

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

RATIONALE

In recent years, the use of technology in our society has grown tremendously and for most young people it is a vital connection to the world around them. Danebank recognises the potential value of technology in shaping our students' educational experiences and the new avenues it can offer for learning. Technology, including Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs), has the capacity to enhance student productivity, extend the range of learning opportunities and broaden engagement with the digital world when used in the proper context.

Technology can provide a gateway to innovative ways of engaging with course content, increase intellectual stimulation and build confidence. It can also help accommodate individual learning styles and increase autonomy if used appropriately in the school environment. However, Danebank also recognises the capacity that these devices have for misuse and that they can impact others in a detrimental manner. Ethical behaviour is expected at all times. It is an expectation that all communication will be respectful and will involve the use of appropriate language.

The Danebank community acknowledges the importance that online social networking and social media plays in the academic and social lives of Danebank students, teachers and parents. Danebank aims to educate our students to use all social networking and social media sites responsibly and ethically. Danebank is committed to encouraging every student to develop an authentic, ethical and responsible online presence that reflects each student's true and honest character. Danebank recognises that what is posted on the worldwide web becomes a permanent record and nothing is ever deleted. Danebank acknowledges that the future of communication will be through online social networking and social media sites and it is therefore a moral imperative that our students are educated about how to use this form of communication with respect and integrity.

Every member of the Danebank community including students, parents and teachers will be asked to support this policy and students will be required to indicate their commitment to upholding the guidelines by signing the document at the end of this section.

This document is based on the biblical belief that we live under the authority of God and we are to always bring glory to Him by loving one another in word and deed.

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.
Ephesians 4:29-32

DEFINITION

Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) include, but are not limited to, the following technologies: mobile phones, portable internet devices (e.g. iPads, and any notepad android device Blackberry, iTouch, iPhone), portable entertainment systems (e.g. iPods, MP3 and MP4), photo, video and/or audio devices, notebooks, laptops, notebooks and any other wireless technology.

Bring Your Own (BYO) devices are a PED that meets the minimum hardware and software requirements defined by the school. All students are to bring a laptop or hybrid tablet as their primary device by 2019. iPads will be an optional secondary device.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING PEDS

Students will follow staff directives regarding use of computers, tablets, the network, iDanebank and the Internet.

Students must take their BYO device to class at all times. For students in Years 10 to 12 in 2017 the BYO device must be a laptop or hybrid laptop but if they wish to bring their iPad as a secondary device, in addition to the laptop, this is permitted.

Mobile phones are to be turned off during class. Teachers will indicate to students when they may use their PEDs during class.

Students who are undertaking private study, may use a PED for educational purposes and to facilitate study, ensuring that they are not distracting other students.

PEDs must not be used to harass, sexually harass or victimize other students or staff. PEDs must not be used to violate a person's right to privacy or to view or transmit sexually explicit material.

Students are to avoid accessing inappropriate websites. If this should happen by accident students should exit from this website immediately.

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SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY

To ensure that a student's personal data is kept secure, users must login under their own name and password and if on a public computer such as those in the library or computer lab, logout at the end of the session. Individual passwords should NOT be disclosed to others under any circumstance.

Users must not gain access to the files of others or vandalise the work of others.

To ensure the reliable operation of the network users must not intentionally interfere with or disrupt the operation of the network or alter existing computer settings without permission of a teacher.

Technology including computer equipment and photocopiers should be treated with care at all times so students are not disadvantaged by their misuse.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Danebank and all its community are committed to upholding the highest level of respect for others when using social networking and social media sites. To this end those who are members of the Danebank Community will use no abusive, rude or crude language when communicating with each other.

Students will use their words to encourage and build one another up, treating themselves and others with the highest level of respect.

Students must not post photographs, personal information or refer in any way to members of the Danebank community (staff, students and parents) on the Internet without the permission of the School. This includes personal 'blogs', social media and networking sites as well as websites.

Students will maintain a high level of security and privacy on their social networking settings. Social networking sites will not be used to harass, abuse or bully.

Students understand that the footprint left by their online interactions is permanent and therefore will always be mindful of how what they say and do online will impact their future selves.

The Danebank community understands that social networking can be a distraction from academic and other face to face commitments. Students therefore commit to prioritising personal interactions over electronic ones as part of best social practice.

Students are responsible for developing self-management and time management skills to ensure that they have set the right priorities in their lives.

STORAGE OF PEDS

Students are responsible for the security of their PEDs while at school.

In the Junior School, students will hand in their PEDs at the office at the beginning of the school day.

Students may carry their PED with them. However, it is recommended that all PEDs are stored in their locker for safety when not in use during the school day.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When students fail to comply with this policy, the School reserves the right to confiscate the PED for serious offences.

If the School is of the opinion that the PED or Social Media site contains inappropriate material or that the material on the PED could be used in an inappropriate manner, the Principal, Deputy Principal or a nominated teacher will request that the student show them the contents of the PED including all memory cards stored in the device. This will be done in the presence of the relevant Year Coordinator who will act as a support and a witness. Alternatively, the Principal or Deputy Principal may hold the PED until the student's parents are present before the contents are viewed. In extreme cases the assistance of police may be called.

If inappropriate or offensive material is found stored on the Personal Electronic Device or content has been uploaded to a Social Media site, consequences for breaching the School's Behaviour Code will apply which may include detention, suspension and/or expulsion.

Should the device be used to capture content at school that is inappropriate or harmful to another student (or teacher) and that student then chooses to post this content on the internet or in any other public arena, the student will be subject to the same discipline as if they had been found with this content on the school premises.

