

# 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 including our 1-to-1 personal device program.
- (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 Yallourn North 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:

- Yallourn North 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.

Yallourn North 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 Yallourn North Primary School

Classes at our school are delivered with the use of iPads/tablets/notebook computers.

Yallourn North Primary School can refer parents to government or community support programs that may help them if they wish to purchase a device for their child to own, rather than use what is provided for free by the school.

### Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies

Digital technologies, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users’ safety or wellbeing. At Yallourn North 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 Yallourn North 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
- 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
- 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 updates on our app.

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 the Principal, 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 Yallourn North 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), Yallourn North 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
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	2022
Consultation	School council
Approved by	Principal and School Council
Next scheduled review date	2024

# Acceptable Use Agreement

## B: Student Declaration

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

- Respecting others and communicating with them in a supportive manner; never writing or participating in online bullying (for example, forwarding messages and supporting others in harmful, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours)
- Protecting my privacy; not giving out personal details, including my full name, telephone number, address, passwords and images
- Protecting the privacy of others; never posting or forwarding their personal details or images without their consent
- Talking to a teacher if I personally feel uncomfortable or unsafe online, or if I see others participating in unsafe, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours
- Carefully considering the content that I upload or post online; this is often viewed as a personal reflection of who I am
- Investigating the terms and conditions (e.g. age restrictions, parental consent requirements). If my understanding is unclear I will seek further explanation from a trusted adult
- Confirming that I meet the stated terms and conditions; completing the required registration processes with factual responses about my personal details
- Handling ICT devices with care and notifying a teacher if it is damaged or requires attention
- Abiding by copyright and intellectual property regulations. If necessary, I will request permission to use images, text, audio and video and cite references

- Not interfering with network systems and security, the data of another user or attempting to log into the network with a user name or password of another student
- Not bringing to school or downloading unauthorised programs, including games.

In additions, when I use my personal mobile phone, I agree to be a safe, responsible and ethical user at all times, by:

- Respecting others and communicating with them in a supportive manner; never verbally or in writing participating in bullying (for example, harassing phone calls/text messages, supporting others in harmful, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours by forwarding messages)
- Keeping the device on silent during class times; only making or answering calls or messages outside of lesson times (except for approved learning purposes)
- Respecting the privacy of others; only taking photos or recording sound or video at school when I have formal consent or it is part of an approved lesson
- Obtaining appropriate (written) consent from individuals who appear in images or sound and video recordings before forwarding them to other people or posting/ uploading them to online spaces.



# Acceptable Use Agreement

## C: Conditions of use for school-owned devices

This includes those purchased under the National Secondary School Computer Fund (NSSCF)

### Equipment

#### *Ownership*

If taken home, the student must bring portable devices fully-charged to school every day.

The school retains ownership of the device until the student completes Year 12. At this time ownership of the device will be determined by the school.

Parents/guardians and students should be aware that files stored on the device, or on the school's server, are not private.

If the student leaves the school prior to completing Year 12 or moves to another government or non-government school, interstate or overseas, the device must be returned to the school.



#### *Damage or loss of equipment*

All devices and batteries are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. The warranty covers manufacturer's defects and normal use of the device. It does not cover negligence, abuse or malicious damage.

Any problems, vandalism, damage, loss or theft of the device must be reported immediately to the school.

In the case of suspected theft, a police report must be made by the family and a copy of the report provided to the school.

In the case of loss or accidental damage, a statement should be signed by a parent/carer and provided to the school.

Students may be required to replace lost or damaged chargers.

If a device is damaged or lost, the principal or their nominee will determine whether replacement is appropriate and/or whether the student retains access to a device for home use.

If a device is damaged and the damage is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty or any of the school's insurance arrangements, the principal may determine that the student will pay the costs of repairing the damage or if necessary the costs of replacing the device.

#### *Standards for device*

The student is responsible for:

Adhering to the school's Acceptable Use Agreement or Student Engagement Policy when using the machine, both at home and school.

Backing up data securely.

Maintaining settings for virus protection, spam and filtering that have been set as a Departmental standard.

# Acceptable Use Agreement

## Definition of Digital Technologies

This Acceptable Use Agreement applies to digital technologies, social media tools and learning environments established by our school or accessed using school owned networks or systems, including (although are not limited to):

- School owned ICT devices (e.g. desktops, laptops, printers, scanners)
- Mobile phones
- Email and instant messaging
- Internet, Intranet and Ultranet
- Social networking sites (e.g. Facebook, SuperClubsPLUS)
- Video and photo sharing websites (e.g. Picasa, Youtube)
- Blogs
- Micro-blogs (e.g. Twitter)
- Forums, discussion boards and groups (e.g. Google groups, Whirlpool)
- Wikis (e.g. Wikipedia)
- Vod and podcasts
- Video conferences and web conferences.

This Acceptable Use Agreement applies when I am using any of the above digital technologies at school, at home, during school excursions, camps and extra-curricula activities.

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.

## Details

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

School contact name \_\_\_\_\_

School contact no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian A: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian A Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

