



Education &
Communities

Public Schools NSW



Google Apps for Education

Your Child has been chosen to participate in an Early Access Program

The NSW DEC is partnering with Google to allow the state's 750,000 students and 85,000 teachers to use Google Apps for Education, to foster collaboration, creativity and the development of 21st century skills.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child already has access to a Gmail account to facilitate access to school email, messages and communications. In 2013 the NSW DEC is providing access to a wider tool set linked to students Gmail accounts known as Google Apps for Education.

What are Google Apps for Education?

Google Apps for Education are a set of online applications that allow students and teachers to collaborate, create, present and research more effectively in the online environment.

You may have heard of and used some of them before. The suite your child will gain access too includes:

- **Google Docs** – A powerful creation tool that gives students the power to create presentations, word processed documents and spreadsheets online and in collaboration with their peers!
- **Google Sites** – An easy to use website builder that will enable students with the assistance of their teacher to create websites viewable by you at home!

Your School and Child's role

Your child's school has been chosen to participate in an Early Access Program to trial the use of these tools in the classroom. They will be pioneers in using these technologies paving the way for other schools around New South Wales. As part of this program the school/Department of Education and Communities may publish information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences within the Google Apps environment with other students, informing the school and broader community about school and student activities and recording student participation in this noteworthy project.

This information may include your child's name, age, class and information collected at school such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child's work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media.



Education &
Communities

Public Schools NSW



Google Apps for Education

Your Child has been chosen to participate in an Early Access Program

The communications in which your child's information may be published include but are not limited to:

- Public websites of the Department of Education and Communities including the school website, the Department of Education and Communities intranet (staff only), blogs and wikis.
- Department of Education and Communities publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department's websites.
- Official Department and school social media accounts on networks such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter

Your Child's Information

As part of this process your child's data may be shared with select external applications/services (namely Google) that have been integrated with the Department's information systems. Before opening access to your child, we seek your permission.

Your Child's Responsibilities

When using Google Apps for Education, at both school and home, students must ensure all activities are related to learning. In addition it is expected that students will never publish material which is:

- Offensive
- Abusive
- Discriminatory
- Threatening
- Bullying
- Harassing
- Sexually explicit or Suggestive
- False or Defamatory
- Private or Personally Sensitive

If students use Google Apps inappropriately this may result in the disabling of their Google Apps for Education account including access to Gmail.

To work with your child on building their Digital Citizenship we recommend visiting and working through the following site developed by the Department of Education for Students, Parents and Teachers: www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au

Access to Google Apps

Access to Google Apps for Education will be enabled for your child over the coming days. If you have concerns in relation to these 21st century learning and engagement tools, please contact your local school for more details.

The New South Wales Department of Education and Communities looks forward to continuing to provide your child with the tools and experiences to learn, develop and succeed.

Google Apps @ NSWDEC

