



SPARROWS HI CURRICULUM

Media, Technology & Digital Wisdom

PURPOSE

The purpose of this framework is to help students engage media and technology with wisdom, discernment, creativity and Christian integrity.

Students are encouraged to use digital technologies as faithful stewards who seek truth, build healthy relationships and contribute positively to society.

Technology should serve people rather than control them.

PHILOSOPHY

Technology is one of God's gifts that can be used for great good or great harm.

It enables learning, communication, creativity, innovation and service. At the same time, it can encourage distraction, manipulation, comparison, addiction and isolation.

Students should therefore learn not merely how to use technology, but how to use it wisely.

GRADUATE OUTCOME

By graduation, students should:

- use technology responsibly;
- evaluate digital information critically;
- communicate respectfully online;
- understand the opportunities and limitations of artificial intelligence;
- protect their privacy and safety;
- demonstrate healthy digital habits;
- use technology creatively and ethically;
- steward their attention intentionally.

A THEOLOGY OF TECHNOLOGY

Students explore questions such as:

- What does Scripture teach about wisdom and knowledge?
- How can technology serve God's purposes?
- When can technology become an idol?
- How does technology shape our habits?
- How can Christians remain faithful in a digital age?

Technology should always remain a servant rather than a master.

TRUTH IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Students learn to evaluate information carefully. Topics include:

- misinformation;
- disinformation;
- confirmation bias;

- source evaluation;
- fact-checking;
- recognising manipulated media.

Students are encouraged to become people who love truth.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Students receive an introduction to:

- the capabilities of AI;
- current limitations;
- ethical questions;
- responsible use;
- intellectual honesty;
- creativity and authorship.

Students should understand that AI is a tool requiring human wisdom and accountability.

ATTENTION

Students examine how digital technologies compete for attention. Topics include:

- distraction;
- multitasking;
- habits;
- focus;
- digital overload;
- intentional technology use.

Attention is understood as something to be stewarded wisely.

DIGITAL IDENTITY

Students consider:

- identity in Christ;
- social media;
- online reputation;
- authenticity;
- comparison;
- self-worth.

Students are encouraged to resist measuring themselves by likes, followers or online approval.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS ONLINE

Students learn:

- respectful communication;
- kindness;
- empathy;
- conflict resolution;
- recognising unhealthy online behaviour;
- healthy digital boundaries.

The same Christian character expected offline also applies online.

CYBERBULLYING

Students explore:

- recognising cyberbullying;
- responding wisely;
- supporting others;
- reporting concerns;
- maintaining dignity and respect.

Every person should be treated as one who bears God's image.

DIGITAL PURITY

Older students receive age-appropriate teaching regarding:

- protecting the mind;
- pornography;
- sexualised media;
- accountability;
- seeking help without shame;
- God's grace and restoration.

Teaching should be compassionate, biblically faithful and hopeful.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Students learn practical skills including:

- password security;
- scams;
- phishing;
- protecting personal information;
- safe online practices.

Digital wisdom includes protecting both ourselves and others.

CREATIVITY

Technology also provides opportunities for:

- storytelling;
- design;
- music;
- filmmaking;
- programming;
- communication;
- education;
- ministry.

Students are encouraged to create more than they consume.

DIGITAL MISSION

Students consider how technology can be used to:

- encourage others;
- share the Gospel;

- build Christian community;
- support ministry;
- serve neighbours.

Digital spaces are recognised as places where Christians can faithfully bear witness to Christ.

LEARNING PROGRESSION

The program is structured across three stages of secondary education.

Years 7–8	• Respectful communication; • online safety; • screen balance; • recognising trustworthy information. • Focus: practical and foundational.
Years 9–10	• Social media; • digital identity; • AI; • misinformation; • ethical technology use. • Students evaluate technology through biblical principles.
Years 11–12	• Emerging technologies; • digital ethics; • AI and work; • online influence; • digital ministry. • Students develop a personal philosophy of digital wisdom.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students should participate in:

- media analysis;
- AI workshops;
- digital creation projects;
- online research exercises;
- ethical case studies;
- discussions;
- guest presentations from Christian professionals in technology and media.

Learning should remain practical, reflective and forward-looking.

ASSESSMENT

Growth may be demonstrated through:

- digital projects;
- reflective writing;
- ethical case studies;
- presentations;
- mentoring conversations;
- evidence of healthy digital habits.

Assessment should value wisdom and discernment as much as technical skill.

RECOMMENDED READING

Senior students may benefit from selected works such as:

- The Tech-Wise Family — Andy Crouch
- The Life We're Looking For — Andy Crouch
- Digital Liturgies — Samuel D. James
- Twelve Ways Your Phone Is Changing You — Tony Reinke

Students should also engage with current, reputable Australian resources on cyber safety and digital citizenship.

INTEGRATION

This framework connects with:

- Christian Worldview;
- Leadership Development;
- Health, Wellbeing & Human Flourishing;
- Apologetics & Faithful Witness;
- Communication & Public Speaking.

Technology is understood not merely as a subject to study but as an environment in which Christians are called to live faithfully.

OUR PRAYER

We pray that students become people who use technology with wisdom, integrity and creativity.

May they love truth more than novelty, people more than platforms and Christ more than convenience.

May every digital tool they use become an instrument for learning, serving and glorifying God rather than a substitute for Him.

"Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you."

Proverbs 4:25