



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (INTERNET, SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL DEVICES)

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 BYOD program for Yr 7-12.
- (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

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Kerang Technical High School.

Staff use of technology is governed by the Department's *Acceptable Use Policy* and the Kerang Technical High School Bully Busters 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

At Kerang Technical High School we support the rights of all members of the school community to be provided with and engage in a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment. This extends to the use of digital tools and online communities and is underpinned by our expectation of safe and responsible behaviour of all members of the school community.



At our school we:

- have a **Student Engagement Policy – Electronic Devices Policy** that states our school's values and expected standards of student behaviour, including actions and consequences for inappropriate online behaviour
- educate our students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies. *(Include any specific programs or approaches the school undertakes.)*
- raise our students' awareness of issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright
- supervise and support students when using digital technologies within the classroom and establish clear protocols and procedures when working in online spaces including reviewing and considering the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities:
 - Bullystoppers Duty of Care and Supervision
(www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/prindutycare.aspx)
- provide a filtered internet service but acknowledge that full protection from inappropriate content can never be guaranteed
- respond to issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students including those reported through online services
- know that some online activities are illegal and as such we are required to report this to the appropriate authority
- support parents/guardians to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies, potential issues and the strategies that they can implement at home to support their child; providing this Acceptable Use Agreement and current information from both the Department of Education and Training and Cybersmart:
 - Bullystoppers Parent Interactive Learning Modules
(www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx)
 - Parents Cybersafety guide (www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents.aspx)

BYOD Options

Students have three options:

1. Purchase a recommended device from our supplier
2. Purchase a recommended device from an independent store



3. Bring a suitable device from home if they already own one. Insurance and Warranty

We advise that all BYODs be covered by an extended warranty. When purchasing your laptop please consider accidental damage protection (ADP) for your device. ADP covers your device with accidental damage on and off the school campus. Fire and theft are usually not covered under these programs and we suggest you include it in your personal or home insurance. The insurance can be purchased with your computer vendor or any insurance company. All insurance claims must be settled between you and the insurance company. Purchasing insurance for your BYOD is a personal choice.

Lost/Stolen and Damaged Laptops

Students are responsible for ensuring laptops are secure at all times. It is recommended that students do not leave their devices unattended in public places. KTHS is not responsible for any damage to student BYODs and will not be accountable for any lost or stolen student BYODs.

Students are responsible for:

- bringing portable devices fully-charged to school every day
- ensuring the device has appropriate virus protection
- backing up data securely
- carrying their device in an appropriate protective case at all times
- Adhering to this Acceptable Use Agreement when using the machine, both at home and at school, including during lunchtime or when not in the classroom.

Students, parents and carers who would like more information or assistance regarding our BYOD program are encouraged to contact Kerang Technical High School.

1-to-1 school owned devices – Trolley & Library Borrowing

Ownership

- The school retains ownership of the device and the device is to remain at School.
- Parents/students should be aware that files stored on the device, or on the school's



server, are not private.

Damage or loss of equipment

- All devices and batteries are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. The warranty covers manufacturer's defects and normal use of the device. It does not cover negligence, abuse or malicious damage.
- Any problems, vandalism, damage, loss or theft of the device must be reported immediately to the school.
- In the case of loss or accidental damage, a statement must be signed by a parent and provided to the school.
- In the case of suspected theft, a police report must be made by the family and a copy of the report provided to the school.
- If a device is damaged or lost, the principal or their nominee will determine whether replacement is appropriate and/or whether the student retains access to a device for home use.
- If a device is damaged and the damage is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty or any of the school's insurance arrangements, the principal may determine that the student will pay the costs of repairing the damage or if necessary the costs of replacing the device.

User responsibilities

Students are responsible for:

- backing up data securely
- carrying their device in an appropriate protective case at all times
- adhering to the Acceptable Use Agreement when using the machine

Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies

At Kerang Technical High School, 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, including [insert details of specific programs]
- 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 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 technology at school
- 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 and carers to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home through regular updates in our newsletter and annual information sheets.

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 [insert relevant role, i.e. classroom teacher, the administration] as appropriate, 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 Kerang Technical High School's *Statement of Values, 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), Kerang Technical High School will institute a staged response, consistent with our policies and the Department's *Student Engagement and Inclusion 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.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 31/8/2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2022