Digital Citizenship Plan | 2026-2027

West Ridge School

Calgary Board of Education

Digital citizenship is about using technology and participating in digital environments. It is key to helping our students learn to use available technology responsibly in the classroom and beyond. This Digital Citizenship Plan addresses how we work to build a community where we live and work together as digital citizens.

Relevant contextual information about our school and School Development Plan:

- We are a middle school, grade 5-9 and roughly 815 students
- Diverse student population benefits from using technology to support them with learning as well as demonstrating this learning
- Students have access to a technology at the school and most also have access to personal mobile devices

Relevant evidence and data that informs our Digital Citizenship Plan:

- CBE Student Survey indicates:
  - 25.65% identified checking whether online information is reliable as the area in which they need the most support which is a decrease of 5.12 percentage points compared to the previous year
  - 20.42% identified using technology to create and collaborate with peers as their greatest support need, the second most frequently selected area.
  - Concerns have been expressed by teachers regarding the appropriate use of artificial intelligence by students to demonstrate their learning.

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources	Measures
Long term goal #1 Students will critically evaluate online information and explain whether a digital source is reliable.	Informed: I validate the accuracy of digital information and resources.	**Short term goal #1** Teachers will provide explicit instruction in source verification and recognizing bias or misinformation.	Students apply consistent criteria to evaluate online information.	**Activities:** Mini-lessons using current, age-appropriate online examples. Guided comparison of reliable and unreliable sources. Source checks embedded in research and inquiry tasks. Peer discussion of evidence and reasoning. **Resources:** CBE digital citizenship resources; consistent evaluation checklist or rubric; Google's "About this result"; MediaSmarts resources, evaluated search engines	Common pre- and post-task requiring students to evaluate a digital source and justify their decision. Rubric evidence from research tasks across subject areas. June CBE Student Survey results related to identifying whether online information is true or not.
		Short term goal #2 Students will practice evaluating sources using structured criteria (e.g., author, date, bias).	Students distinguish between reliable, questionable and misleading information and can explain how they know.		
Long term goal #2 Students will use artificial intelligence transparently, purposefully and in ways that support, rather than replace, their own thinking and learning.	Involved: I leverage digital tools to learn, express my creativity and collaborate with others. Responsible: I understand and adhere to copyright and Creative Commons licensing, and I understand that anything I access, produce and post contributes to my digital presence.	**Short term goal #1** Teachers will clearly communicate whether and how AI may be used for each learning task..	Students follow assignment-specific expectations for AI use.	**Activities**: Explicit instruction using examples of acceptable, limited and unacceptable AI use. Teacher use of common assignment language such as AI not permitted, AI permitted for specific purposes, or AI encouraged with acknowledgement. Student practice checking AI-	Initial implementation evidence: Staff use of common AI expectations across learning tasks. Student pre- and post-reflection on acceptable AI use, verification and acknowledgement. Samples of student work showing appropriate process evidence and
		Short term goal #2 Students will distinguish between acceptable AI-supported learning and AI use that replaces their own thinking or misrepresents their learning.	Students can explain how AI supported their process and identify the thinking and decisions that remain their own.		

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources	Measures
		Short term goal #3 Students will verify AI-generated information, identify limitations or bias, and acknowledge AI assistance when it is permitted.	Students verify AI-generated claims using reliable sources and revise inaccurate, incomplete or biased content.	generated claims against credible sources. Process evidence such as notes, drafts, version history, conferences and reflections. **Resources:** West Ridge School AI Policy and Protocol; current CBE AI guidance on Insite; CBE Digital Citizenship Competencies; common AI-use acknowledgement statement.	acknowledgement. Teacher observations and records of AI-related concerns, including whether students successfully redid work and demonstrated their learning. End-of-year staff and student feedback to inform revisions to the school AI protocol.

Next Steps and Focuses for the Coming School Year

- Classroom evidence, student reflections, work samples, and staff and student feedback will be reviewed throughout the year to assess progress and refine the West Ridge AI protocol.
- Create a progression for the teaching of evaluating resources and the effective use of AI.