



*The Freedom to Soar
Tukuna kia rere*

Home Based Learning Safety Support for Parents

April 14th 2020

As we welcome back our students to Term 2 tomorrow in a *virtual Home Based Learning capacity* we wanted to highlight the importance of having a Home Based Learning Safety conversation with your child/ren.

At Maunu School we focus safety around on our Five Feather Values.

- Respect – hei whakanui
- Responsibility – takohanga
- Integrity – kia tūpono
- Excellence – whakaaro pai
- Curiosity – kia tiro tiro

We remind our students that they are the same person in an online environment, their cyber world around them, as they are in the offline environment, the physical world around them. We want them to demonstrate their Five Feather Values in both environments.

At school class teachers create a *Digital Treaty* with their students so they can establish an agreed set of rules and routines together. Whilst each treaty differs slightly it is based on the following idea.

When I'm Online

We keep **SAFE** by following the rules of the school & my teacher.

I show **RESPECT** to myself, to others and to the equipment I am using.

I protect my own and other people's **PRIVACY**.

We recommend you spend some time creating a Family Treaty together. Here is a [link](#) to support you with a Family Treaty.

Netsafe is a fantastic resource for students, families and educators. We highly recommend you bookmark this website and make [Netsafe](#) a regular site to visit.

Netsafe has put these tips together to help parents and whānau talk to their young people about online safety.

[SEVEN TIPS TO HELP YOU](#) (click on the link for the full article)

The following tips are designed to enhance your digital parenting knowledge and have been developed with parents in mind.

1. **Understand:** Read about the potential online risks, challenges and sometimes illegal behaviour young people face to understand what may happen
2. **Learn:** Ask your child about what they do, how they use devices and who they talk to learn about their activities. Check in regularly to see what has changed
3. **Explore:** Take the time yourself to explore the sites, apps and technologies your child uses to improve your knowledge and understand their experience
4. **Agree:** Create a family code with your child to agree on what they can do online including sites to visit, appropriate behaviours, privacy settings and limits
5. **Start:** Recognise each child has unique needs, but some online safety concepts are universal. Start by teaching yours the Five tips to help your child thrive
6. **Model:** Be a good example to your child. Make sure you role model the sort of behaviours you want to see your child use online and offline
7. **Plan:** Make a plan so everybody knows what to do if something goes wrong and where you will be able to get advice and support in challenging times

The Well Being of the Maunu School Community is our focus. The teachers are providing activities that focus on a balanced curriculum and are mainly completed in the offline, physical environment. However we are aware students may be on devices more at present for some of their learning and in their downtime as social activities.

Most apps and games can be searched for their content and recommended age. [Common Sense Media](#) is one search tool to support you when making decisions about your child's online activity. Whilst free apps are often appealing we need to be aware as parents some of the hidden safety issues. Here is an article about some of the online safety challenges of mobile games [Mobile Games and in-app purchases](#)

Finally, two apps that are popular in this present environment are [House Party](#) and [TikTok](#). Both are recommended for users 13+. We have linked articles about both apps to support you.

We look forward to connecting with your child/ren and providing Home Based Learning activities.

We recommend

- Keeping to a basic structure that suits you and your bubble's Well Being.
- Having an agreed family plan/ treaty for online activities
- To use the fantastic resources on [Netsafe](#) to refer to regularly.