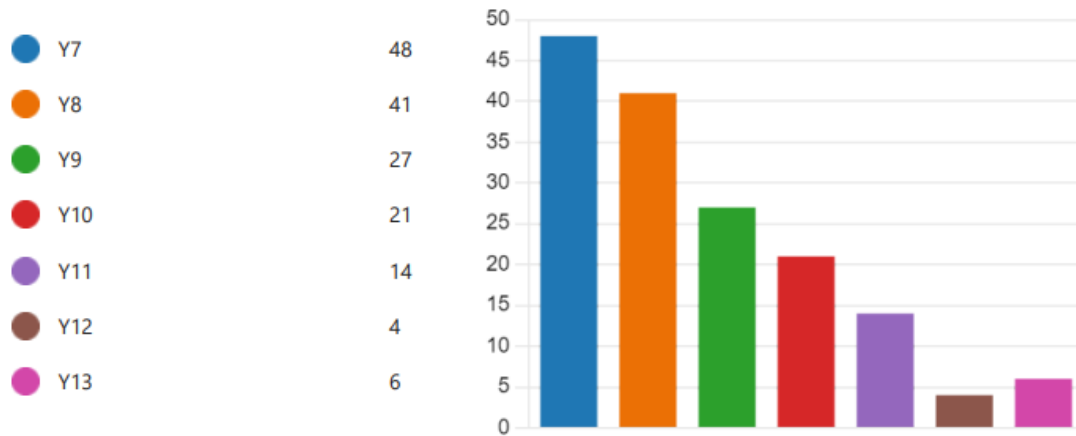# VICTORIA COLLEGE

EST 1852

Parental feedback on internet & devices usage at Victoria College

161 responses = 23.5% response rate

1. Please select your son's year group

🔵 Y7		48
🟠 Y8		41
🟢 Y9		27
🔴 Y10		21
🟣 Y11		14
🟤 Y12		4
🩷 Y13		6

2. How positive do you feel about your son's use of technology in general?

Promoters	12
Passives	51
Detractors	98

-54
NPS®

3. How would you describe your son's relationship with technology?

🔵	Enhancing	38
🟠	Neutral	69
🟢	Damaging	47
🔴	I don't know	7

4. Why does your son go online?

🔵	Mostly Study/homework	27
🟠	Mostly Social media	24
🟢	Mostly Gaming	110

5. How positive do you feel about your son's use of technology within a school context?

Promoters	27
Passives	48
Detractors	86

-36
NPS®
0
-100   +100
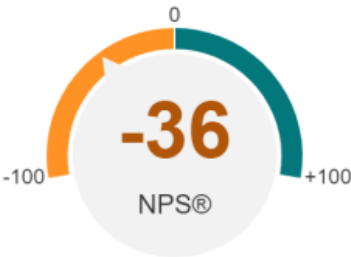
6. How confident do you feel in parenting or policing his use of the internet?

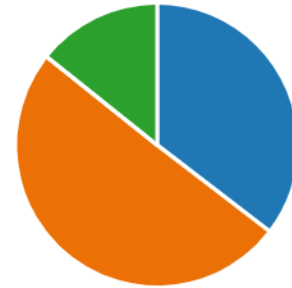|		
🔵	Very confident	24
🟠	Somewhat confident	86
🟢	Somewhat unconfident	38
🔴	Very unconfident	13

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7. Is there any friction with your son when parenting his screen time?

More Details   💡 Insights

🔵	A lot	57
🟠	A little	81
🟢	None	23

8. A representative sample of responses to the question, "What are the sources of friction?"

None. My son uses the internet sensibly

Getting him off "mid game" !

Prioritising school work and understanding that in the short term this might mean missing out on online activities!

Computer in bedroom not as easily policed as it used to be.

The length of gaming time

Inappropriate videos, he gets distracted from learning by clicking on games (e.g. chess)

Homework is done as quickly as possible so he can revert to gaming. The temptation is far too great when online for him not to end up drifting away from homework tasks. I really struggle to understand how and where to find all the different places that homework may be for different subjects so I'm relying on him to be honest that it's all done and that's not always the case and he objects to the questions.

