Digital Citizenship Plan | 2026-2027

Valley Creek School

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:

- Valley Creek is a dual-track Middle School (English and French Immersion) serving Grades 6–9 with diverse linguistic, cultural and learning needs.
- Year 3 of a 3-year SDP focused on increasing student engagement through effective task design and inclusive assessment practices.
- School goal emphasizes actionable feedback, student agency, and meaningful learning tasks to improve achievement across disciplines, with particular focus on reading comprehension.

Relevant evidence and data that informs our Digital Citizenship Plan:

- On the OurSCHOOL Survey, 51% of students indicated feeling safe at school, 11% below the national average. This was consistent across genders and all grades, except grade 9.
- Teacher perception data highlights the need to strengthen diagnostic assessment practices and student-led assessment (including responsible digital tools for collaboration, feedback, and creation).
- On the OurSCHOOL Survey, 26% of students indicated that they often have choice in demonstrating what they have learnt.

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources)	Measures
Students will demonstrate increased responsibility, safety, and respect in digital spaces to support well-being and positive school culture.	☐ Safe ☐ Respectful ☐ Balanced	Students will learn and apply expectations for safe online behavior and protection of personal information.	☐ Students understand what a digital footprint is and long-term impact of online behavior. ☐ Students follow school-wide expectations for safe, appropriate online interactions.	☐ Digital footprint and safety lessons embedded in classes. ☐ CBE Digital Citizenship resources. ☐ Lessons on personal information and secure passwords.	☐ Teacher observations during online activities. ☐ Reduction in digital incident referrals.

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources)	Measures
		Students will demonstrate respectful and inclusive digital communication during collaboration and feedback.	□ Students engage in positive, empathetic communication online. □ Students provide appropriate, constructive feedback using digital tools.	□ Co-created norms for online communication across subjects. □ Explicit teaching of “effective online feedback” routines. □ Modeled teacher exemplars using digital tools.	□ Teacher assessment of peer feedback quality. □ Student self-reflection on communication habits.
		Students will make balanced, purposeful decisions about when and how to use digital tools to support learning.	□ Students select digital or non-digital tools intentionally. □ Students understand how screen time impacts well-being.	□ Mini-lessons on how to select the best tools. □ Class anchors showing when digital tools enhance learning. □ Discussions about screen time wellness and boundaries.	□ Student reflection logs. □ Teacher observation of tool selection during tasks.
Students will evaluate information critically and use digital tools responsibly to support learning, creativity, and accurate knowledge building.	□ Informed □ Responsible □ Involved	Students will validate the accuracy, credibility, and relevance of digital information.	□ Students identify credible sources and recognize bias. □ Students work towards not spreading misinformation.	□ Guided research tasks in core courses. □ Lessons on fact-checking and source comparison.	□ Checks for understanding during research tasks. □ Evaluation criteria in assignments.
		Students will use digital tools to create and share knowledge meaningfully.	□ Students produce high-quality multimodal digital work.	□ Use of exemplars and success criteria for digital tasks.	□ PLC review of student digital products.

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources)	Measures
			☐ Students demonstrate deeper learning through creative expression.	☐ Collaborative Planning Teams co-designing tasks that integrate digital creativity.	☐ Student engagement indicators (survey, observational).
		Students will understand and apply copyright, Creative Commons licensing, and proper attribution.	☐ Students follow copyright guidelines. ☐ Students correctly cite images, text, and digital sources.	☐ Copyright-friendly mini-lessons embedded in research activities. ☐ CBE Digital Citizenship resources and exemplars.	☐ Rubrics including attribution criteria. ☐ Sampling of student work for accuracy in citations.
Students will use digital tools to increase agency, collaborate meaningfully, and take ownership of their learning.	☐ Involved ☐ Responsible ☐ Balanced	Students will participate in digital feedback loops (self, peer, and teacher).	☐ Students clearly identify next steps in learning. ☐ Students reflect on progress and revise work accordingly.	☐ Digital comments and rubrics. ☐ Structured self- and peer-assessment routines.	Student reflections. Increased clarity in “I know next steps” survey data.
		Students will co-create digital exemplars and success criteria.	☐ Students accurately describe quality work and evaluate their own learning. ☐ Students agency by using criteria to improve tasks.	☐ Shared exemplars posted in Classroom/D2L. ☐ Co-created checklists.	Student self-assessment evidence. PLC review of progress in student work.
		Students will collaborate digitally on meaningful, culturally responsive tasks.	☐ Students report stronger engagement and connection to learning.	☐ Collaborative Docs, Slides, and digital discussion tools.	CBE Student Survey indicators connected to belonging, interest, and relevance.

Long Term Goal	Competency	Short Term Goals	Outcomes	Activities & Resources)	Measures
			☐ Students use digital tools to collaborate, problem-solve, and share learning.	☐ Digital choice options in task design. ☐ Co-design opportunities embedded in learning cycles.	Quality and depth of collaborative work samples.

Next Steps and Focuses for the Coming School Year

- Strengthen student agency in digital learning by expanding co-created tasks, integrating more choice, and integrating authentic audiences.
- Increase school-wide consistency in digital safety routines and expectations (e.g., unified device expectations, messaging norms, privacy practices).
- Continue to embed digital citizenship within assessment practices, particularly through self-assessment, reflection, and co-designed criteria in digital spaces.
- Expand instruction on reliable information, AI literacy, and ethical digital tool use in alignment with emerging technologies