As the Edmonton Catholic Separate School District No. 7 commits to providing anywhere/anytime learning opportunities, it is critical that Edmonton Catholic Schools’ teachers and students are familiar with the responsibilities of being digitally connected citizens.

Teachers must be aware of the impacts of student participation in the digital world so that they can recognize “teachable moments” that arise as students explore and create in an online environment.

Students must become aware of the benefits and risks that are associated with digital interactions and that ultimately they themselves must be able to make responsible choices and decisions as they navigate and interact within the digital world.

Staff and students in Edmonton Catholic School District No. 7 are expected to become responsible digital citizens in a 21st Century learning environment.

Definitions:

**Digital Citizen**: a digital citizen is an individual who interacts with other individuals using digital tools and resources such as computers of varying types and the internet as a means to connect to other people and interact with them using a variety of means such as email, blogs, websites, and various social media. The digital citizen is aware of and practices proper behaviours and socially accepted conventions in these online interactions. A digital citizen is a person who has developed the skills and habits that promote positive interactions with others in the digital world.

**Digital Citizenship Education**: is planned instruction of staff and students on the proper use of digital resources and technologies to develop skills and behaviours that enable them to become digital citizens who interact with others online in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of the Church, and the Eight Characters of Catholic Education. In Edmonton Catholic Schools this behavior is consistent with the existing Policies and Regulations governing Student Responsibility (104), School Conduct (109), Acceptable Use of ECSDNet (129) as well as the Student and Staff Responsible Use Agreements. It is also consistent with the “Nine Elements of Digital Citizenship” (found at DigitalCitizenship.net). This is also known as Digital Literacy.