Digital technology at Badger Creek Primary School

Our commitment to the responsible use of digital technology

At Badger Creek Primary School we are committed to building a culture of respect and responsibility. We show this in the way we use technology and interact online. We teach our students about responsible digital behaviours, including how to recognise and respond to online dangers and threats. We support students to develop the digital skills they need to make a positive impact in the world. We are intentional and discerning about our integration of digital tools into the curriculum, providing rich, interactive and personalised experiences, while ensuring a balance with offline learning opportunities.

What we do

	**We set clear expectations** • We have clear expectations about appropriate conduct using digital technologies. • Our **Mobile Phone Policy** outlines our school's expectations relating to students using mobile phones during school hours. • We have clear and appropriate consequences when students breach these expectations, in line with our **Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy**.
	**We teach appropriate conduct** • We teach our students to be safe, intentional and responsible users of digital technologies, including age-appropriate instruction on important digital issues such as cybersafety and cyberbullying. We do this through our DigiTech scope and sequence alongside our connection with the Cyber Safety Project.
	**We partner with families** • We work with parents and carers to understand the digital technology-related issues they are facing at home. We support them with information and tools that help.
	**We provide access to technology** • We provide access to educational software for students to use on both laptops and iPads. • Students have their own Microsoft credentials • DE creates student email accounts which are non-identifiable.
	**We supervise digital learning** • We supervise students using digital technologies in the classroom, consistent with our duty of care. • We use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces.
	**We take appropriate steps to protect students** • We provide a filtered internet service to block inappropriate content. Full protection from inappropriate content cannot be guaranteed, however, we have processes to report and act on inappropriate content. • We may access and monitor messages and files sent or saved our network, if necessary and appropriate.
	**We appropriately manage and respond to online incidents** • We work to prevent, respond, and learn from issues or incidents relating to the use of digital technology, including cybersecurity incidents, cyberbullying and risks to child safety. • We refer suspected illegal online acts to the police.

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How parents and carers can help

Below are our suggestions for ways you can support your children to responsibly use digital technology.

	**Establish clear routines**
	• Talk to your child about expectations including when, where, and how digital devices can be used at home, ensuring these rules are age-appropriate and consistent. These can include:
	  ○ Requiring devices to be used in a common area, such as a living room or kitchen
	  ○ Setting up a specific area for charging devices overnight, away from bedrooms, to promote better sleep hygiene.
	• Be present when your child is using digital devices, especially for younger children who may not yet understand online risks.

	**Restrict inappropriate content** • Use built-in parental controls on devices and apps to help manage their device access and restrict inappropriate content, including apps and websites that are not suitable for their age group. • Consider restricting the use of non-educational apps and apps with addictive game mechanics (e.g. rewards, badges, limited exit options).
	**Talk about online safety** • Talk with your child about the importance of protecting personal information and recognising online scams. • Talk with your child about age restrictions on social media and explore other ways they can connect with their friends online and offline. • Encourage your child to talk to you or another trusted adult if they feel unsafe online.
	**Model responsible and balanced technology use** • Encourage a healthy balance between screen time and offline activities, especially outdoor unstructured play and time with friends and family, face-to-face. * • Demonstrate responsible and balanced tech use in your own daily routine to set a good example for your child.
	**Work with us** • Let your child's teacher know about concerns you have regarding their technology use • Keep informed about what your child is learning at school, so you can help reinforce positive messages at home.

***Australia's physical activity and sedentary behaviour guidelines** include the following recommendations for children between 5-17 years-old regarding sedentary recreational screen time:

- no more than 2 hours of sedentary recreational screen time per day
- avoiding screen time 1 hour before sleep
- keeping screens out of the bedroom.

Source: Australia's physical activity and sedentary behaviour guidelines, https://www.health.gov.au/topics/physical-activity-and-exercise/physical-activity-and-exercise-guidelines-for-all-australians/for-children-and-young-people-5-to-17-years.

Support for parents and carers

To learn more about how to support the safe, intentional and responsible use of digital technologies at home, the eSafety Commissioner provides resources for parents, and outlines available counselling and support services.

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For students

At Badger Creek Primary School staff and students use digital technologies in an intentional way, meaning appropriately balancing teaching and learning with and without digital technologies, and using digital technologies in carefully considered ways that support learning and wellbeing outcomes, while reducing the potential risks associated with its use. In the agreements below we outline behavioural expectations regarding the safe, intentional and responsible use of digital technologies to students, in language that is age appropriate. These agreements will be explained at school and shared with families.

ICT agreements below to be signed by students and families

3-6

ICT and Internet Usage Code of Practice
Years 3 to 6
Student Agreement

I agree to use the Internet in a responsible manner, but if I find myself in unsuitable locations, I will immediately turn off my device and inform a teacher. I agree to act in a responsible manner when communicating using any computer devices or the Internet.

When using any Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) and Internet at Badger Creek Primary School, I will:

- only work on a computer or the internet for purposes specified by my teacher.
- not give out personal information such as my surname, address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or anything that can identify me, my family or where I live.
- never upload my photo without first checking with my teacher.
- never use another person's media (images, audio or video) without first checking with my teacher and the student to whom it belongs.
- write any communication using only language I understand is acceptable in my school.
- not respond to any messages that are unpleasant or that make me feel uncomfortable in any way and report to a trusted adult as soon as possible.
- only upload things that I have created myself or I have permission to use. I will not copy people's ideas without their permission.
- not use the Internet to harass or annoy another person.
- not encourage or influence other students to use technologies and the Internet to break any of these rules.
- follow school guidelines and procedures when preparing materials for publication on the web.
- promptly report any breaches of these rules that I discover to a teacher

When online I will…

BE SAFE BE KIND BE A LEARNER

I understand that breaches of the rules will see me lose my computer usage, subscribed websites and Internet access rights for a period of time determined by the school.

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My Technology Promise

iPads, Computers and internet connected devices

- ✓ I will not eat or drink near the computer/iPad
- ✓ I will take care of the school's computers/iPads
- ✓ I will do what my teacher has told me to do on the computer/iPad
- ✓ I will not give out my password or my details others
- ✓ I will share the computer/iPad with other people
- ✓ Before I take a photo/video of people I will ask them if it's OK
- ✓ If I do not know what to do, I will ask my teacher for help
- ✓ I will tell my teacher if I see anything that makes me feel uncomfortable

I know that if I do not follow these rules I will not be allowed on computers/iPads.

I acknowledge your commitment and will support you to safely use and learn about digital technologies.

