Students get creative with eSmart

Students at one of our eSmart schools have taken teaching cybersafety into their own hands.

Queensland Academy for Creative Industries (QACI) was one of the first Queensland Schools to adopt an approach to the framework that befits their name, with several creative initiatives to engage the school community. The School’s Leadership Team which has become integral to the Academy’s eSmart vision over the past five years.

Our eSmart Schools program provides schools with the tools and resources required to equip them to teach online safety.

QACI’s Head of Department eLearning, Jennie Jahnke said that with new technology extending the reach of bullying, it is imperative for schools to be proactive in promoting safe and responsible online behaviours.
“At QACI we felt it was important for the implementation of eSmart to be student-led. We identified that our fifteen year levels, could collaborate with teaching staff on initiatives to promote the importance of staying safe online.”

“This cross-year level collaboration has been very successful in ensuring input from all sections could be delivered effectively to a broad range of students.”

The team of 15 Apple Angels from years 10 – 12 also form part of the school’s eSmart committee. They have undertaken the Leadership Induction ceremony. The team deliver presentations as part of the year 10 ICT induction program, open to students from all years. They work closely with the ICT support team at the school.

Manager of eSmart Schools Judi Fallon, said involving students in eSmart was a great way to get students aligned online.

“Young people can be vulnerable to cyberbullying and other traps like grooming, loss of privacy, that schools not only have the correct policies and procedures around cybersafety in place, but a message across as well.

Cybersafety needs to be an ongoing discussion in school, and I commend QACI on their brilliant student-lead initiative, said Judi Fallon.

eSmart Schools is now in almost 2,200 schools across Australia. For more information, visit www.esmartschools.org.