



Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media & Digital Devices)

POLICY

Mount Pleasant Road Primary School

A. Rationale:

- A.1.** Mount Pleasant Road Primary School understands that safe and appropriate use of digital technologies including the internet, apps, computers and tablets provide students with rich opportunities to support learning and development in a range of ways.
- A.2.** 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.
- A.3** Mount Pleasant Road Primary School is an accredited eSmart school and promotes cyber safety in the community. eSmart Schools is an initiative designed to help schools improve cybersafety and reduce cyberbullying and bullying.
- A.4** Explicitly teaching students about safe and responsible online behaviours is essential, and is best taught in partnership with parents/guardians.
- A.5.** Our school operates a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for students in Years 3-6, which means students must bring their own purchased or leased iPad with them to school each day. For students in Years Foundation to Grade 2, the school will provide access to class ipads.

B. Aims:

- B.1.** To reinforce, complement and extend learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Digital Technology focuses on providing students with the tools to transform their learning and to enrich their learning environment. The knowledge, skills and behaviours identified for this domain enable students to:
- B.1.1.** Develop new thinking and learning skills that produce creative and innovative insights
- B.1.2.** Develop more productive ways of working and solve problems individually and collaboratively
- B.1.3.** Create information products that demonstrate their understanding of concepts, issues, relationships and processes
- B.1.4.** Express themselves in contemporary and socially relevant ways
- B.1.5.** Communicate locally and globally to solve problems and to share knowledge
- B.1.6.** Explicitly instructing students in the responsibilities and risks inherent in using digital and online resources
- B.1.7** Safeguarding against the negative effects of cyberbullying through careful monitoring, prompt reporting and employing restorative practices in the aftermath of any instance of cyber bullying

C. Implementation:

- C.1.** Digital Technologies is an essential component of the Technologies learning area of the Victorian Curriculum.
- C.2.** All students at our school will study a sequential Digital Technologies course based upon the content descriptions contained within the Victorian Curriculum which will be embedded in all subject areas and taught by teachers throughout the school.
- C.4.** Students' individual abilities will be measured at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities provided that cater for the identified needs of students
- C.5.** Teachers restrict the use of digital technologies in the classroom to specific uses with targeted educational or developmental aims
- C.6** Teachers supervise and support students using digital technologies in the classroom
- C.5.** Digital Technologies activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child's ability, will form a regular component of each student's homework in Years 3 to 6.
- C.6.** Student progress in Digital Technologies will be reported in half-year and end of year reports with standards for assessing and reporting on student achievement introduced at Year 1.
- C.7.** A budget to provide for the needs of the Digital Technologies program, including professional development will be developed in consultation with all staff and resourced by school council.
- C.8.** All students will undertake a cybersafety program and be required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement (attached) with their parents before they will be allowed to access online content.
- C.9.** The school community will be provided with cyber-safety information on a regular basis.
- C.10** The school will have an active eSmart Committee, which consists of staff and parent representatives and consults with students through the Student Representative Council. The role of the committee is to guide the introduction of policies and practices to support the creation of a cybersafe or eSmart environment.
- C.11.** Incidents of cyberbullying will not be tolerated at Mount Pleasant Road Primary School and victims and their parents/carers will be encouraged to report incidents to the school or authorities if necessary.
- C.12.** Incidents of cyberbullying will be dealt with as outlined in the school's Bullying and Cyberbullying and Student Engagement and Wellbeing policies.
- C.13.** We will endeavour to support families in dealing with incidents outside of school as the impact of some incidents can also impact the student at school.
- C.14.** Students must bring a charged iPad to school each day to be used during class time for different learning activities and students will be required to use a protective case.
- C.15.** Our school does not have insurance to cover accidental damage to students' iPads, and parents/carers are encouraged to consider obtaining their own insurance for their child's iPad.
- C.16.** Mount Pleasant Road Primary School has in place arrangements to support families who may be experiencing long or short-term hardship to access iPads for schoolwork. We also have a small number of spare iPads that can be loaned to students in certain circumstances during school hours.

D. Evaluation:

- D.1.** This guideline will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle

E. Appendix:

- E.1.** Acceptable Use Agreement 2020 Dig Tech and BYOD 3-6
- E.2.** Acceptable Use Agreement Dig Tech F-2

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.....

Mar 2020