DiGii@School

Parent Handbook

DiGii • SAFE

DiGii • CIVIL

DiGii • SAVVY

Preparing and protecting your students through fun, immersive and age-appropriate cyber education. Social media with training wheels that teaches every child to be safe, civil, and savvy in their online life.

hello@digiionline.com | digiisocial.com

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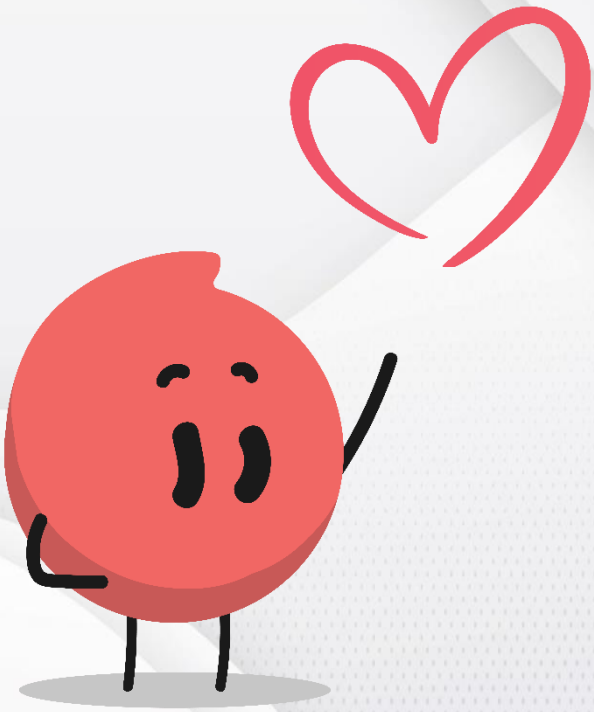


A Note from Claire

Hi, I'm Claire, the CEO of DiGii Social. I'm a therapist who has worked with many thousands of children and families over the last 28 years. Above all of that I'm a mum. I have four boys aged from 15-22, and boy, do I know how much work this parenting thing is!

Maybe, like me, you've got children who love being on their devices – chatting, gaming, watching YouTube. Maybe, also like me, you find it hard to be across everything your child is into online and just when you think you've figured it out a brand new 'must have' app comes out.

The reality is, we're bringing up children in the digital age and it's an added complexity that generations of parents before us haven't had to manage. It's possible that you have the child who gets off their device right when you ask them – no complaints. The child who doesn't try and get past your filters or downloads and uses apps secretly because all of their friends are allowed. The rest of us – well, we're trying to figure out whether keeping them off all together is a good idea or whether allowing them screen time is better while we can still supervise and influence them.

The answer is that there is no right answer – there is only education. The only way we can raise our children to be safe, savvy and morally responsible Digital Citizens is to teach them in a way that they can learn. And that learning must happen before the tricky teen years.

So, I've developed DiGii Social*, a platform that's 'social media with training wheels' for children in Year 5 and Year 6, and a comprehensive curriculum for Years 1 to 4. DiGii@School is designed for those vulnerable 'tween' years where they are becoming more influenced by their friends, but we are still able to positively guide and shape them.*

On the pages that follow, I'm going to do my best to explain how the DiGii Social platform works, how we keep your child safe, how we use the latest in technology to guide your child's digital-life learning and an outline of the Year 1 – 4 curricula. I fully appreciate the trust you're putting in me and our platform to deliver world-class cyber education to your child that's fun, age-appropriate and meaningful. I want to reassure you, that I am bringing decades of experience to the table and you and your child are of central importance to me.

I do hope that the information on the following pages helps to answer any questions you might have. If you need more information, I encourage you to get in contact via email at hello@digiionline.com. You might like to visit the DiGii Social website for some more insights too www.digiisocial.com.

DiGii Social is an innovation that we are sharing with the world to make it a better and safer place for all our children.