9. Can your son successfully regulate his use of technology to distinguish between academic school work and online social time?

🔵	Yes	65
🟠	Sometimes	75
🟢	No	21

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10. A representative sample of responses to the question

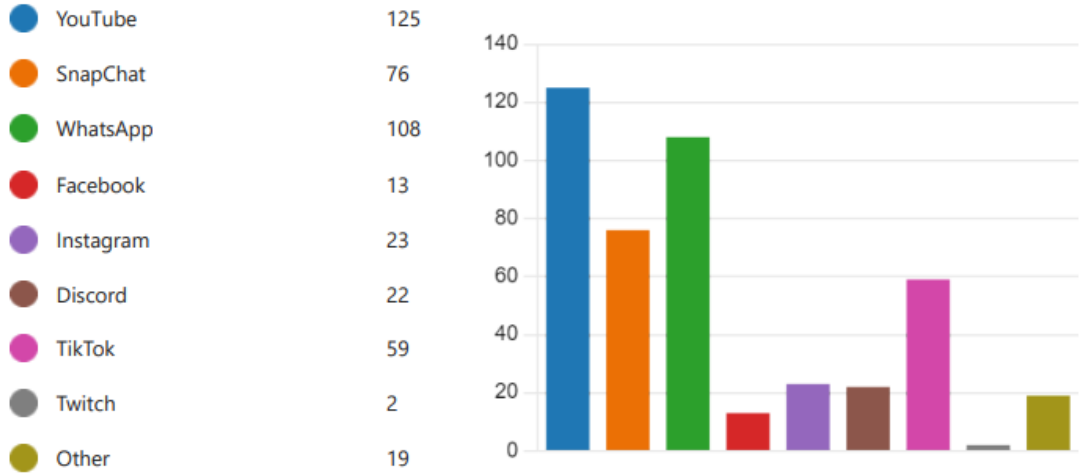| "My son's relationship with technology would be better if"	"Why?"
There were less kids his age gaming too	*Less reason to use PS4*
He went outside more	*Fresh air*
It was easier to separate the homework from the gaming tasks. No one used to make school text books that had fun games throughout them to distract a child from the task. This is the problem.	*I can't police his homework because I'm mainly not home. All I can do is look at Satchel and wait for a red mark. I can't get him to show me what he's done as he says it's submitted so it is gone.*
He handed his phone in at the start of the school day (he admits he goes on Snapchat/Youtube in class). If there was an app to stop Youtube/ see his history/monitor his tech usage.	*He cant self-regulate. even though he has his mocks coming up he does nothing (study wise) unless supervised. He literally can't help himself, the temptation of social media/Youtube is too great - despite the importance of his exams/future.*
He understood the dangers	*I don't want him seeing violent/pornographic videos too young*
Gaming wasn't so addictive.	*The competitive element speaks to boys. There is an opportunity to always improve which appeals but this encourages constant use. This was exacerbated by the pandemic.*
There wasn't a negative feeling around its use and scaremongering about its over-use, technology is here and now and isn't going anywhere.	*I feel they need to understand the importance of how technology is shaping our future and their future job opportunities*
Technology was fully embraced in schools to the extent that it is used in an office environment e.g. using computers for all written or design work and assessments	*To ensure the boys are appropriately prepared for today's workplace environment and productively see and use technology in all aspects of their lives.*
His learning was a blend of online and traditional methods. Moreover, it would be better if he had a school device that contained monitored and exclusively educational apps on, for the completion of his homework vs blending a recreational device (that we are expected to be provided with) with studies. I do think that even at Vic it is a lot of pressure for some parents to offer a home device, not just financially but in terms of set-up/safety management. It's a huge temptation for them and a policing nightmare for parents! Moreover,	*See above - so that parents can support, hold accountable and be clear with what is being learnt, how they are progressing.*

