



July 2020

Dear Parent

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

As we live in a digital society, it is essential that everyone is '**digitally competent**' to access new opportunities to learn, work, create and engage in a society which is shaped by digital technology. Almost every aspect of a young person's life is mediated and augmented by digital technology. It co-authors their opinions, fashions their identities, influences their behaviour, affects their mood and mental health, plays host to their relationships and complements their education.

Here at MCS we want to ensure that our young people are empowered to participate in online environments *knowledgeably, creatively, responsibly and fearlessly*. It is estimated that 90% of new jobs in the future will require excellent digital skills and, therefore, we understand the responsibility we all have to improve digital competence and literacy to ensure future employability.

The **Digital Competence Framework** (DCF) sets out the digital skills to be attained by learners in Wales aged between 3 and 16+ across four strands.

CITIZENSHIP - DEVELOPING THE SKILLS NEEDED TO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THE DIGITAL WORLD AROUND US

INTERACTING AND COLLABORATING - EXPLORING METHODS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND IDENTIFY WHICH ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE TO COLLABORATE IN A GIVEN SITUATION

PRODUCING - PLANNING (INCLUDING SEARCHING FOR AND SOURCING INFORMATION), CREATING, EVALUATING AND IMPROVING DIGITAL CONTENT USING A VARIETY OF MULTI-MEDIA

DATA AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING - UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF DATA AND INFORMATION LITERACY BY EXPLORING ASPECTS OF COLLECTION, REPRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

At MCS, students will be working across a number of digital platforms both in and out of the classroom and will have the responsibility for being a good digital citizen. Many of the characteristics of being a good citizen – from being respectful and responsible, to doing what's right – are key elements to digital citizenship as well. Being a good digital citizen is more than being a safe Internet user. A good digital citizen is able to **effectively, responsibly and respectfully collaborate and communicate** using digital platforms. It is about making the right choice and understanding the impact of your actions online.

As users of online apps, social networking sites, and other online collaboration forums, students must realise that they are a citizen of many different communities. Just like real-life communities, there are rules, etiquettes and even laws to follow. The expectations of all our students when working online can be found on the school's website.



As a parent or carer you may have concerns about keeping your children safe online, this [Hwb Resource](#) contains a series of helpful guides to develop your own understanding and education resources you can use with your children to teach them about the importance of safe and responsible use of technology.

Yours faithfully

Miss S Caswell
Digital Literacy Co-Ordinator
