DiGii
SOCIAL

Dear Parent,

Your child's school has opted to purchase **DiGii@School**, a digital-life training platform and curriculum. We're excited to offer this amazing learning opportunity to your child, to yourself and to your school as we want every child to be safe and protected in their digital life.

Firstly, I think it's as well to cover the biggest worry that parents will have in introducing their child to something that looks, feels and performs like regular social media (except ours is super-clever and educational) and in doing that I'll introduce myself.

You might not know that **80% of Australian 12-year-olds have 2 or more social media accounts**. This includes messaging platforms (like Snapchat, Instagram and WhatsApp), apps (like TikTok and YouTube) and gaming platforms with a chat function (like Minecraft, Roblox and Fortnite). This may or may not include your child, but the absolute truth is that one day, it will. Whether it's now, during the teen years or at work, at some point your child will end up online. The digital world can be full of exploration and joy, but for many children, one that's equally full of dangers and content well beyond their young years. Knowing how to manage that and the big problem of cyberbullying is an essential skill for all our children.

We understand that you might be worried about introducing your child to a social media-like platform already. We want to reassure you that DiGii Social is a safe and secure platform that's only for children in your child's class and year group – and only in your school. All the teaching content is aligned to the curriculum and your child is going to learn so many skills that will protect them right now, or when they're ready to become a Digital Citizen. **We all want to educate our children about dangerous parts of life – like crossing roads - to keep them safe. Digital life is certainly no different**.

I am a mum – of 4 young men, and I fully understand any trepidation that a parent might have about our sort of digital-life education – because DiGii Social is a live and immersive social-media environment. What we offer is a way for your child to learn vital self-protective skills in a safe environment that gently guides and educates them on every choice they make. And there's no digital-footprint to be left behind because at the end of the year, all that interaction is erased and any mistakes or messy learning is quite simply gone. I am also a therapist with over 27 years of experience dealing with children, families and schools, so your child is in very safe and experienced hands.

Please do visit our website and join in a chat with me about the amazing DiGii Social platform and all it has to offer you and your child: www.digiisocial.com.

In the mean-time, please do reach out if you have any questions – I'm on the end of an email claire.orange@digiionline.com. A very warm welcome to the DiGii Social growing village of cyber-protected children and families.

Claire Orange
Founder, CEO, Therapist

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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 that children find – 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, but 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 student platform offers – and immersive, secure and educational social media experience.

DiGii@School - provides our students in Years 1-6 with a progressive curriculum aligned and evidence-based cyber education resource teaching them to be **safe**, **civil** and **savvy** when online.

Year 1-4's teachers have access to a fully supported and resourced set of easily administered lessons to develop fundamental eSafety, digital life and wellbeing skills.

Year 5-6's put all those skills into action on the live **DiGii Social** Student Platform where our AI-based Virtual Teacher monitors and educates every keystroke, automatically providing animated learning Tutorials related to their chosen action.

Teachers of Year 5-6's (and Admin) have access to the DiGii Social Teacher Platform with full visibility over the Student Platform and data on learning progress.

Parents have access to their own learning portal with on-demand short view content guiding your digital parenting choices and behaviours.

What is DiGii Social?

DiGii Social is an automated social-media-like platform that teaches upper primary school children (in Year 5 and 6) the safeguarding skills of Digital Citizenship and Protective Behaviours in a safe and immersive environment.

The platform is secured within your school – no other children or adults can access it - and it's only available during the school day. DiGii Social is an educational resource that systematically teaches your child how to behave and be safe online.

The children's platform is just like regular social media – they can post pictures and words to friends, there are banners, feelings, emojis, GIFs. We use the latest in technology though, to analyse and moderate your child's interactions. Essentially, we're using your child's use of the platform to help them to learn the power of their words and pictures.

DiGii@Home Parent Platform

You, as parents and caregivers have access to your own platform at any time, that houses brief, subject-specific, evidence-based videos and resources that match and mirror the Tutorial content on the children's platform.

We encourage you as the parent to think about your child's and your own digital footprint, safety, and content access. While much content is about managing your child's digital life, we also take the opportunity to encourage you to think about what you are modelling with screen-time, how you are approaching your own digital-life and how, through posting images of your child online, how you're contributing to your child's forever digital résumé.

Up to 4 caregivers/parents/grandparents can be linked to the Parent Platform, and every time you watch a video, your child is rewarded when DiGiiTs are added to their account.

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 the school day.

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?
The short answer is – No. 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 a teacher. 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. If children fear being told off by an adult (parent or teacher), they will wait and make those mistakes in other digital environments that are not so forgiving and that store those mistakes forever. We don't.

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.

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