

Rangiora High School Board



Online Safety Policy

Rationale

Rangiora High School is committed to creating a safe online learning environment, and to the development of our students into capable digital citizens.

Technology provides significant benefits to learning and school operations. The Board considers the benefits and risks associated with technology use when making any decisions related to the purchase or use of technology.

Purpose

Rangiora High School seeks to foster a culture of successful digital citizenship in our students, staff and our wider community. We encourage everyone to take responsibility for themselves and others in their use of digital technology and online environments.

The Board is aware that preparing and supporting our students to use digital technology and online environments effectively and safely is an important part of their preparation for participating and contributing in our digital society.

In preparing our students to actively participate in the world in which they live, it is clear that their ability to participate as confident and competent digital citizens is a key skill. An important part of learning the skills, knowledge, and values that are needed, is being given the chance to experience both the opportunities and the challenges presented by technology. Importantly, to do so in a safe, secure and nurturing environment, where clear, effective guidance can be sought.

Guidelines

Rangiora High School will develop and maintain procedures around the safe and responsible use of the digital technologies, school's network and systems, and the internet. These online safety procedures will recognise the value of the technology and encourage its use in teaching and learning contexts whilst minimising and managing the challenges that may be experienced by students, teachers and the wider school community.

The school will consult with parents and the wider school community, as to how it intends to use digital technologies and online environments, and where possible explain how it benefits the teaching and learning process.

These procedures will aim to not only maintain a safer school environment, but also aim to address the need of students and other members of the school community for opportunities to receive and participate in education and support around the safe and responsible use of digital technologies and online environments.

Related Policies

- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Social Media Policy

Relevant Documentation and Legislation

- Care of Children Act 2004
- Oranga Tamariki Act 1989
- Crimes Act 1961
- [Digital Technology. Safe and Responsible Use in Schools](#)
- Education and Training Act 2020
- Employment Relations Act 2000
- Health and Safety At Work Act 2015
- Human Rights Act 1993
- [Netsafe Kit](#)
- Privacy Act 2020
- [Reporting of Suspected or Actual Child Abuse or Neglect](#)
- [Safer Organisations. Safer Children](#)
- Vulnerable Children Act 2014

Date of Review	October 2023
Date of Next Review	October 2026
Date adopted by the Board	August 2024
Date of Amendment by the Board	