

## PURPOSE

To ensure that all students and members of the Bayswater Secondary College 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 the MBYOD (managed bring your own device) program
- (b) expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices (including computers, laptops, tablets, mobile phones)
- (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

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Bayswater Secondary College.

Staff use of technology is governed by the Department's *Acceptable Use Policy*.

## 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.

## POLICY

### **Vision for digital technology at our school**

This school understands that digital technologies including the internet, applications, 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.

The school believes that the use of digital technologies 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 safely use digital technologies to reach their personal best and fully equip them to contribute positively to society as happy, healthy young adults.

## **ICT and Digital Technologies at Bayswater Secondary College**

Curriculum and learning programs at the college are designed to be enhanced by the use of digital technologies. Laptops and other tablet devices foster 21st century learning skills such as collaboration, digital literacy, inquiry and creativity. We believe digital technologies are the tool to make learning engaging, relevant to the students and are an integral part of preparing our students for the future.

Digital devices, hardware and software are used to enhance their literacy and numeracy sessions, with applications that allow for shared reading and note taking. Students are able present their learning in a variety of ways, including posters, keynote presentations, videos, slide shows, mind maps, books and custom designed programs.

The school recognises the need for students to be safe, responsible and appropriate users of digital technologies. We believe that explicitly teaching students about safe and responsible online behaviours is essential, and is best taught in partnership with parents/guardians. We request that parents/carers work with us to encourage and promote safe online behaviour at all times.

A "*Responsible Use Agreement*" must be signed and returned to the college as soon as possible. Please refer to Appendix A.

Digital technology, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. 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.

The school operates in an eSmart manner. 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 promoting safe, responsible and discerning use of digital technologies
- 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 Wellbeing & Engagement* policy that outlines our school's values and expected student behaviour, including online behaviours
- have a *Responsible Use Agreement* outlining the expectations of students when using digital technology at school (please refer to Appendix A)
- 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 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/carers to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home through regular updates and communications.

Distribution of school owned devices to students and personal student use of digital technologies at school (including being connected to the college network) will only be permitted where students and their parents/carers have completed and signed a *Responsible 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.

## Student behavioural expectations

When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with the school's *Statement of Values & Philosophy, Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and the *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), the school will institute a staged response, consistent with our policies and the Department's *Student Engagement and Wellbeing 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 Wellbeing and Engagement and Bullying Prevention* policies.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

References:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/socialmedia.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/socialmedia.aspx)

[www.education.vic.gov.au/education/principals/spag/management/Pages/personaldev.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/education/principals/spag/management/Pages/personaldev.aspx)

Please refer also to the school's:

- Social Media Policy
- (and the) Personal Devices – Parent Payments & Access Policy.

This policy will be published on the BSC website.

## REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION

This policy, first developed in this format in May 2019 and updated in August 2019, will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET update late January 2019).

This update was ratified by School Council in September 2019.

Further updates to this policy were completed in September 2020, amending sections to address:

- MBYOD program
- School's mobile phone student use policy

This update was ratified by School Council in November 2020.



Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media, Devices) Policy

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## Appendix A

### Responsible Use Agreement

#### Student Declaration

When I use digital technologies and the internet 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 participating in online bullying (e.g. forwarding messages and supporting others in harmful, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours).
- Protecting my privacy by not giving out personal details, including my full name, telephone number, address, passwords and images.
- Protecting the privacy of others by never posting or forwarding their personal details or images without their consent.
- Talking to a teacher or a trusted adult if I personally feel uncomfortable or unsafe online, or if I see others participating in unsafe, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviour.
- Thinking carefully about the content I upload or post online, knowing that this is a personal reflection of who I am and can influence what people think of me.
- Reviewing the terms and conditions of use for any digital or online tool (e.g. age restrictions, parental consent requirements), and if my understanding is unclear seeking further explanation from a trusted adult.
- Meeting the stated terms and conditions for any digital or online tool, and completing the required registration processes.
- Handling ICT devices with care and notifying a teacher of any damage or attention required.
- Abiding by copyright and intellectual property regulations by requesting permission to use images, text, audio and video, and attributing references appropriately.
- Not accessing media that falls outside the school's policies.
- Not downloading unauthorised programs, including games.
- Not interfering with network systems and security or the data of another user.
- Nor attempting to log into the network with a user name or password of another student.



# Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media, Devices) Policy

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

- Adhering to the school's *Mobile Phone Policy Student Use*

**Signature**

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 Wellbeing & Engagement Policy* if I do not behave appropriately.

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

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

School contact names for support and /or agreement:  
Principal: Adam Smith | Assistant Principal: Chris Christofidis  
School contact no.: 03 8720-7555