

How to be a good **DIGITAL CITIZEN**



EMPOWERED LEARNING

WITH TECHNOLOGY

In my classroom, empowered learning with technology will be vital. It will look like active, personalized, and collaborative learning. Students will have digital tools to help them work on what they are learning at their pace. They can also collaborate with others. Allow students to use technology to drive their own learning, giving them choices on how they engage with material and demonstrate their knowledge is the first step to move the school in the right direction.



DIGITAL APP

The app Epic is a great source of online technology for reading. It is an app you can subscribe to that gives you access to a huge library of over 40,000 books, both fiction and nonfiction. It also has interactive activities and games that help kids learn how to read and improve their reading abilities. They can also set goals for themselves.



ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Acceptable Use policy at New Castle states that students must not use the device inappropriately or tamper with the device, software applications and operating system. Students must observe copyright laws and avoid plagiarism by acknowledging the original author or source of any information used. Students will be held responsible for their actions while using their CFS device. Students are held responsible for any breaches caused by allowing any other person to use their device or account to access internet and online communication services. When evaluating the app using their acceptable use policy, Epic passed all of the acceptable uses and did not go against anything.



STUDENT PRIVACY

Epic received a 62% on the common sense evaluation website. The policies specify personal information such as identifiers, payment information, device and usage information, and location information may be collected when using the app. The policy confirms Epic! and their third-party partners collect data for purposes of targeted advertising. It does indicate users must create an account with username and password to access the service but does not indicate if multi-factor authentication is used. Overall it is pretty safe but could be better. Use clear, simple language to communicate tips about personal data and digital identity management. Set aside time to teach and host a workshop for students to learn.



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Students have many ways they can make positive contributions online. One important way is by making sure whatever they are sharing is by a reputable publisher and has a good credibility. You can introduce the "think before you type" concept and discuss the importance of respectful communication. Have students do a virtual kindness activity where they leave positive comments on a classmates' post. To teach correct online behaviors act out a couple scenarios with ways they should act and ways they should not act and have them decide to see if they can tell what is right and what is wrong.



DIGITAL LITERACY

It is so important to verify the accuracy of things read and shared on the internet. Look for evidence such as data or quotes. Check to see if the author cites their sources. Assess the usefulness by asking if the information directly answers your question. Also look for multiple sources. Introduce confirmation bias as "liking what you already think" by finding and sharing information that agrees with what they believe. Encourage them to discuss what they read with adults. Explain that everyone has biases, and it's okay to have them. The important thing is to recognize when they are happening.

