



Derrimut
Primary School

Digital Technologies Policy

(Internet, Social Media and Digital
Devices)



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

Purpose

To ensure that all students and members of our school community understand:

- 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
- expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices (including computers, laptops, tablets)
- 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
- our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour on digital technologies and the internet
- the various Department policies on digital learning, including social media, that our school follows and implements when using digital technology
- our school prioritises the safety of students whilst they are using digital technologies

Scope

This policy applies to all students and staff at Derrimut 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:

- Derrimut 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 locally sourced devices, tools and systems.

Policy

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.

Derrimut 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.

iPads at Derrimut Primary School

As part of Derrimut Primary School's 1:1 iPad program, students in Year 3-6 at Derrimut Primary School are provided with an iPad in Term One of each year. The device is on loan and remains property of Derrimut Primary School. Before iPads are distributed to students, both parents and students will need to sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement (see Appendix A).

Derrimut Primary School does not provide a charger for the device and this will need to be purchased separately by each family.

In the event of damage to the device at home or on the way to and from school, or if the student is found to have breached the Acceptable Use Agreement an excess of \$160 is charged to the families. If the iPad is damaged at school, during learning time with no breach to the Acceptable Use Agreement, Derrimut Primary School covers the cost of the repair.

Any student who leaves Derrimut Primary School throughout the term of the agreement must return the device in its original case in full working order without damage.

At the end of the agreement all students must return the device in full working order and without Damage.

Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies

Digital technologies, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. At Derrimut 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 Derrimut 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 regular updates in our newsletter, information sheets, website/school portal and information sessions.

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 their classroom teacher, and/or the leadership team, 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 Active Supervision (Yard Duty) 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.

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 Derrimut Primary School's Student Wellbeing Handbook.

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), Derrimut 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 device privileges
- removal of internet access privileges
- removal of printing privileges
- other consequences as outlined in the school's Student Wellbeing Handbook.

If any of the privileges are removed from a student, a meeting between the parent, student and teacher is to take place before the privileges are reinstated.



Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's 2 year review cycle.

Appendix A: Acceptable Use Agreement

Communication

This policy is presented at and ratified by School Council, as per Department of Education Policy Requirements.

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
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Policy Last Reviewed	8 September 2025
Consultation School Council	10 September 2025
Approved by Principal	8 September 2025
Next scheduled review date	September 2027