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Using Technology and Digital Citizenship Agreement

At Neutral Bay Public School, we recognise that students will require a high-level of digital literacy in order to thrive and work in the world. Seamless and purposeful integration of technology into future-focused learning and teaching can provide opportunities for students to think independently and develop skills that will enable them to flourish in a world driven by technology.

Through the effective integration of information and communication technologies (ICT) across the curriculum, students learn to collaborate, connect, construct, apply knowledge and seek timely feedback on their learning.

Students at Neutral Bay Public School get the opportunity to work across a variety of platforms, including iPads and laptops. However, using these technologies in the classroom is a privilege, not a right. As such, students must agree to use technology safely, sensibly and in a way that demonstrates digital citizenship. If students repeatedly fail to meet the expectations of appropriate use of technology, then they may lose or have modified access to these devices.

A good citizen is someone who upholds and respects the laws of their country, but also acts in an appropriate way. Good citizens respect moral and ethical guidelines and behaviours. They show care and concern for themselves, their neighbours and other members of their communities. The good citizen respects other people's property, and expects others to do the same for them.

The good digital citizen applies the same rules to the cyber-world. A good digital citizen is a person who obeys the legal rules about using digital technologies, and acts with respect and care for themselves, others and property. In return, they expect the same respect to be shown to them.

There are three key parts to digital citizenship. They are looking after yourself, other people and property.

1. Looking after yourself includes:
- Using technology as teachers have instructed. Teachers carefully select the apps and activities on iPads and laptops to enhance your learning. If you aren't using the iPad or laptops as they intended, then you will lose the privilege of using technology.
- Choosing online names that are suitable and respectful.
- Only inviting people you actually know in the real world to be your friends in the online world.
- Only visiting sites that are appropriate and respecting the rules that websites have about age. Some sites are only for adults. If you would not feel comfortable showing the website to you parents or grandparents then it is inappropriate.

- Setting your privacy settings so that only the people you know can see you and your personal information.
- Only putting information online that is appropriate and posting pictures that are suitable. Not everyone seeing your profile or pictures will be friendly.
- Always reporting anything that happens online that makes you feel uncomfortable or unhappy.
- Talking to trusted adults, like your parents and teachers, about your online experiences. This includes both the good and the bad experiences.

2. Looking after others:
- Show you care by not flaming (sending hurtful or inflammatory messages) other people, or forwarding messages that are unkind or inappropriate.
- By not getting involved in conversations that are unkind, mean or bullying.
- By reporting any conversations you see that are unkind, mean or bullying to a teacher or an adult.

Some websites are disrespectful because they show people behaving inappropriately or illegally – or are racist, bigoted or unkind. Show your respect for others by avoiding these sites. If you visit one by accident, close it and tell your teacher or an adult.

3. Looking after property:
- By taking care of all devices at school.
- By only using devices as teachers have instructed.
- By not copying other people's property, including their images and words that you find online.
- By not sharing the music, movies, games and other software that you own with other people.
- By checking that the information you are using is correct. Anyone can say anything on the web, so you need to check that the research is correct by using reliable sites. When in doubt ask your teacher or your parents.
- By looking after other people's websites, acting appropriately when visiting them, not making changes or vandalising them, and reporting any damage that you find.

Intentional or careless damage to school devices may result in students losing the privilege of using devices in the classroom or the school requesting reimbursement for repair costs from parents or carers, invoiced via term fees.

By signing this agreement, I undertake to always act in a manner that is respectful to others and to act appropriately, in a moral and ethical manner and myself.

I agree to follow the principles of digital citizenship outlined in this agreement and accept that failing to follow these will have consequences.

CHILD   **PARENT**

Name: …………………………………………   Name: …………………………………………

Signature: …………………………………………   Signature: …………………………………………

Class: …………………………………………   Date: …………………………………………

Date: …………………………………………

(Reference: Educational Origami, http://edorigami.wikispaces.com)

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