Warm regards,

Claire Orange
Author / Therapist

Digital-life education – it's vital

Digital-life education is something every 21st Century child needs – and it's an important inclusion in the School Curriculum. Every moment that your child spends on screen matters. Whether they're using apps like TikTok, Snapchat or iMessenger, or they're gaming on any one of the platforms out there– they're being exposed to a HUGE audience of people.

Being a Digital Citizen is something that every single child is going to be exposed to at some time in their life – if not now, then soon. Before your child spends too much time playing online and leaving a digital footprint, we want to know that they know enough to keep themselves, and others, safe.

By the time your child is in late primary school, you might be thinking about giving them a mobile phone for when they start high school. They might have their own tablet at home too. Not every family allows time online – but we know lots do and we also know that when your child gets into high school, they're going to want a way to chat to their friends online.

If we, as parents, get on the front foot and really prepare our children for digital-life, we're not only doing them a favour in terms of protecting them from the obvious dangers, we're also looking after their future, we're teaching them a code of morals and ethics that they will use throughout their adult life, and we're doing our job as parents.

We know that children learn best by doing and experiencing and that's what the children's platform offers – an immersive, secure and educational social media experience.

DiGii@School for the 21st Century Child

DiGii@School – a whole school solution

DiGii@School is an efficient, evidence-based and engaging way to teach children the skills needed to be safe, civil and savvy in online and offline too. DiGii@School is cyber-safety, digital literacy and a social and emotional wellbeing program all rolled into one convenient teaching tool.

Students: Year 1-4 students engage in experiential teacher-led learning that's fun, fully resourced and developmentally appropriate. Year 5-6 students put their accumulated skills into practice on a live and fully automated learning platform.

Parents: Parents and up to 5 people they nominate in their 'Village' have open access to the DiGii@Home platform, where they access on-demand brief digital parenting content. Parent webinars are available at no cost to all parents and are notified on their platform.

Educators: Teachers have their own platform to view student progress, schedule learning and to access Professional Learning each term.

Curriculum Aligned

In an increasingly digital world, it is critical for every child to learn the skills, attitudes and behaviours of digital citizenship, self-protection, and responsible use of technology. For all year levels, digital safety and wellbeing is addressed explicitly in learning areas and in general capabilities.

Learning Areas

- Health and Physical Education
- Digital Technologies
- Design and Technologies

General Capabilities

- ICT Capability
- Personal and Social Capability
- Ethical Understanding
- Critical and Creative Thinking

Of course, learning within areas and capabilities about online safety and wellbeing has strong cross curricular links, and links to Protective Behaviours and Child Safe Frameworks.

Targeting eSafety & Wellbeing

Digital life competence includes many key skills – from understanding the power and contribution of technologies through to the development of strategies that promote mental wellbeing, moral and ethical behaviours, safety for self and others, and complex relationship management skills. DiGii@School offers children the opportunity to stack learning and to practise their skills in real-time in a supported environment.

Year 1-4– Foundation Skills Curriculum

Teacher-led Learning

16 fully resourced Lesson Plans per year group organised into 4 learning Modules, each building the foundational and fundamental protective skills and behaviours for online and offline life.

Year 1 & 2

Protecting ME in a Digital World

The early school years are synonymous with a child's emerging sense of self in the wider world. Digital life competencies and capabilities are developmentally skewed towards 'I' being at the centre of learning.
Y1 & 2 differentiated lesson plans establish a firm foundation of digital safety and wellbeing by upskilling the child starting with self.

Learning Modules: (4 lessons / Module / Cohort)

I AM SAFE ONLINE
- early warning signs, rules & processes

I AM KIND ONLINE
- empathy for self & others

I AM RESPONSIBLE ONLINE
– critical thinking & responsible decision making

I AM STEADY ONLINE
- emotional self-regulation, calming down

Year 3 & 4

Learning about US in a Digital World

The middle school years require regular own / school device use as part of learning. Increased independent device use at school and home contributes to a rise in social, emotional, and learning issues.
Y3 & 4 differentiated lesson plans explore expanding capabilities from self, to social, to global that prepare, protect, and prevent.

