

# FRANKSTON SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES POLICY

### (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, including our 1-to-1 iPad program and individual augmentative alternative communication device program (AAC).
- (b) expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices, including computers
- (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 Frankston Special Developmental School (SDS).

Staff use of technology is governed by Frankston SDS' Sexting and Cyber Bullying Policy, in addition to the whole of DET requirements under the *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

Frankston SDS understands that 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.

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 provides alternatives for assessment, reporting and feedback.

Frankston SDS believes that the use of digital technologies at school allows the development of valuable skills such as communication and social competencies, and prepares students to have more independence across all aspects of their lives. Our school's vision is to empower students to use digital technologies to reach their personal best and fully equip them to contribute positively to society as happy, healthy young adults.

##### iPads at Frankston SDS

Every student at Frankston SDS from prep to school leaving is entitled to use a school-issued iPad during school hours within each term. Families are required to pay an annual sum of \$50 per iPad as outlined on

the Parent Payment Policy. The annual payment, whilst not fully covering the cost of the iPad, partly contributes to the implementation costs involved in running the program.

Students must bring their charged iPad to school each day to be used during class time for a range of targeted learning activities including communication.

Students and families are required to ensure that the iPad remains in a protective case and is used responsibly at home.

Families are responsible for covering the cost of repair as a result of damage and loss of school issued iPads.

In certain circumstances it may be necessary for school issued iPads to remain at school. This will occur after instances of breakage or loss or where a student and/or their families have failed to comply with the terms of use. This will be discussed with the principal.

### Safe and appropriate use of digital technologies

Digital technology, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. At Frankston SDS, we are committed to educating all students to be safe, responsible and discerning in the use of digital technologies, equipping them with skills and knowledge to navigate the digital age.

At Frankston SDS we:

- use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning, and focus our use of digital technologies on being learning-centred and both educationally and developmentally appropriate
- supervise and support students using digital technologies in the classroom
- effectively and efficiently address any issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students
- educate our students to use digital technologies safely and responsibly in alignment with School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support and I Can Be Safe protective behaviour programs including the importance of online privacy

<b>Links</b>	FSDS Welfare Manual, Policy: Student Engagement and Wellbeing, Digital Technology, Statement of Values and School Philosophy, DET Acceptable Use Policy
<b>Author</b>	Assistant Principal
<b>Reviewed</b>	May 18
<b>School Council Approval</b>	September 18
<b>Next review date</b>	September 20
<b>References</b>	DET Digital Technologies