











## **Advice for Parents**

The College believes the teaching of cyber-safe and ethical online behaviour is essential in the lives of students and is best taught in partnership between home and school. 21st Century students spend increasing amounts of time online learning and socialising. These online communities need cybercitizens who do the right thing by themselves and others online, particularly when no one is watching. Safe and ethical behaviour online is explicitly taught at our school and support at home is requested. It is important to note that some online activities are illegal and as such will be reported to police. This includes harassment of others and the publishing of inappropriate images.

### **Bridging the gap between home and school**

At school the internet is used to support teaching and learning. At home, however, it is often used differently. Not only is it a study resource for students, but it is increasingly being used as a social space to meet and chat.

If you have the internet at home, encourage your child to show you what they are doing online.

At home we recommend you:

- x Find out how your child uses the internet and who else is involved in their online activities.
- x Have the computer with internet access in a shared place in the house to ~~view~~
- x Ask questions when your child shows you what they are doing, such as:
  - How does it work and how do you set it up?
  - Who else is sharing this space or game?
  - Can you see any risks or dangers in the activity?
  - What are you doing to protect yourself or your friends from these potential dangers?
  - When would you inform an adult about an incident that has happened online that concerns you?

Statistics show that students will not approach an adult for help because:

- x they might get the blame for any incident.
- x ~~they might~~
- x they might put at risk their own access to technology by either admitting to a mistake or highlighting a situation that might lead a parent to ban their access.