



ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY



RATIONALE

Technology plays a key role in teaching and learning and safe and appropriate practices need to be developed with students to ensure the internet and technology devices are used in the proper manner. Technology is ever changing and students need to develop a smart, safe and responsible attitude that can be utilised with a range of devices, the internet and applied to new technologies.

The internet provides students with unprecedented opportunities to access and publish information, engage in discussion, and liaise with individuals, organisations and groups world-wide so as to increase skills, knowledge and abilities.

AIMS

- To improve student learning outcomes by empowering students to access information.
- To develop a smart, safe and responsible use of the internet and technology devices
- To develop a partnership with parents and carers to foster students' smart, safe and responsible usage of the internet

IMPLEMENTATION

- Foster Primary School is an eSmart school. The eSmart program aims to develop safe, smart and responsible users of technology
- eSmart is incorporated into curriculum areas, specific lessons, Integrated Studies units and part of the Student Wellbeing and Engagement policy.
- Our school actively supports access by students to the widest variety of information resources available, accompanied by the development of the skills necessary to filter, analyse, interpret and evaluate information encountered.
 - Inappropriate use of the internet and electronic devices will be dealt with according to the Foster Primary School Student Engagement and Wellbeing, Behaviour Policies and Consequences Chart.
 - All students and staff at our school have censorship filtered internet and email access. Such access is a privilege that infers responsibility, and not simply a right to be expected.
 - Access to requested filtered sites is considered after processes and understandings are developed with staff and students
 - All staff have their own password protected login onto Compass.
 - The school undertakes to ensure that information published on the Internet by students or the school is of a high standard, and meets legal requirements and standards of general practice within the community in relation to copyright, safety and decency.
 - Students' email access will be provided through Compass and DET approved providers where monitoring will occur.
 - All email accounts are password protected and users are responsible for clearing their mailboxes regularly.
 - All students are responsible for notifying their teacher or coordinator of any inappropriate material so that access can be blocked.
 - Consequences of publishing, accessing or failing to notify the coordinator of inappropriate material shall include the removal of access rights.

- Privacy of students, parents, staff and other users must be recognised and respected at all times. When identifying students, only the student's first name will be used.
- Signed parent and student consent (see attached) is required to be completed in order to gain or continue access to the internet, or to publish work, photos or videos on the internet.
- In reaching this agreement:
 - The school will:
 - review their expected values and behaviours for the use of digital technologies and articulate these in their Student Engagement/Wellbeing Policy
 - articulate how they will meet their duty of care in the use of digital technologies and add additional measures or details around programs to the agreement. The conditions stated in the agreement are basic requirements ([behaviour form](#) and [consequences chart](#))
 - ensure every student and parent has agreed and signed the agreement ([Prep-2](#) and [3-6 agreement](#) and [Google docs agreement](#))
 - communicate with and support parents/carers, students and teachers to ensure they fully understand the agreement

Teachers will:

- discuss the agreement with their students and ensure they understand each dot point
- develop a classroom environment that promotes safe and responsible behaviour online

Parents/carers will:

- read and understand what the school will do to support the safe and responsible use of digital technology i.e. [consequences chart](#)
- read through the agreements and discuss it with their child to ensure they understand each dot point
- consider how they might support safe and responsible behaviour online at home

Students will:

- read through the agreement/s with their parents/carers and their teacher to ensure they fully understand what they are agreeing to
- negotiate appropriately through representative groups or directly with teachers and parents/carers about issues or changes to improve the agreement/s
- sign and abide by the agreement/s

EVALUATION

- This policy will be reviewed annually.