Digital Technology in the Classroom

INTRODUCTION

The goal of Hanover School Division is to achieve Deeper Learning through dynamic learning environments, collaborative learning partnerships, high yield pedagogical practices, and by the leveraging of digital technology.

Leveraging digital technology in our classrooms supports personalized learning, real-time assessment, authentic rich learning contexts,

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FAQ

WHAT IS GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION?

Google Workspace for Education is a web-based program used for word processing, storage of files, spreadsheets, calendars, and presentations. This program is considered an extension of the HSD technology network and is used in all of our schools.

Google Workspace for Education enables students to collaboratively create, edit, and share both files and websites for school-related projects. Examples of student use include showcasing class projects, building an electronic portfolio of school learning experiences, and working in small groups on presentations to share with others. Google Workspace for Education on the HSD network is to be used for educational purposes only. HSD manages all student accounts, controls permissions, monitors usage, and can suspend service/accounts.

DOES GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION INCLUDE EMAIL ACCOUNTS?

Yes. The Workspace service includes a password-protected email account (not standard Gmail accounts) for each student on the HSD network. HSD controls access and monitors accounts.

Early Years (K-4) students can send and receive email, but only within the Hanover School Division network - where both the sender and recipient have an HSD email address. ALL EXTERNAL EMAIL IS BLOCKED. Not all Early Years schools or grades will integrate email service into educational programming.

Middle Years students (Gr. 5-8) have expanded access to this service, allowing for the sending/receiving of internal and external email. The ability to send external emails from school accounts is intended to facilitate communication between students and their contacts at home.

Email service is to be used for educational purposes only. If used inappropriately, individual account access or service functionality may be limited. HSD has full access to email accounts, therefore students and parents/guardians should have no expectation of privacy with respect to email content and data stored.

IS INTERNET ACCESS BENEFICIAL FOR STUDENT LEARNING?

Yes. Internet access is beneficial for use in classroom activities, student research, and is an effective tool in the learning process. By providing controlled Internet access, students can engage in learning that supports in-class instruction and expands upon their learning experiences.

WILL MY CHILD'S INTERNET ACCESS BE MONITORED?

Yes. Internet filtering on the HSD network is implemented via a multi-layered security approach, using trusted URL and IP filtering services, along with installed GoGuardian software (Chromebooks). GoGuardian software cannot be turned off by students and operates in the background regardless of device location or Internet access points.

HSD is confident in the effectiveness of our filtering services, but we also recognize that there are no perfect filters. School staff will do their utmost to ensure students arrive at appropriate sites. All students are educated regarding online safety and best practices of digital citizenship, and we encourage parents/guardians to engage in discussion with their children on such matters.

WILL DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES REPLACE TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION?

No. Digital technologies used within HSD classrooms are supportive to the learning process, and not a replacement for teacher instruction. Leveraging these technologies will support the HSD Deeper Learning Plan in developing the eight core competencies of 'Our Kid'. To be a Learner, Critical Thinker, Communicator, Collaborator, to be Literate and Creative, and to exhibit good Citizenship and Character. By embedding these age-appropriate digital technologies into classroom practice, we accelerate, amplify, and add value to learning.