 Online Safety Policy for [insert school/ kura name]

Rationale

*[Insert school/kura name]* is committed to creating a safe online learning environment, and to the development of our students into capable digital citizens. The Board recognises that its obligations under the National Administration Guidelines (NAG 5) extend to use of the internet and related technologies for learning whether at school or where learning occurs remotely.

Technology provides significant benefits to learning and school operations. The Board considers the benefits and risks associated with technology use when making any decisions related to the purchase or use of technology.

*[Insert school/kura name]* seeks to foster a culture of successful digital citizenship in our students, staff and our wider community. We encourage everyone to take responsibility for themselves and others in their use of digital technology and online environments.

The Board is aware that preparing and supporting our students to use digital technology and online environments effectively and safely is an important part of their preparation for participating and contributing in our digital society. The Board understands that being able to use digital technology and online spaces effectively and safely includes when learning happens remotely and outside of the physical school environment.

In preparing our students to actively participate in the world in which they live, it is clear that their ability to participate as confident and competent digital citizens is a key skill. An important part of learning the skills, knowledge, and values that are needed, is being given the chance to experience both the opportunities and the challenges presented by technology. It is important that this happens within a safe, secure and nurturing environment whether physically in school or when learning happens remotely, where clear, effective guidance can be sought.

Policy

*[Insert school/kura name]* develops and maintain procedures around the safe and responsible use of the digital technologies, school's network and systems, and the internet. These online safety procedures will recognise the value of the technology and encourage its use in teaching and learning contexts whilst minimising and managing the challenges that may be experienced by students, teachers and the wider school community.

The school will consult with parents and the wider school community, as to how it intends to use digital technologies and online environments, and how it benefits the teaching and learning process.

These procedures will aim to not only maintain a safer school learning environment, but also to address the need for students and other members of the school community to participate in education and to receive support around the safe and responsible use of digital technologies and online environments.

Date policy adopted by the Board: …………………………………………………………………….                               
    
Chairperson:                          ……………………………………………………………………………….

Date for review:                   ………………………………………………………………………………..