

A.GINFO 17 (2024) UPDATE CSCF: DIGITAL SAFE SPACES

Element 10.8 has been updated to support guidance on how to be safe on digital platforms and when engaging and creating digital safe spaces. A number of new Guidance Notes are provided with the update to support Adults in Guiding.

The following update to Element 10.8 is provided below:

10.8. Digital Platforms – including social media and internet

Digital communication has become an important tool for everyone and GGiA acknowledge and encourage use of digital platforms for the benefits it can bring. Digital platforms support connections being made and facilitate conversations so that collaborations can take place.

GGiA require the safe use of all digital platforms, including the internet and social media, by all Adults in Guiding. The GGA Code of Conduct provides the foundation for how Adults in Guiding, and all who interact with Girl Guiding, communicate with others, including online, in an open and respectful way,

Adults in Guiding must not engage with Youth Members through social media personal profiles or personal email addresses. When Youth Members are engaged on digital platforms another Adult in Guiding and/or the parent/guardian of the Youth Member must be copied into all communications.

When communicating with a Youth Member in any way, Adults in Guiding must always engage with the Youth Member in an appropriate and safe manner. Please refer to the Guidance Note: Being Safe in the Digital Space for more information on how to safely engage with all Youth Members.

To comply with the GGA Code of Conduct, any reference to Girl Guiding in Australia or any aspect of Girl Guiding must represent and promote the beliefs and values of Girl Guiding.

Youth Members are expected to uphold their Girl Guide Promise at all times, including when they are in the digital space. Units must include in their Unit Rules how Unit members engage in the digital space. When at camp, follow the Camp Rules.

Guidance Notes to support this procedure are:

- <u>Guidance Note: Being Safe in the Digital Space</u>
- <u>Guidance Note: Digital Platforms FAQs</u>
- Guidance Note: Girl Guide Websites and Social Media Accounts
- Guidance Note: Inappropriate Behaviours on Digital Platforms
- <u>Guidance Note: Breaches and Consequences</u>

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner provides valuable resources to share with Youth Members to support digital safety. Please refer to Online safety | eSafety Commissioner