safe, responsible and ethical user of digital technologies.
- presented my ideas around the ways that I can be a smart, safe, responsible and ethical user of digital technologies.

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

## Signature

I understand and agree to comply with the terms of acceptable use and expected standards of behaviour set out within this agreement.

I understand that there are actions and consequences established within the school's Student Engagement Policy if I do not behave appropriately.

Student name: .....



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Student signature: .....

School contact name: .....

School contact email: [footscray.city.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:footscray.city.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Parent/Guardian Name: .....

Parent/Guardian Signature: .....

Date: .....





## ANEXURE B: EQUIPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

### Equipment Loan Agreement

School:	Footscray City Primary School
School Representative:	Jessie Hand
School Representative contact details:	footscray.city.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Recipient (Parent/Carer):	
Student:	
Device:	
Model/Serial Number of Device:	
Remote Learning Period Start Date	
Device Return Date	

In consideration of the School, at the request of the Recipient, making available the Device to the Student for educational purposes during the Remote Learning Period, the Recipient agrees to the following terms and conditions:

The Recipient agrees to:

1. Supervise the Student's use of the Device at all times during the remote Learning Period and comply with the school's [Acceptable Use Agreement](#).
2. Ensure that the Device is only used for access to education related sites and not used to access inappropriate content. Refer to attached guidelines on safety.
3. Comply with any direction to load or update software that controls access to content and ensure that this software is in operation
4. Maintain the Device in good working order and ensure that the Student uses the Device in accordance with the Device manufacturer's instructions
5. Ensure the Device is not misused or tampered with by any person
6. All times keep the Device under his or her personal control both during and outside school hours
7. Notify the School Representative immediately following any loss or damage to the Device



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8. Ensure the Device is returned to the School at the end of the Remote Learning Period or within 5 business days of the School requesting the Device be returned.

The Recipient agrees that:

1. The School can request the return of the Device at any time.  
In the event the Device is lost or damaged (eg. if loss is caused by leaving the Device in an unlocked or unattended vehicle or some other negligent act), then the Recipient may not be eligible to borrow a replacement Device from the School. I understand that by borrowing a FCPS device I am responsible for the item to be returned in its' original state. Damage or loss to property provided by FCPS will result in payment by the Recipient for any repairs required, excess fees or market value of items lost.
2. On completion of the Remote Learning Period the Device will be returned to the School in good repair, condition and working order, ordinary wear and tear excepted.

Signed by Recipient: .....

Date:

Signed on behalf of School: .....

Date: