Acceptable uses Policy and Agreement

for Digital Technologies

Purpose of this policy:

The purpose of this policy is to provide information to parents and students about the school’s programs and practices and to describe expected behaviours, as well as feature information to assist parents to support their child’s internet use at home.

The acceptable use agreement will include:

- **School profile statement** – how the school supports and educates students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies and the internet.

- **Safe and responsible online behaviour** – expectation of student behaviors when using digital technologies and the internet, aligned to a school’s Student Engagement Policy and mobile devices policy, including an agreement/licence acknowledging a student’s commitment to being a polite, safe and responsible user of digital technologies and the internet.

- **1-to1 program: personal devices** (BYOD) – information on ownership, use, care and support of devices.

- **Acknowledgement** – student details and parent’s signature.

As part of developing an Acceptable Use Agreement Sherbrooke Community school will consider responsibilities around the collection of student personal information and privacy when using digital technologies and the internet.

School profile statement

At Sherbrooke Community school we support the rights of all members of the school community to be provided with and engage in a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment. This extends to the use of digital tools and online communities and is underpinned by our expectation of safe and responsible behaviour of all members of the school community.
At our school we:

- have a **Student Engagement Policy** that states our school’s values and expected standards of student behaviour, including actions and consequences for inappropriate behaviour
- educate our students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies through a variety of incursions and education through the curriculum.
- raise our students’ awareness of issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright (available resources on compass school documentation)
- supervise and support students when using digital technologies within the classroom and establish clear protocols and procedures when working in online spaces including reviewing and considering the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities. Our Classroom programs clearly establish the educational purpose for the activity, the appropriate tools, online spaces, search engines etc, which support the activity’s educational purpose and additional support that is available for students who may need assistance. We have a Whole-school program that supports quality relationships between people, for example bystander training, restorative practices, school-wide positive behaviour support. We have Professional learning programs for teachers to develop and refresh skills to collaboratively create and maintain safe, respectful, caring and supportive school cultures.

Note: It is not reasonable to expect a teacher or principal to inspect every site that will be presented in a search result or to expect them to supervise a space 24 hours a day. The nature of the internet means that there can be no guarantee against inappropriate content or changing circumstances in websites. However, it is reasonable to expect a teacher to respond to an online incident as soon as they have knowledge of its occurrence.

- provide a filtered internet service but acknowledge that full protection from inappropriate content can never be guaranteed
- respond to issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students including those reported through online services
- know that some online activities are illegal and as such we are required to report this to the appropriate authority
- support parents/guardians to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies, potential issues and the strategies that they can implement at home to support their child; providing this Acceptable Use Agreement and current information from both the Department of Education and Training and Cybersmart. (please see Cybersmart documents on compass school documentation)
1-to-1 program: school owned devices

User responsibilities
Students are responsible for:

- adhering to this Acceptable Use Agreement when using the machine.

1-to-1 program: personal devices (BYOD: Bring your own device)

Ownership

- The device is owned by the parents/student but may be used as part of the school learning program.
- Parents/students should be aware that files stored on the device are private but may be publicly accessed as part of learning programs.

Software and access

- The school will provide information about standard software programs and applications required for installation on personal devices and will advise when new software or applications need to be purchased.
- Parents are responsible for purchasing and installing new programs on personal devices. Parents are advised to set up a separate family account (not use their own accounts) to manage purchases for their child’s device.
- The school may provide access to some software and applications. There is no cost for this access.

School support

Support will be provided for:

- connecting the device to the school network, internet and other digital technologies
- set up and management of school, student email accounts
- all school-based software and associated issues with school applications.

Support will not be provided for:

- connecting to home networks, the internet, printers, or other devices
- personal email accounts and settings
- software issues
- hardware issues.

Damage or loss of equipment

- Parents are responsible for making sure the device is covered under their insurance, so that it can be replaced if lost or damaged and student learning is not interrupted.
User responsibilities

Students are responsible for:

- bringing portable devices fully–charged to school every day
- ensuring the device has appropriate virus protection
- backing up data securely
- carrying their device in an appropriate protective case at all times
- adhering to this Acceptable Use Agreement when using the machine, both at home and at school, including during lunchtime or when not in the classroom.

