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DEFINITION

Digital citizenship refers to the responsible and ethical use of technology and digital platforms, encompassing a range of behaviours, skills, and attitudes that promote positive interactions and engagement in online spaces.



BENEFITS

Access to Information

Digital citizenship provides access to vast amounts of information and educational resources available online, fostering continuous learning and personal growth.

2 Communication

It enables individuals to communicate and collaborate globally, breaking down barriers and facilitating connections with people from diverse backgrounds.

3 Empowerment

It empowers individuals to express themselves, share their ideas, and advocate for the causes they believe in through various online platforms.

Safety and Security

It educates individuals about online safety practices, such as protecting personal information and avoiding cyber threats, thus enhancing their overall security in the digital world.

Social Awareness

It fosters social awareness by encouraging empathy, respect, and tolerance in online interactions, leading to a more inclusive and compassionate online community.

6 Critical Thinking

It promotes critical thinking skills by encouraging individuals to evaluate the credibility and reliability of online sources and information.

Rights and Responsibilities

Understand your rights and responsibilities as a digital citizen, including the right to privacy, freedom of expression, and access to information, as well as the responsibility to use technology responsibly and ethically.





Online Identity and Reputation

Be mindful of the digital footprint you create through your online activities, including social media posts, comments, and interactions. Your online reputation can impact your personal and professional life, so think before you post and maintain a positive digital presence.



3

Cyberbullying

Take a stand against cyberbullying and online harassment by promoting kindness, empathy, and respect in your online interactions. If you witness or experience cyberbullying, report it to the appropriate authorities and support networks.





Shhh....

Privacy and Security

Protect your privacy and security online by using strong passwords, enabling two-factor authentication (2FA), and being cautious about sharing personal information. Understand the privacy settings on social media platforms and adjust them to control who can see your information.



Copyright and Intellectual Property

Respect copyright laws and intellectual property rights by obtaining permission before using or sharing copyrighted material online. Give credit to the creators and owners of content, and avoid plagiarism and piracy.





Digital Etiquette

Practice good digital etiquette by communicating respectfully and courteously online. Avoid cyberbullying, trolling, and hate speech, and engage in constructive dialogue with others, even when you disagree.



7

Digital Literacy

Develop digital literacy skills to critically evaluate online information, identify misinformation and fake news, and make informed decisions about the content you consume and share. Be a responsible digital citizen by seeking out reliable sources, verifying information, and challenging falsehoods.



8

Digital Well-being

Maintain a healthy balance between your online and offline activities to avoid digital addiction and burnout. Take regular breaks from screens, prioritize face-to-face interactions, and cultivate hobbies and interests that don't involve technology.



Advocacy and Activism

Use your voice and influence as a digital citizen to advocate for positive change in your community and society. Stand up for digital rights, online safety, and digital inclusion, and support initiatives that promote a more equitable and inclusive digital world.



Key Concepts

Digital citizenship encompasses various concepts essential for navigating the online world responsibly and ethically. Some key concepts include:

Digital Literacy: The ability to effectively find, evaluate, and utilize information online, including

understanding digital tools and technologies.

Online Safety Practices and strategies to protect personal information, privacy, and security while

using digital platforms.

Netiquette Etiquette and behaviour guidelines for respectful communication and interaction in

online communities.

Media Literacy The ability to analyze and interpret media messages critically, including

recognizing biases and misinformation in digital media.

Familiarize yourself with these concepts to thrive as a digital citizen.



PLATFORMS FOR DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP RESOURCES



<u>Common Sense</u> <u>Media</u>

Provides reviews and ratings for movies, TV shows, books, and games, helping users make informed decisions about media consumption.



Google Be Internet
Awesome

Offers interactive games and activities to teach kids about online safety, privacy, and digital literacy skills.



NetsmartzKids

Offers videos, games, and resources for kids, parents, and educators on topics like online safety, cyberbullying, and social media etiquette.



