



Digital Citizenship in the Preparatory School

Digital citizenship is the ability to use digital technologies, the internet, and online platforms safely, responsibly, ethically, and effectively. Digital citizenship is taught across all year levels, during e-Learning lessons in the Preparatory School.

Year 1

Students will learn to:

- Ask a trusted adult for permission before going online.
- Identify different types of technology used in everyday life.
- Understand the importance of balancing screentime with other activities.
- Identify trusted adults who can help with online concerns.
- Recognise what personal information is and why it should be kept private.

Year 2

Students will learn to:

- Ask for permission before going online.
- Recognise that actions online create a digital footprint.
- Explain what personal information is and identify information that is safe or unsafe to share online.
- Show kindness and respect when communicating online.
- Describe how trusted adults can help when something online feels unsafe.

Year 3

Students will learn to:

- Protect personal information by making safe choices online.
- Understand the purpose of passwords and identify how to keep them safe.
- Use problem-solving strategies to respond to common digital citizenship scenarios.
- Demonstrate respectful online behaviour.
- Apply safe practices when participating in online games and virtual communities.
- Know how to seek help from a trusted adult if something feels unsafe online.

Year 4

Students will learn to:

- Evaluate what information is appropriate to share in different online situations.
- Apply help-seeking strategies in a variety of online situations.
- Explain what cyberbullying is and recognise its impacts.
- Apply strategies for responding to and reporting cyberbullying.
- Demonstrate safe and responsible behaviour when gaming online.
- Reflect on and manage healthy technology use and screen habits.



Year 5

Students will learn to:

- Manage and protect their digital footprint.
- Protect personal information online.
- Identify different forms of cyberbullying and how it can affect a person's well-being.
- Understand the importance of seeking help and reporting unsafe or upsetting experiences online.
- Recognise misinformation and use simple fact-checking strategies.
- Demonstrate safe participation in online gaming spaces.

Year 6

Students will learn to:

- Demonstrate the rights and responsibilities of a digital citizen.
- Apply online safety practices to manage risks.
- Understand safe and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence tools.
- Recognise the risks associated with online gaming, communication and content sharing.
- Recognise their responsibility in creating positive online environments.
- Know when and how to report, block and save evidence of harmful online behaviour.

Year 7 and 8

SOCIAL MEDIA

Students will learn to:

- Understand how social media is used and its positive and negative impacts.
- Identify age limits on a range of social media apps and understand why these limits are set.
- Recognise how social media can influence our thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
- Identify safe and unsafe ways to communicate online.
- Identify ways to keep safe and minimise risks when using Snapchat.

LOCATION SETTINGS

Students will learn to:

- Recognise the benefits and risks of sharing their location online.
- Adjust location and privacy settings on their devices to make safer choices.



CYBERBULLYING

Students will learn to:

- Review the *Harmful Digital Communications Act* and understand its principles.
- Understand their responsibility as a digital citizen to help create safe and positive online spaces.
- Identify different forms of cyberbullying and how it can affect a person's well-being.
- Identify safe and appropriate ways to respond when they experience or witness cyberbullying.
- Know when and how to report, block and save evidence of harmful online behaviour.
- Identify trusted adults and support people they can talk to if they are worried about cyberbullying.
- Analyse how online actions can affect their reputation and future opportunities.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Students will learn to:

- Use AI responsibly and ethically, including understanding when it is appropriate to use AI for schoolwork.
- Recognise that AI can make mistakes and produce inaccurate, biased or misleading information.
- Evaluate AI-generated information and check it against reliable sources.
- Understand the importance of protecting personal information when using AI tools.
- Develop critical thinking skills when interacting with AI-generated content.

MISINFORMATION

Students will learn to:

- Analyse how misinformation and disinformation are created and spread online.
- Evaluate the credibility, bias and purpose of digital content.

PARENT RESOURCES

- **Netsafe - netsafe.org.nz**
Netsafe provides free support, advice, and education to help deal with online scams, cyberbullying, and digital harassment.
- **Hector's World - hectorsworld.com/nz/parents**
Advice for parents of primary-aged children about digital citizenship, online privacy, and safe internet habits.
- **Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015**