Acknowledgment

This Acceptable Use Agreement applies to all digital technologies and the internet including (although not limited to):

- school owned ICT devices (e.g. desktops, laptops, ipads, printers, scanners)
- mobile phones and student owned devices
- email and instant messaging
- internet, intranet
- social networking sites (e.g. Facebook)
- video and photo sharing websites (e.g. YouTube)
- blogs or micro-blogs (e.g. Twitter)
- forums, discussion boards and groups (e.g. Google groups)
- wikis (e.g. Wikipedia)
- vod and podcasts
- video conferences and web conferences.
Student agreement: Safe and responsible behaviour

Student Declaration (secondary students)

When I use digital technologies and the internet I agree to be a safe, responsible and ethical user at all times, by:

- respecting others and communicating with them in a supportive manner; never writing or participating in online bullying (e.g. forwarding messages and supporting others in harmful, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours)
- protecting my privacy; not giving out personal details, including my full name, telephone number, address, passwords and images
- protecting the privacy of others; never posting or forwarding their personal details or images without their consent
- talking to a teacher or a trusted adult if I personally feel uncomfortable or unsafe online
- talking to a teacher or a trusted adult if I see others participating in unsafe, inappropriate or hurtful online behaviours
- carefully considering the content that I upload or post online; knowing that this is a personal reflection of who I am and what people think of me
- investigating the terms and conditions of use (e.g. age restrictions, parental consent requirements) and if my understanding is unclear seeking further explanation from a trusted adult
- confirming that I meet the stated terms and conditions and completing the required registration processes
- handling ICT devices with care and notifying a teacher of any damage or required attention
- abiding by copyright and intellectual property regulations; requesting permission to use images, text, audio and video and cite references where necessary
- not downloading unauthorised programs, including games
- not interfering with network systems and security, the data of another user or attempting to log into the network with a user name or password of another student.

In addition, when I use my personal mobile devices (including my phone) I agree to be a safe, responsible and ethical user at all times, by:

- keeping devices on silent during class times; only making or answering calls or messages outside of lesson times (except when approved as part of a lesson)
- respecting the privacy of others; only taking photos or recording sound or video when others are aware and formal consent has been provided as part of an approved lesson
- respecting others and communicating with them in a supportive manner, including outside school hours and in social contexts by not making harassing phone calls/text messages or forwarding on messages
- obtaining appropriate (written) consent from individuals who appear in images or sound and video recordings before forwarding them to other people or posting/uploading them to online spaces.
Student Declaration (primary students)

When I use digital technologies and the internet I communicate respectfully by:

- always thinking and checking that what I write or post is polite and respectful
- being kind to my friends and classmates and thinking about how the things I do or say online might make them think or feel.
- working to stop bullying. I don’t send mean or bullying messages or pass them on to others
- creating and presenting my own work and if I do copy something from the internet, letting others know by sharing the website link to acknowledge the creator.

When I use digital technologies and the internet I protect personal information by being aware that my full name, photo, birthday, address and phone number is personal information and is not to be shared online. This means I:

- protect my friends’ information in the same way
- protect my passwords and don’t share them with anyone except my parent
- only ever join spaces with my parents or teacher’s guidance and permission
- never answer questions online that ask for my personal information
- know not to post three or more pieces of identifiable information about myself.

When I use digital technologies and the internet I respect myself and others by thinking about what I share online. This means I:

- stop to think about what I post or share online
- use spaces or sites that are appropriate for my age and if I am not sure I ask a trusted adult for help
- protect my friends’ full names, birthdays, school names, addresses and phone numbers because this is their personal information
- speak to a trusted adult if I see something that makes me feel upset or if I need help
- speak to a trusted adult if someone is unkind to me or if I know someone else is upset or scared
- don’t deliberately search for something rude or violent
- turn off or close the screen if I see something I don’t like and tell a trusted adult
- am careful with the equipment I use.

At school we/I have:

- discussed ways to be a safe and responsible user of digital technologies and the internet.
- presented my ideas around the ways that I can be a smart, safe and responsible user of digital technologies and the internet.

I will use this knowledge at school and everywhere I use digital technologies and the internet.
This Acceptable Use Agreement applies when digital technologies and the internet are being used at school, during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities, and at home.

**Signature**

I understand that my child needs to comply with the terms of acceptable use and expected standards of behaviour set out within this Agreement.

I understand that there are actions and consequences established within the school’s Student Engagement Policy if my child does not behave appropriately.

Student name: ________________________________________________

School name: Sherbrooke Community School

School contact name: Sue Holmes (Acting Principal)

School contact no.: 03 97552007

Parent/Guardian Name: _________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________________

Date: ________________________________________________________
EVALUATION:

This policy was last ratified by School Council in ……………………………………… and should be reviewed by

……………………………………………………

Signed:

……………………………………………………... School Council President

……………………………………………………... Principal
Appendix 1: Primary acceptable use agreement worksheet and certificate

My ideas on safe and responsible behaviour
When I use digital technologies and the internet I communicate respectfully. This means I:

(write or draw…)

When I use digital technologies and the internet I protect personal information. This means I:

(write or draw…)

When I use digital technologies and the internet I respect myself and others. This means I:

(write or draw…)
Student agreement/licence

__________________________  __________________________
(principal or teacher)      (student)

acknowledges the commitment of

to being a polite, safe and responsible user of
digital technologies.

As a student I continue to learn to use digital technologies safely and responsibly.

I will ask a trusted adult for help whenever I am unsure or feel unsafe.

__________________________  __________________________
Student’s signature           Teacher/Principal’s signature

Date ________________________