Learning Modules: (4 lessons / Module / Cohort)

ME ONLINE
- self-awareness & management

WE ONLINE
- social awareness & management

US ONLINE
– being part of the global digital community

THEM ONLINE
- managing threats & opportunities

Year 5 + 6 – DiGii Social Platform

Student-led learning

DiGii Social is an automated learning platform that looks, feels and performs just like social media. An application of Artificial Intelligence guides the children's interactions, launches learning applications and notifies the teacher of concerns. DiGii Social comprehensively teaches the skills of Digital Citizenship, protective behaviours and social and emotional wellbeing.

DiGii Social is a safe and secure environment where children can practice the skills to be safe, civil and savvy online. Student interactions only happen within the school cohort and are bound by the school day.

DiGii Social Features

DiGii Social is a world-first and powerful live environment that teaches your students while they play. Here are the most important features:

Strikes

This is the unique feature that makes DiGii Social world-first and powerful.

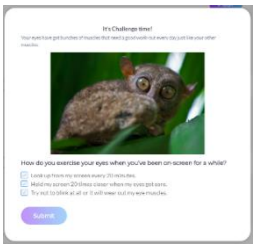
Our clever Artificial Intelligence, depicted by our lovable little character "DiGii" *(that's him below)*, monitors and moderates everything that children post in text or images and guides children while they play with friends. The AI watches out for actions like swearing, put downs, racism, cyberbullying and any other inappropriate language or images, and issues a 'Strike'.

A 'Strike' notifies the child of inappropriate content, and 3 Strikes result in them watching a brief animated Tutorial related to their action and losing DiGiiTs.

Children can dispute Strikes – this is important to point out as our AI is still learning to manage child language and sentiment. If a child thinks that they have been moderated by the system for language or images that they consider reasonable or okay…we encourage them to click on the button "I don't agree" rather than accepting the Strike. The moderation will then go to you as the Teacher in the 'Disputed' section of the 'Strikes' tab on the Teacher Platform for you to make a judgement on and have a discussion with the child.

Strikes are a good opportunity for a growth mindset conversation about learning from mistakes.

Challenges



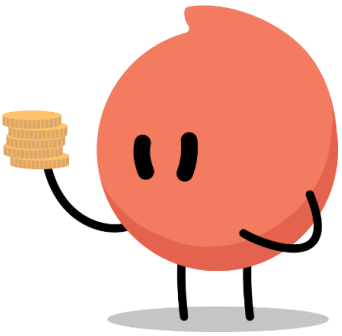
Several times a week, an automated Challenge will appear on each child's Message Board. This expands the child's learning across curricular areas, ensuring that digital literacy and wellbeing are covered. Challenges are presented in a variety of ways with brief video-based education available for each Challenge. These are scheduled to run automatically, however, can be scheduled by the teacher.

Curriculum progress and reporting

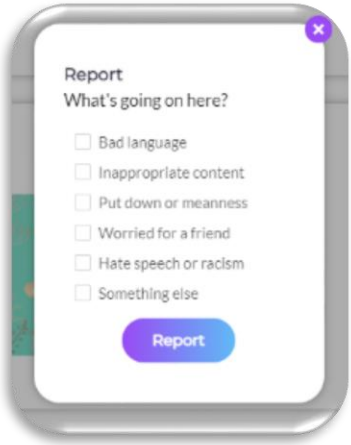
Each child's progress through the learning content is tracked and presented on the Teacher Platform. The opportunity to deploy specific learning content for all children or for individual children is available.

DiGiiTs

DiGiits are the currency of the platform. They are privilege points awarded for good Digital Citizenship and lost for poor behaviour. DiGiiTs can be gifted by teachers and friends, and they can be added to by the child opting to watch learning content.



