

# Cyber Safety Policy

Excellence, Diversity, Learning, Integrity,  
Community



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# Cybersafety Policy

## Rationale:

As we live in an increasingly connected world it is important that we educate our students in how to use the internet, social media and other forms of communication safely and responsibly. As many of these interactions will take place outside of school, we need to work with the wider VISS community to ensure that all are aware and take responsibility where appropriate.

## Key Definitions

**Cyber safety:** refers to the way in which people behave safely and responsibly to keep themselves and their friends safe online.

Cyberbullying: refers to bullying behaviour using digital technologies. This includes harassment via a mobile phone, setting up a defamatory personal website or deliberately excluding someone from social networking spaces.

(ref: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/cyberbullyingcampaign.aspx>)

## Aims

### Through Curriculum we aim:

- To develop within students an understanding of how to use the internet, social media and other communication methods safely and responsibly.
- Understand how to avoid bullying situations and what to do if they arise.

### School Infrastructure:

- The school network is the main access for students and staff to access the internet. The technical team will ensure that all sensible protections and filtering is in place to protect our users. This can be a challenge as the landscape changes quickly with new software being developed all the time and users trying new ways to circumvent security and filtering. The team will work hard to ensure systems are regularly updated and aim to be proactive, as well as reacting to situations as they arise.

## Implementation

### Curriculum

- Cybersafety is taught at various points throughout the Digital Technologies curriculum (both Primary and Secondary), often at the beginning of the school year, to ensure that students start the year well and can be updated to any new issues.

### Infrastructure

- Student devices are enrolled in a separate network to staff and guests so that their usage can be appropriately filtered and monitored.
- Although the students bring their own devices, they sign the "Acceptable Use of ICT" contract (attached), outlining expectations and guidelines.
- Where possible, use of Mobile Device Management (MDM software) is used.

### Home/ School Partnership

- Parents are co-signatories to the Acceptable Use contracts.
- Although many Cyberbullying issues occur outside of school, we work with the families and students to resolve them as they arise, in line with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and Ministry guidelines.

- Through information sessions, newsletter and email, we keep parents up to date with Cybersafety issues.

### Policy Review

This policy is to be reviewed annually.

