

Dunalley Primary School (TAS)

Building capacity with and for the community to become safe and responsible users of technology



Striving for excellence

Dunalley Primary School is situated in the heart of the Dunalley township, 57 Km from Hobart and is set on a hillside overlooking the inviting waters of Blackman Bay. The core values of the school, developed with students, staff and families, are Learning, Respect and Safety. Our motto 'Striving for Excellence' underpins our goal that every student has the opportunity to learn and achieve their potential.

One of our initial actions in the implementation of the eSmart framework, was to look at what policies and processes were in place to ensure equipment was used appropriately by staff and students and that all users were aware of their rights and responsibilities.

"build a process around reporting and recording incidences"

Community collaboration

Discussions occurred with staff and the School Association around what was already in place in the school and investigated concerns relating to the safe use of digital technologies for students both at school and home.



At that time, the school had minimal procedures around using digital equipment or around managing and dealing with any negative online issues involving students and the local community. The School Association and staff supported the decision to develop the necessary policies and agreements and to build a process around reporting and recording incidences of negative online behaviour.

Using eSmart, our school developed an ICT Policy and Safe Use Agreements for students in the Early Years and Primary levels. We now have agreements that provide clear outlines for Safe Use of Digital Technologies at school and we actively teach curriculum focusing on safety and protecting privacy online.

Student learning

Students now participate in online learning through the Office of the eSafety Commissioner to support and build their knowledge and understanding around safe and appropriate online use. The school regularly participates in whole school events around eSafety. These include National eSmart Week, Daniel Morcombe's "Biggest Safety Lesson", visits from the local police focusing on online safety and accessing the eSmart Digital Licence.

Students are developing a greater awareness of their rights as a user, but also their responsibilities around private information and their digital footprint. Students are also developing a willingness to seek support and to share their concerns around sites or conversations when using technology, especially at home.

We have also built an ongoing link with the local community through the Police to support us with online safety.

"Students are developing a greater awareness of their rights as a user"



Working with our parents

The introduction of the Safe Use Agreement and online safety information regularly placed in the newsletter began some valuable conversations within the homes of our school community. Families were now more inclined to seek support if they had received negative behaviour when using the internet.

We recognised the importance of educating our parents to potential dangers of children engaging in the online space, particularly when their use of devices is unsupervised.

Regular information in our newsletter has supported parents to feel more confident in the digital world.

"We recognised the importance of educating our parents"

Find your purpose

For schools beginning their eSmart journey, think about the purpose for your individual school. For Dunalley Primary School it was around building capacity within students to be responsible users, but also to know they could seek help if needed.

School profile

Dunalley Primary School is a public primary school, located in Dunalley, a small fishing village on the east coast of Tasmania.

The school has an enrolment of 91 students.

They have been a registered eSmart School since 2018.