Reporting



Children are taught systematically how and when to report. As a key protective factor digitally, children are encouraged to anonymously report content that is then notified on the Teacher Platform for action.

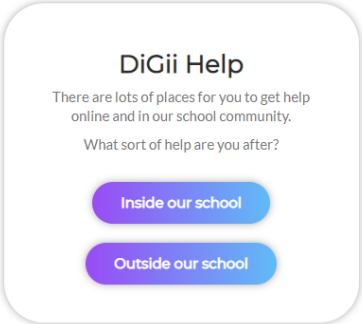
The AI is good, but not infallible, and sometimes things get past the AI, either by mistake, or deliberate, and sometimes clever, manipulation by students testing the system.

We are trying to teach children to 'think critically' about everything they post and see on the platform, so we encourage students to anonymously "Report" any offending posts.

That is also why we encourage children to 'dispute' a Strike if they think that they have been moderated by the system for language or images that they consider reasonable.

Help Seeking

Children are encouraged to seek help, that is social and emotional help, not technical help, within the school from help sources and from outside the school from certified support counselling and online safety agencies. All stakeholders linked to a class are notified of a help request.



listed child-

Lesson plans and DiGii Life Lessons

Additional teacher-led content is made available each term on the Teacher Platform. DiGii Life Lessons provide an opportunity to explore a critical cyber-protection concept, with the lesson taught end-to-end on the platform.

Tutorials

In each Zone of the platform, brief video-based learning is available. Tutorials in the Learning Zone are triggered when a child receives a strike, however, a child can opt in to watch these to gain DiGiiTs. Tutorials also trigger when a child is unable to complete a Challenge. A text-to-voice feature assists accessibility. Tutorials in the Chat Zone are called Chatorials and provide an excellent source of learning content for complex social issues faced by the children online and offline.

The Parent Platform

As part of your child's DiGii Social experience, we want you to have the opportunity to learn about digital-life management too – yours and your child's. The Parent Platform houses 50 brief, subject-specific videos that match and mirror the Tutorial content on your child's platform.

Up to 4 parents (grandparents, carers) can be linked to your child's DiGii Social Platform, and every time you watch a Video, DiGiiTs are added to your child's account.

Getting Started

As soon as your school has been on-boarded, you will be invited by email to join the DiGii Social Parent Platform. It's important to check your spam mail as sometimes emails end up in the wrong spot. If you don't get an invitation, ask your child's teacher to send us a message and we'll check it out.

Logging on for the first time (and every time) is simple. Follow the link in your email, set your password, and you're in and ready to watch.

We're always adding useful links to the Parent Platform so if you come across any sources of great, trusted information for navigating the challenges of digital parenting, send us an email at hello@digiionline.com.

DiGii Social FAQ's

Privacy and security

Your child's security on our platform is of paramount importance. DiGii Social is secured to your school's network and we don't store any identifying data about your child. Your child will be required to log in to DiGii Social using their assigned name (usually first name, but intial of surname if there's more than one same name child) and a secure password.

Will it take up class time?

Yes – and no. DiGii Social is like any social media. We're encouraging your child's teacher to use the platform for about 45 minutes a week. A bit of time before school, between lessons and as a treat will be enough so that powerful learning will happen. This is the same way most people use social media, and DiGii Social is designed to reflect this type of usage. Our system will do all the rest. DiGii Social is only available during school hours.

Why are we encouraging children to use social media?

That's a very good question. As parents, we engage in all sorts of preventative education to keep our children safe ahead of the time they're going to need that knowledge. We teach them to cross roads – safely holding hands at first and then, with more practise, we allow our children to walk ahead, cross by themselves and then one day to hop into a car and use all that knowledge that we've been stacking since toddlerhood.

While we teach ahead of needed knowledge in so many instances, there's some resistance to doing the same in online life. With 80% of 12 year olds having 2 or more social media accounts already, we know that early and effective education of our tweens is the best way to keep them safe and to teach them digital-life skills.

