

New Zealand Online Safety Policy - **Template**

Rationale

As part of our school vision and values, <school name> is committed to creating safe learning environments for every student, both in-person and online. We understand that online safety, citizenship and wellbeing are intrinsically linked and we have a duty of care to provide safe learning environments for our students. We ensure students develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values to make safe and informed choices while using devices and online spaces through meaningful, authentic learning opportunities.

At <school name> we acknowledge our obligations under [NAG 5](#) and key priorities as identified in [NELP](#), and use these to inform our school's online safety policy, processes and procedures. These also reflect our obligations under New Zealand legislation, including the [Harmful Digital Communications Act \(2015\)](#) and [Privacy \(2020\)](#).

Policy

Student wellbeing is at the forefront of the decisions we make around how and when devices and online spaces are selected and used within our school environment, and we strive to ensure all students have fair and equitable access to technology and online spaces. We acknowledge that devices and online spaces are key tools for learning and we have a responsibility to ensure students in our care develop the skills, attitudes, values and knowledge needed to participate safely in all learning opportunities. To facilitate this, we are committed to developing and maintaining procedures around the safe and responsible use of digital technology, the school's network, and the online environment.

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring our students' safety and well-being, we have partnered with Linewize by Family Zone to allow our school to meet the obligations above when students access the internet using the school's devices and other internet technologies. This supports our legal responsibility to keep students safe and will allow us to ensure that students are focused during learning time.

Our school may monitor and filter content wherever and whenever students are using school devices and internet technologies, including their school Google accounts, 24/7. It is a requirement for all students to comply with our school's safe and responsible use of devices agreements, inclusive of the school's filtering policies, wherever and whenever they use school devices and internet technologies. This will be monitored through Linewize and appropriate action based on the school's behavioural policies and procedures will be taken should there be a violation of school policy. We will address incidents that happen outside of school hours where they impact our school learning environments and ensure student wellbeing is supported.

Regular consultation and engagement with families, whānau and students helps to build safer online environments. We recognise the vital role our entire school community plays in improving outcomes for young people, and we will provide information, guidance and advice for families to empower them to support at home.

Date policy adopted

Chairperson:

Review date: