

# TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBLE USE AGREEMENT

## OVERVIEW

Digital technology continues to create opportunities to learn and connect our school community. Palmerston North Girls' High School believes in using a digital citizenship model to support safe, responsible and ethical use of digital technology and online spaces as it helps our online environment to be a positive place for everyone.

This agreement outlines Palmerston North Girls' High School's role in promoting the use of digital technology and online spaces for learning, and supporting online safety approaches. It also outlines expectations and responsibilities of students as a member of our online community. It will also be used to support discipline processes when necessary.

## PALMERSTON NORTH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL ROLE

Palmerston North Girls' High School recognises a student's right to receive a high-quality education in a safe online and offline environment.

We will do this by:

- providing information and support to ensure you are aware of, and able to meet, your responsibilities
- teaching a curriculum that promotes positive online safety behaviours
- monitoring students' use of the school's digital devices and platforms
- offering access to the internet and online services that is not unreasonably restricted
- using filtering software to minimise access to inappropriate online content
- allowing the use of technology for personal reasons during break times as long as it does not negatively impact on self and others
- supporting students who need help dealing with online incidents
- taking action when a negative online experience occurs that impacts our school community
- securing the personal information the school collects about you
- having a plan in place to support students when something serious or illegal happens. This might include getting in touch with the Police or Netsafe.

## YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

*This section outlines what Palmerston North Girls' High School considers appropriate behaviour when using digital technologies and online spaces in school and as a member of the school community.*

As a student of Palmerston North Girls' High School and a member of our community, it is expected that you will positively contribute towards making our kura a place that is safe, respectful, and fair online and offline. This means enacting our school values of social responsibility, respect and resilience in online spaces, and helping to shape a positive online culture. This is being a 'digital citizen'.

As a digital citizen, you will:

- **Keep it positive.**  
Always respect others online and communicate in a constructive way. Do not create or publish content that is indecent, threatening or offensive.
- **Protect privacy.**  
Do not disclose sensitive personal information about yourself or another person in any digital communication. This includes sharing passwords, accessing devices or online sites belonging to others without consent and taking screenshots or photos and sharing this content without consent.

- **Act cautiously.**  
Anything you post or do online can influence what people think of you. Likewise, always think carefully about whether the information you see online is true. If you are unsure of something talk to a teacher.
- **Avoid online bullying.**  
Creating or forwarding content that is harmful, inappropriate or hurtful is never okay at any time, and may breach legislation (The Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015). If you are harassing people by sending multiple messages this is also considered online bullying and is unacceptable.
- **Be security smart.**  
Keep personal information safe and secure by using strong passwords and not sharing them with others. This includes not accessing devices or online sites belonging to others without consent, nor taking screenshots and on-sharing their personal content without their knowledge and permission.

The school is not responsible for providing anti-virus software.

Ensuring the safety of content and information by backing up files is the student's responsibility.

- **Check consent.**  
Before downloading software to the school network or onto devices, seek permission. Interfering with the school systems, digital technologies, equipment/network or the online security of another person is never okay at any time.
- **Recognise others' work.**  
Follow copyright and intellectual property requirements by attributing references, images, text, audio and video appropriately.
- **Respect the rights of others.**  
Only record and share video, photo or audio content if the people in it know it has been taken and have provided their consent.
- **Use personal devices sensibly.**  
Keep your device(s) on silent during school hours and only use it outside of class time unless you have been given permission to use it during lessons.
- **Seek help.**  
Sometimes you or someone you know will feel unsafe or come across inappropriate or hurtful online content and behaviours. If this happens talk to a trusted adult about what can be done, or contact Netsafe directly.
- **Appropriate use.** In class device(s) may only be used with your teacher's direction and knowledge and for educational purposes only.
- **Readiness.**  
Your device needs to be ready for use (You will not be permitted to charge it in class).

Palmerston North Girls' High School staff will not "troubleshoot" problems with personal devices. If it doesn't work; you will need to rectify this at home.

Your device needs to have access to the internet. Laptops and notebooks would be our preference as the learning device

- **Security and safety.**  
The security for your device is the student's responsibility. It will not be kept by the office and insurance for it is your responsibility; the school holds no responsibility for any loss or damage which may occur. Apps and software on devices are your responsibility.
- **Access**  
You will not be disadvantaged in your learning if you do not bring your own device.

## ONLINE INCIDENTS

*This section outlines how students can seek support and assistance if they encounter any online concerns*

Despite the advantages technology offers and people's best intentions, sometimes there will be challenges and risks within an online community – either accidentally or on purpose. Palmerston North Girls' High School is committed to supporting you if something goes wrong online.

**Online bullying.** Incidents of online bullying or harm will not be tolerated at our kura. If you or somebody else is being bullied or harmed online, it's never okay at any time. This type of harm doesn't usually just go away. It's important to keep the evidence of what is happening to you or someone so this can be investigated. Don't put yourself at further risk by continuing any contact with the person or people who are bullying online, or creating harmful or hurtful content. It's very important to let your form teacher or your Dean know what's happening so you can get the right help and support you need. You should also consider talking to a trusted adult like your parent, your whānau or guardian for support.

**Report a problem.** You should report an online incident or if you suspect something is happening online as soon as you can to your Dean. Once the school is made aware of a problem, they will assess the problem and work to resolve it.

**Online safety support.** Netsafe is an online safety organisation that is also available to help. They provide free confidential advice seven days a week for all online safety challenges. They can be contacted on 0508 638723 or online at [netsafe.org.nz](http://netsafe.org.nz)

### ***Student Declaration***

I am aware of the expectations, behaviours and values required of me when I use digital technologies at school, any online tools and platforms, and the school's systems and network. I understand these apply to all devices used at school whether they are owned by school or if it is my personal device.

I understand I have the right to use and experience online environments and digital technologies in positive ways and that others do also. With these rights, come responsibilities.

I understand and agree to support and uphold these expectations and responsibilities outlined in this agreement.

I know that if my actions or behaviours do not align with the User Agreement there may be consequences. This may include the loss of access to the internet on school owned devices or personally owned device used at school.

*Signed (by student)*

### ***Parent/ Whānau/ Guardian Declaration***

I know that if my child behaves or acts in ways that don't align with those detailed in the User Agreement there may be consequences for my child, which the school will talk to me about.

*Signed (by parent/whānau/guardian/caregiver)*

## AUTHENTICITY DECLARATION

A large amount of student work is internally assessed at secondary school level.

PNGHS acknowledges that when preparing assignments it can be appropriate for people to learn from others and gather information from a variety of sources, e.g. books, Internet etc. Teachers must be satisfied that the work produced is that of the student. Work must not be copied, except direct quotes, which must be acknowledged.

Students are responsible for:

- Keeping all drafts and working documents. They may be required to hand these into the teacher.
- Being prepared to discuss their work with their teacher if required.
- Meeting checkpoints established by their teacher.
- Keeping a record of the resources and sources they are using.
- Acknowledging all sources (print, Internet etc.) appropriately using the school referencing guidelines or as directed by the teacher.
- Being organised, so that they do not run out of time and be tempted to use someone else's work.
- Developing sound paraphrasing techniques when using a variety of sources.

Students must not:

- Copy another student's work.
- Allow another student to copy their work.
- Allow someone else to complete the work for them.
- Copy word for word from another source.
- Quote or use material from written or electronic sources without acknowledging the source (plagiarism).
- Submit work that has already been assessed for another standard (in the same or a different subject).

The school asks that caregivers discuss with the student the importance of producing work that is their own. The consequence of copying the work of others and passing it off as their own is serious; the work will be ruled ineligible for credit/achievement.

### **Declaration**

I declare that all of the work I will produce and submit for assessment will be my own work and I will acknowledge all sources that I use.

Signed *(by student)* \_\_\_\_\_

Signed *(by parent/caregiver)* \_\_\_\_\_