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if we had more distinct types of materials brought home, we would be able to more easily access, help and partner with our children and support teachers in the work they are doing. Students know all about and how to navigate SharePoint, but it doesn't really feel like parents are welcomed into this aspect of their learning journey. His learning should be a blend or should be a choice.	
Homework wasn't technology related and he had proper textbooks to revise and work from.	*It makes a clear break between schoolwork and gaming/social media without any distractions.*
School simplified the platforms where work is stored and homework issued	*Confusion with lack of structure and quality of learning materials additionally*
He could self-discipline himself better. School and teachers' education in that respect would help. They take what is said at school much more seriously than what I as a mother tell them.	*Most children at that age are like that.*

12. On average, what is your son's daily "Screen Time"?

🔵	0-3 hours	78
🟠	3-6 hours	72
🟢	6-9 hours	10
🔴	9+ hours	1

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13. What social media platforms does your son use?

●	YouTube	125
●	SnapChat	76
●	WhatsApp	108
●	Facebook	13
●	Instagram	23
●	Discord	22
●	TikTok	59
●	Twitch	2
●	Other	19

14. How often do you check your son's online usage?

●	Daily	37
●	Weekly	68
●	Monthly	31
●	Never	25

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15. Is Victoria College's "Mobile Phone" policy beneficial to the students?

🔵	Yes	149
🟠	No	12

16. Would you find some training on parental controls of internet devices beneficial?

🔵	Yes	101
🟠	No	60

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17. A representative sample of responses to "Any further comments"

Although online gaming is very addictive it is also a time when my son socialises and talks with his friends. Playing with friends is now very different to 20 years ago.

Both my sons are too old now to enforce parental controls on their devices. It is about educating them to self-regulate and recognize the benefits of withdrawing from screens and having a break .

I am happy with the school phone policy. After school it is difficult to keep them away from their phone and keep them busy especially in this bad weather.

I am so thankful that my son cannot use his phone during school hours. I am sure it is a policing nightmare for teachers, but I do appreciate that the expectation is that they should neither be seen nor heard. They are otherwise such a distraction and detract from students recreating naturally, conversing and active pursuits at breaktime and lunchtime, during passing periods etc. My other child's school allows phones and they become the first thing they look at around bells ringing and I think it is a dangerous and slippery slope, both in terms of the risk for online bullying pressures in social media, but also distraction, eye fatigue and a breakdown in kids' abilities to develop healthy communication skills. Thank you for all your efforts to address these difficult issues, seek our views and support students holistically!

I think Parents need to take a greater responsibility in how they introduce, manage and portray technology to their children. It can be harmful, but so can anything… we, as parents, protect our children from harm by applying rules, explaining away concerns etc. Technology should be no different. I would argue this is a very negative survey aimed at reducing the use of technology, however where can I tell you about the positive impact it's had on our son's life and the things it enables him to do!?

I think the school's use of technology (and at home for homework) is good and not an issue, but non-school screen usage is a challenge for us.

If homework and school communication depended less on technology this would help avoid more screen time and the blur between schoolwork and internet/gaming which can be easily accessed and cause distraction from tasks. A parent can't tell without looking at the same screen.

My concern is that schoolwork is set and marked online rather using textbooks and teacher marking, giving feedback and correcting errors.

Please do whatever you can to use technology in an active way and as a supportive tool, but not the default or the only way of teaching. Please give our boys the opportunity to learn from books, to figure out things for themselves and spend time away from screens. Encourage them to do practical activities and challenges, and spend time outdoors as much as possible.

There are pupils in his year who show nastiness to others in Snapchat groups and their language is inappropriate and not kind.

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Would much prefer to see schoolwork and homework set using textbooks and class note books. I feel there is too much reliance on technology, OneNote, SharePoint etc. and little focus on reviewing and using student notes from lessons / revision techniques.

Would welcome teachers' instructions and guidance. I often quote that at boarding school a lot of their tech would be banned until all homework done and within a strict time frame.

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