Who can see what my child is doing? Can I?

Only children in your child's class – and their allocated teachers and support staff will be able to see what your child is up to. We want children to use DiGii Social just like social media so that we can carefully guide them as they chat to friends. Your child will be able to report other children – and that report WILL be seen by an adult. Your child will also be able to ask for help – and if they do, our clever system will keep messaging teachers (and support staff) until your child's help request is looked after.

Parents can't see what's happening on the children's platform for lots of reasons. We've created a 'safe container' that's a naturalistic digital environment that children can make mistakes in, and be caught and gently guided by our system. At the end of each year, the digital-life slate is wiped clean. It's a kind way to let a child experience messy learning with no threat to their forever digital reputation.

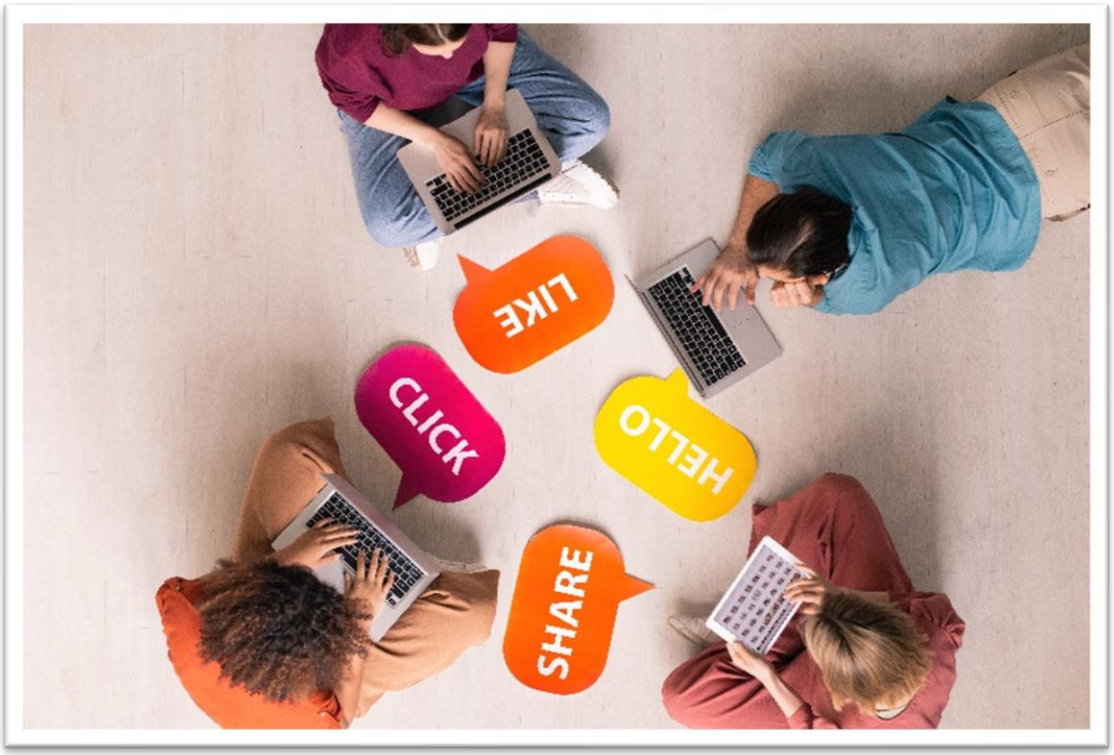
We're listening...

We're a progressive team who really, deeply care about your child and giving them the very best start in their digital-life that will help them now, and right out into their future too.

We have a vision for DiGii Social and an enormous mission to provide millions of children around the world with exceptional, 21st Century, digital-life education.

Have you got thoughts and ideas? Requests? Queries? We are THAT team. That team who listens.

Email us at hello@digiionline.com and we will get back to you. We're listening.

Our comprehensive digital-life curriculum teaches your child to,

'Stand DiGiiTALL!'