Digital Technology in the Classroom

INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, Hanover School Division has embedded technology into the fabric of classroom learning—not as a replacement for teaching, but as a tool for enhancing engagement, collaboration, and critical thinking. As we continue this journey, we remain committed to ensuring that all students benefit from safe, inclusive, and meaningful digital learning experiences. Our goal is to support impactful learning through dynamic learning environments, collaborative partnerships, high-impact teaching practices, and thoughtful integration of learning technologies.

Learning technologies in our classrooms support personalized learning, real-time assessment, authentic and relevant learning experiences, and opportunities for students to connect with families, explore beyond the classroom, collaborate with others, and demonstrate their understanding in creative and varied ways.

GRADES K - 2

Classrooms are equipped with class sets of iPads. These tools facilitate student engagement, offer flexible means of assessment, and help meet the diverse needs of young learners. Digital tools also support early skill development through exploration, play, and creation.

GRADES 3 - 8

Classrooms use a two-to-one Chromebook model. These devices are managed by the school division, integrate with Google Workspace for Education, and support a wide range of learning opportunities, including collaboration, multimedia creation, and research.

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DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FAQ

WHAT IS GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION?

Google Workspace for Education is a cloud-based productivity and collaboration suite used across all HSD schools. It includes tools for word processing, file storage, spreadsheets, calendars, presentations, and website creation.

Students use these tools to create, collaborate, and share their work within a secure environment. Projects may include digital portfolios, group presentations, or interactive class websites. Google Workspace is managed by HSD for educational purposes only, with monitored access and strict controls on account use.

DOES GOOGLE WORKSPACE INCLUDE EMAIL ACCOUNTS?

Yes. Each student is provided with a password-protected HSD email account. HSD controls access and monitors all student accounts.

Early Years (Gr. K–4): Students can send/receive email only within the HSD network. External email is blocked. Not all schools or grades in this range will use email.

Middle Years (Gr. 5–8): Students can send and receive both internal and external emails to support home-school communication and collaborative learning.

Email is to be used for educational purposes only. Misuse may result in restricted access. There should be no expectation of privacy; HSD has full access to monitor and manage accounts.

IS INTERNET ACCESS MONITORED AND SAFE?

Yes. HSD uses a layered approach to online safety, including URL/IP filtering and GoGuardian software on Chromebooks. This software runs continuously and cannot be disabled by students. It monitors student activity regardless of where the device is used.

While no filter is perfect, school staff and technology systems work together to promote safe and purposeful online use. Students also receive instruction on digital citizenship and online safety. We encourage parents/guardians to have ongoing conversations with their children about responsible technology use.

WILL TECHNOLOGY REPLACE TEACHERS?

No. Technology is used to enhance—not replace—high-quality teaching and learning. Our focus is to use learning technologies to accelerate, amplify, and deepen student learning. This work is grounded in the development of Manitoba's Global Competencies, which include Critical Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, Citizenship, and Connection to Self.

When embedded purposefully into classroom practice, these tools help students build the knowledge, skills, and mindsets they need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

LOOKING AHEAD

As technologies continue to evolve with tools such as artificial intelligence, media creation platforms, and various online tools, HSD remains committed to responsible innovation. We will continue to focus on equity of access, inclusive practices, and preparing students to be thoughtful, ethical, and empowered digital citizens.

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Google Workspace for Education

www.hsd.ca