



## Digital Technologies Policy

### *Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices*

#### Rationale

This policy exists to provide a framework for effective and accessible use of digital technologies.

#### Aim

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

- Our commitment to providing students with the opportunity to benefit from digital technologies to support and enhance learning and development at school.
- Expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices (including computers, laptops, tablets).
- 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.
- Our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour on digital technologies and the internet.

#### Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, *'digital technologies'* are defined as being any networks, systems, software or hardware – including electronic devices and applications – which allow a user to access, receive, view, record, store, communicate, copy or send any information such as text, images, audio, or video.

#### Implementation

##### **VISION FOR DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AT OUR SCHOOL**

Fairfield Primary School understands that digital technologies – including the internet, apps, computers and tablets – 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 enhanced learning that is interactive, collaborative, personalised and engaging. 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.

Fairfield 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 to reach their personal best and fully equip them to contribute positively to society as happy, healthy young adults.

##### **SAFE AND APPROPRIATE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

Digital technology, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. At Fairfield Primary School, we are committed to educating all students to be safe, responsible and discerning in the use of digital technologies, equipping them with skills and knowledge to navigate the digital age.



At Fairfield Primary, we:

- Use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning, and focus our use of digital technologies on being learning-centred.
- Restrict the use of digital technologies in the classroom to specific uses with targeted educational or developmental aims.
- Supervise and support students using digital technologies in the classroom.
- 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 in their use of digital technologies, including *Cyber Teach Toolkit*, *ACMA Cybersmart* and [esafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au).
- Educate our students about digital issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright, and the importance of maintaining their own privacy online.
- Actively educate and remind students of our [Student Engagement](#) and [Bullying Prevention](#) policies that outlines our school's values and expected student behaviour, including online behaviours.
- Use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces, which includes reviewing the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities, 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 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 safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home through updates in our newsletter and annual information sheets.

### STUDENT BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with Fairfield Primary School's values, Student 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), Fairfield Primary School will institute a staged response, consistent with our policies and the Department's guidelines.

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 Engagement](#) and [Bullying Prevention](#) policies.



## Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of Fairfield Primary School's 3-year review cycle in August 2021.

This policy was ratified by School Council in **August 2018**