

Digital Device Agreement

Mount Maunganui College is a BYOD school. We encourage families to look into purchasing a device as this will be a valuable learning tool for students as they progress through school and into their future pathways. However, we understand that not all students will be able to purchase or have access to a device that they can bring to school daily. Therefore, any student unable to have daily access to their own appropriate learning device will be allocated a school Chromebook in Term 1, further details are available on the school website.

Internet access is available to students and teachers at Mount Maunganui College and we use filtering software to minimise access to inappropriate online content. The use of devices and the internet at school must support education and research that is consistent with the learning outcomes of the curriculum. Any students identified as bypassing our school network safeguards will be in breach of this agreement.

Our school values of Aroha and Mana, as well as our touchstones of Āko and Hauora, weave through all that we do at Mount Maunganui College. It is important that we follow these values and touchstones whilst we interact online.



1. Aroha

- a. I will show respect to myself and others through my online interactions.
- b. I will carefully consider the content that I post online.
- c. I will not bully, stalk or harass others online.

2. Mana

- a. I will act with integrity.
- b. I will use online names that are appropriate.
- c. I will protect myself and others by not sharing offensive or disturbing online content with others.
- d. I will protect myself and others by reporting content that is offensive or disturbing.
- e. I will protect myself by not responding to any messages that make me feel upset, angry or scared.
- f. I will protect my privacy by not sharing personal information nor contact details online.
- g. I will protect others' privacy by not sharing their personal information nor contact details online.
- h. I will protect my school by not sharing information about my school online.
- i. Use of a device is a privilege not a right. If I abuse that privilege, I expect to lose it.

3. Hauora

- a. I will tell a teacher if someone posts or shares any online content that is offensive or disturbing.
- b. I will tell a teacher if I see images or content online that makes me feel upset or disturbed.
- c. I will tell a teacher about any attacks or inappropriate behaviour directed at me and protect myself by seeking support from appropriate people.

4. Āko

- a. I will protect my usernames, passwords and work.
- b. I will cite all online content that I use, not plagiarise others' work, and abide by copyright laws.
- c. I will not visit websites that are degrading, pornographic, racist or inappropriate.
- d. I will not abuse my access rights nor enter other people's private spaces.
- e. I will do my best to ensure my device is charged and ready for school each day.
- f. I will abide by the Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015 (see attached document for more information).

5. School Devices

- a. I understand that the security of my school-loaned device is my responsibility.
- b. I will always store the Chromebook in my school bag when I am not using it.
- c. I will treat the Chromebook with respect and never leave it in unsupervised areas during the school day.
- d. I will take the Chromebook to our IT team if anything breaks so that it can be fixed.

6. Own Devices

- a. I understand that the security of my student-owned device is my responsibility.
- b. I understand that my device should be engraved or labelled clearly with my name.
- c. I understand that my cellphone is not an approved Bring Your Own Device.

7. Home Internet

- a. It is important that students have access to the internet at home to engage with their learning and to complete set homework.
- b. If you currently have limited access to the internet, then we recommend looking into the Skinny Jump plan:

SkinnyJump is a low-cost prepaid broadband service for eligible Kiwi homes.

- From \$5 per month.
- Free modem.
- 35Gb per month which can be added to.
- No contracts - pay as you go.
- For further terms and conditions, please go to the website <https://www.skinny.co.nz/jump/home/>



THE HARMFUL DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ACT (HDCA)

The Harmful Digital Communications Act (HDCA) was passed in 2015 to help people dealing with serious or repeated harmful digital communications. It lays out 10 communication principles that guide how to communicate online.

What type of communication does the Act cover?

It covers any harmful digital communications (like text, emails or social media content) which can include racist, sexist and religiously intolerant comments – plus those about disabilities or sexual orientation.

What are the 10 communication principles?

A digital communication should not:

- a. disclose sensitive personal facts about an individual
- b. be threatening, intimidating, or menacing
- c. be grossly offensive to a reasonable person in the position of the affected individual
- d. be indecent or obscene
- e. be used to harass an individual
- f. make a false allegation
- g. contain a matter that is published in breach of confidence
- h. incite or encourage anyone to send a message to an individual for the purpose of causing harm to the individual
- i. incite or encourage an individual to commit suicide
- j. denigrate an individual by reason of colour, race, ethnic or national origins, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability

What is Netsafe's role under the HDCA?

Netsafe has the responsibility to help resolve reports related to alleged breaches of the 10 communication principles. We are not an enforcement agency, but we do have a high resolution rate. Some of the things we can do include:

- a. liaise with website hosts, ISPs and other content hosts (both here and overseas) and request them to take down or moderate posts that are clearly offensive
- b. use advise, negotiation, mediation and persuasion (as appropriate) to resolve complaints
- c. inform people about their options if they wish to apply to the District Court
- d. if we can't resolve things, then the person who reported to us may apply to the District Court eg for a take down order, against the author or host of the allegedly harmful content – but you need to have tried to resolve the matter with Netsafe first. We will provide you with a Netsafe Summary that you can take to the District Court to demonstrate that you have been through our process.

What is a Netsafe Summary?

A Netsafe Summary shows that you have tried to resolve your incident and that there are no further options we can consider. It offers a summary of your report including the resolution options we have offered, attempted or completed.

Although a Netsafe Summary informs the District Court, it does not impact on the decision the District Court makes. Once a Netsafe Summary has been provided to you, Netsafe will close your report and will no longer be involved.



What can the District Court do?

The District Court will deal with cases of harmful digital communications that Netsafe hasn't been able to resolve. The court will determine whether the person harassing someone has seriously breached, will seriously breach or has repeatedly breached one or more of the 10 communication principles. The court has the power to order:

- material to be taken down
- cease and desist orders
- someone to publish a correction, an apology or give you a right of reply
- the release the identity of the person behind an anonymous communication
- name suppression

Anyone who ignores the District Court's orders can be prosecuted and penalised. The penalty is up to six months in prison or a fine up to \$5,000 for an individual and up to \$20, 000 for a company.

What are the criminal penalties under the HDCA?

The criminal penalties include:

- a fine of up to \$50,000 for an individual or up to \$200,000 for a body corporate, or up to two years jail for posting or sending a digital communication with intent to cause harm
- up to three years' jail for the new crime of incitement to suicide where no attempt at suicide is made

ADVICE FOR PARENTS ABOUT THE HDCA

The most useful thing for parents to understand about the Harmful Digital Communications Act is the way the 10 communication principles define what is good or bad behaviour online.

How does the HDCA apply to young people?

Anyone in New Zealand including young people or parents on behalf of their child can get help from Netsafe. The options available under the Act will reflect the age of the people involved in an online incident.

What do the criminal offences under the HDCA mean for young people?

A criminal offence under the HDCA is subject to the same youth justice processes that apply to other offences. This means the offences will not be applied to children under the age of 14, but can be applied to young people aged 14-16 under the youth justice system.

CONTACT NETSAFE

If you're concerned about the immediate safety of you or someone else, please call 111. If you want help or expert incident advice, you can contact us. Our service is free, non-judgemental and available seven days a week.

- Email help@netsafe.org.nz
- Call toll free on 0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723)
- Online report at netsafe.org.nz/report
- Text 'Netsafe' to 4282