



A GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Technology in Your Child's Classroom

Preparing for college, career, and life

High school students use technology the way adults do at work and in college: to research, create, and collaborate. Just as important, they learn when not to use it, and teachers guide them toward making that call themselves.

What to expect in the classroom



Devices

Each student has a school laptop that goes home for the evening. In-school use is still guided by the teacher.



How often

It depends on the subject and task. Some days are heavily digital. Others are low-tech on purpose: seminars, labs, writing by hand.



Teacher's role

Teachers explain why laptops are open or closed for each activity, stay present when devices are in use, and model professional habits.

What good technology use looks like

A brief for a real audience

Groups research a local issue, co-write a two-page brief, and share it with a community partner.

Producing a podcast

Students interview a community member, record and edit a five-minute episode, then write a reflection tied to class.

A digital portfolio

Students gather their best work into a portfolio for college applications, scholarships, and job searches.

Skills your child is building

- Research that weighs and combines many sources
- Co-authoring and giving feedback in shared workspaces
- Producing podcasts, videos, websites, and data visuals
- Digital portfolios and college and career applications

Digital citizenship

- Managing a reputation colleges and employers may see
- Knowing the line between using tools and original work
- Writing professional emails and messages
- Knowing when to disconnect



Be Safe

Protect yourself and your information online.



Be Responsible

Use technology honestly and with a purpose.



Be Kind

Treat others with respect in digital spaces.



Be Balanced

Know when to use screens and when to step away.



About AI at this age

Students learn to use AI with teacher guidance and transparency: as a thinking partner, research starter, or editing help, never a replacement for their own thinking. The standard: a student can explain what the AI did, what they did, and how they checked the result. If they can't defend the work without the AI, the AI did the learning.

How you can partner with us at home

TRY ASKING

"What did you work on this week that you're proud of?"

Teens don't always volunteer details. Asking about the work, rather than the device, tends to open things up.

TALK ABOUT

Their digital footprint

Ask what they'd want a college or employer to see online, and what they wouldn't. People look.

AT HOME

A laptop routine

A charging spot outside the bedroom and a set "laptop closed" time build habits they'll need in college.

Every child is different. If your child has an IEP or 504 plan, technology may be used differently to support their learning. Questions? Your child's teacher is the best place to start.