



TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the General Office on (03) 5195 5244.

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 of Education and Training (DET) 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 Traralgon South Primary School.

Staff use of technology is also governed by the following DET 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:

- Traralgon South 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:

1. Vision for Digital Technology 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.

Traralgon South 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.

2. Safe and Appropriate Use of Digital Technologies:

Digital technologies, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users’ safety or wellbeing. At Traralgon South 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 Traralgon South 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
- 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

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 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.

3. Social Media Use:

Our school follows the DET 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 DET 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, DET 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.

4. Student Behavioural Expectations:

When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with Traralgon South Primary School's Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy, 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), Traralgon South 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.

REVIEW CYCLE:

This policy was last ratified by School Council on 15 August 2022 and is scheduled for review in 2024.

APPENDIX A



Acceptable Use Agreement



School Profile Statement:

At Traralgon South 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 our school we:

- Have a Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy, and Bullying Prevention Policy that outlines our school's values and expected student behaviour. These policies include online behaviours;
- 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](#)
- Provide a filtered internet service to block inappropriate content. We acknowledge, however, that full protection from inappropriate content cannot be guaranteed;
- 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; and
- Refer suspected illegal online acts to the relevant Law Enforcement authority for investigation.

Safe and Responsible 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;
- Not sending mean or bullying messages or forwarding them to other people; and
- 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; and
- 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;
- 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; and
- Am careful with the equipment I use.

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

Student Agreement/Licence

(Teacher or Principal)

acknowledges the commitment of

(Student)

**to being a polite, safe, responsible and ethical user of
digital technologies.**

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

I understand that there are actions and consequences established within the relevant school policies if I do not behave appropriately.

Student signature

Parent signature

Teacher/Principal signature

Date