

Marple Newtown School District

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Since technology is so integral in today's information rich world, your child may be using many online tools as a foundation for research, collaboration and problem solving across the learning community. Among these online tools will be the suite of Google Apps available for free on the internet. These apps specifically include Google Docs, Google Drive, Gmail and Google's Blogger application, as well as other applications available through Google Apps for Education (GAFE)

Safety and proper usage of the chosen technology is vital to the successful implementation of curriculum goals. To familiarize yourself with issues involving online safety, you may wish to visit the following site which is very valuable for anyone with an online presence, but especially those families with children. (<https://www.google.com/safetycenter/families/start/>) The use of GAFE will be encapsulated in a closed network. This means that only Marple Newtown School District Faculty and students will be able to communicate and work with each other. Users outside of the district will not be allowed into the Marple Newtown GAFE network. As a part of the GAFE End User License Agreement, the Marple Newtown School District must be and is compliant with Child Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). COPPA is a regulation that requires parental consent for the online collection of information about users under 13.

When respected, technology will benefit the learning environment as a whole. The use of technology to access educational materials is not a necessity or right, but a privilege. When abused privileges will be taken away per actions indicated in the Student Agenda which can be found at your child's school website. It will be the student's responsibility to follow the rules of acceptable internet, technology and social media use. (See Policy 815 and Policy 816 at: http://www.psb.org/districts_policies/m/342/)

In order to better help you understand the different functions of GAFE and how your students will be using it in the classroom, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions section of our website located at: http://www.mnsd.org/content_page.aspx?cid=6

Thank you,

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