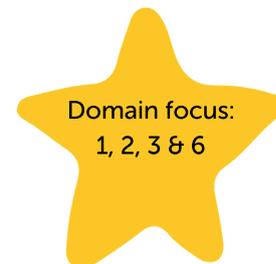


## Bayswater Primary School (VIC)

### Establishing and nurturing positive and purposeful parent relationships



#### The impetus

Bayswater Primary School is set in the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges. With 126 students enrolled, it's a high priority to ensure our students are prepared for life as respectful and safe digital natives.

The ever-growing ways that children can connect with friends and/or strangers led to many in the school community feeling 'out of touch' with the technology, or simply unaware of the students' online behaviours.

"our students are prepared for life as respectful and safe digital natives"

Our school prides itself on establishing and nurturing positive and purposeful parent relationships, so the eSmart program provided a structure to facilitate communication regarding eSafety.

The staff at Bayswater Primary School jumped at the opportunity to equip community members with

eSmart knowledge and empower all stakeholders to drive positive messages relating to eSmart practices and skills that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.



#### The journey

The first step was surveying the staff regarding their eSmart understandings.

Through the implementation of the eSmart Survey, we were able to identify the 'gaps' in knowledge relating to teaching and promoting eSafety. We were able to construct an eSmart Policy which outlined processes and procedures to ensure that there is a consistent approach throughout the school.

From there, the process switched up a gear to 'how can we get the parents involved?'

We already knew through informal chats with parents in the yard that some of the concerns were relating to screen time, social media, and how much technology has changed – not to mention how 'tech-savvy' even the youngest of students seems to be these days!

"how can we get the parents involved?"

Though simple, the idea arose of creating and sharing information sheets for families regarding eSmart through the newsletter. These sheets covered concepts such as eSmart technology use around the home, behaviours to watch out for, a 'Digital Technologies Contract' for home, and succinct fact sheets about common apps like 'TikTok' and 'Fortnite' – these allowed parents to be informed of the risks, as well as the positives of the programs, whilst providing them with a launchpad for meaningful discussion with their children.

## The benefits

As a result of implementing an eSmart approach to teaching and learning at Bayswater Primary School, we have found that the staff are more confident in promoting eSmart messages. Utilising numerous online tools and programs such as the eSmart Digital Licences for our senior students ensure that the school leaders truly do lead by example.

"staff are more confident in promoting eSmart messages"

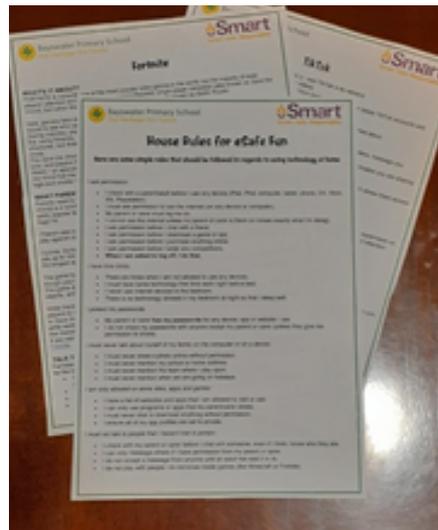
We have also found that the connection between staff and families has continued to flourish, with many families able to implement the eSmart lifestyle at home.

An unintended outcome of becoming eSmart was that when we were moved to Remote Learning, we found that the students and families approached their own cyber safety with the utmost importance.

Small things like being conscious of each other's privacy, screen time management and respectful interaction online with their peers was always at the forefront when communicating with one another.

## Community impact

Going through the process of developing and implementing an eSmart culture has really impacted on the positive interactions between staff, students and the wider community for the better.



We are extremely fortunate to have a strong eSmart ethos that has filtered to all areas of the community through changed behaviours.

"positive interactions between staff, students and the wider community"

We feel that empowering the community to promote the eSmart message not only helps our families, but also the wider community.

## Why eSmart

Our advice for schools that are embarking on the eSmart journey or thinking about becoming eSmart is that it is a fantastic accreditation to achieve. The flow-on effect of developing an eSmart culture will continue for generations, whilst ensuring that the students are prepared and 'armed' with knowledge is extremely empowering for them.

## School profile

Bayswater Primary School is a government school set in the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges, Victoria.  
The school has an enrolment of 126.  
They have been a registered eSmart School since 2012.