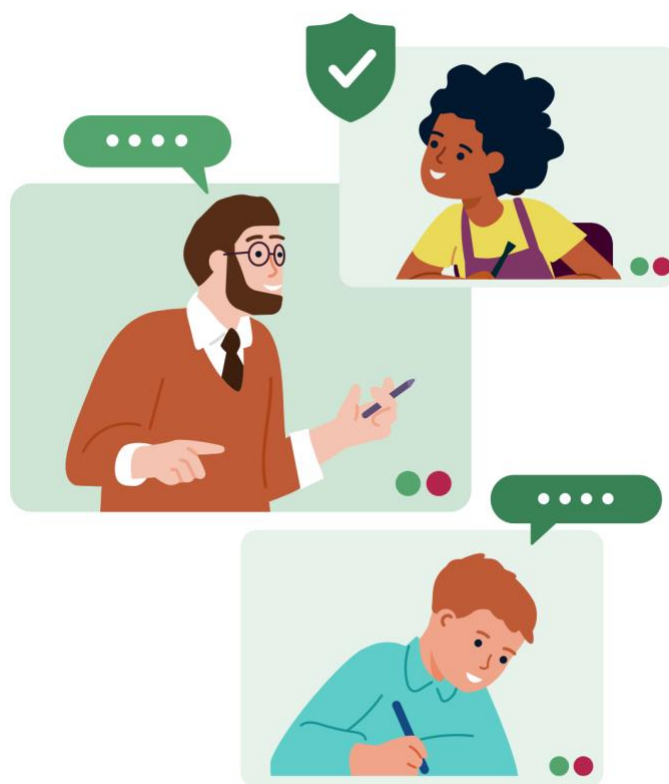




# School charter of commitment to online safety



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## Aim

A school charter of commitment to online safety is an agreed set of public statements that the whole school community makes to create safer and more positive experiences online for everyone. A charter of commitment is an integral component to a whole-school approach to online safety.

A charter should include a set of easy-to-understand, highly visible statements that have whole-of-school community online safety and wellbeing at their core. Importantly, it should align with the relevant school and/or education sector policies and procedures, and child safe standards.

## Design

Schools are encouraged to engage with their whole school community to develop a charter that reflects the school's values and online safety expectations. eSafety's [Engage – School community engagement plan](#) and the school community surveys in [Engage](#) provide ways to involve the whole school community.

A charter should be in plain language so it can be understood and accepted by the whole school community including students, parents and carers, school staff and other professionals who engage with the school.

## Review

Schools are encouraged to have processes in place to review their charter annually and ensure that the charter is communicated promptly to new members of the school community as part of student enrolment and staff onboarding procedures or as part of [Safer Internet Day](#) 'back to school' conversations. This can be achieved by having the charter prominently placed on the school's website and displayed in high traffic public areas at the school including on electronic noticeboards.

## Example

As part of [eSafety's Safety by Design initiative](#), we asked children and young people about the online world they want. Feedback from this was developed into a [vision statement](#) and [set of principles](#) which are available for reference on the eSafety website.

As you consult with your school community, you may find another format is more appropriate.

**There is an editable charter template schools can use on the following pages.**

## Example – Charter of Commitment to Online Safety

My school is committed to ensuring every member of the school community can participate in safe, supportive and inclusive online environments.

<b>E</b> mpower	We will <b>empower</b> the school community to interact safely, responsibly, and respectfully so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of being online.
<b>S</b> ecure	We will keep <b>secure</b> by not disclosing personal details or sensitive information online and by using secure online software, platforms and tools. We will be proactive in identifying and mitigating online risks and responding and reporting online incidents.
<b>A</b> ccept	We will <b>accept</b> our shared responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of students by valuing them above all else, understanding the issues they face and protecting their safety and privacy online.
<b>F</b> ollow	We will <b>follow</b> all relevant school and/or education sector policies and procedures when engaging online or responding to incidents. We will also adhere to child safe standards and maintain appropriate personal and professional boundaries.
<b>E</b> nsure	We will <b>ensure</b> that all members of the school community have opportunities to participate in the process of creating safer online environments. We will ensure that students are consulted and their voices are heard.
<b>T</b> reat	We will <b>treat</b> all members of the community with courtesy and respect, both online and offline. We will remain courteous and respectful even in the face of challenges to online safety.
<b>Y</b> ou	We will support <b>you</b> to create a positive online culture that acknowledges and embraces the diverse backgrounds and needs of our community.

# Charter of Commitment to Online Safety

\_\_\_\_\_ is committed to ensuring every member of the school community can participate in safe, supportive and inclusive online environments.

<b>E</b> mpower	
<b>S</b> ecure	
<b>A</b> ccept	
<b>F</b> ollow	
<b>E</b> nsure	
<b>T</b> reat	
<b>Y</b> ou	

If an online incident occurs, school community members will:

- act as soon as we become aware of an incident involving students/s and/or staff at our school.
- ensure the protection, safety and wellbeing of students is the main priority
- follow school and/or sector policies and procedures for responding and reporting online safety incidents
- utilise eSafety support resources in the Toolkit for Schools – Respond element to guide effective responses
- inform and engage outside agencies and support systems as appropriate.

**Charter enacted:** DD/MM/YY

**Last reviewed:** DD/MM/YY