Linewize
by Qoria

What's Slipping Through the Gaps?

Where gaps may exist in your school's digital safety approach, and how to close them.



linewize.co.nz

Kia ora

Over the years New Zealand schools have taken important steps to support student safety online.

Basic firewall-level filtering is in place.
School accounts (Google and/or Microsoft) are generally well-managed. Obvious age-inappropriate websites are usually not accessible over school networks.

These foundations remain important.
However, the environment those safeguards were designed for has continually evolved and increased in complexity.

Today, digital risk is not limited to clearly unsafe or blocked websites. But kura leaders increasingly tell us their biggest concern is what sits outside those filters: bullying, self-harm, grooming, or exposure to harmful content happening in spaces thought to be "safe" like shared docs, emails, AI tools, and learning apps. Unfortunately, these are exactly the places where serious incidents are happening today. In the last 12 months alone, our system alerted schools to over 2,000 concerning behaviours inside Google Docs - risks that would otherwise have gone unseen.

As a result, many schools are finding that while basic protections are in place, they are not providing the level of visibility or confidence expected. Justin Somerville, Principal, Halsey Drive School recently said to me in a webinar "We assumed we were keeping students safe... until we realised we weren't seeing the full picture."

This reading has been developed to support kura leaders to:

- **understand** what's changed
- **identify** where gaps may exist
- **consider** how those gaps can be addressed

Linewize has been partnering with hundreds of schools across Aotearoa since 2012, supporting a shared goal: helping hundreds of thousands of tamariki thrive in a safe and connected digital world. We'd love the chance to support your school too.

Ngā mihi,

Sammi Hagen

NZ Education Director



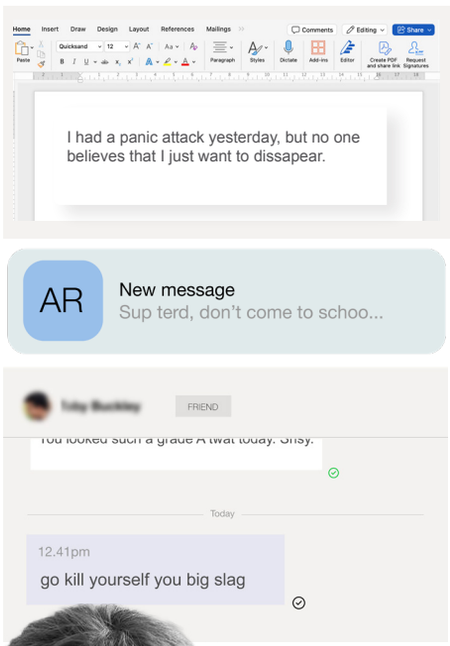
What's Changed and What Schools are Starting to Notice

The nature of digital risk in schools has shifted.

It is no longer confined to clearly unsafe or blocked websites. Increasingly, it is occurring within the everyday platforms students use for learning, communication, and connection. **Recent analysis across New Zealand schools highlights this shift.**

Over the past 12 months, more than 22,000 alerts were generated through our Monitoring tool, each signalling student risk or behaviour requiring attention. That's roughly three every hour. These were not just flagged searches, but negative online behaviours happening in "safe" online spaces.

These examples are drawn from real, anonymised student activity, showing the kinds of interactions that can otherwise go unseen.



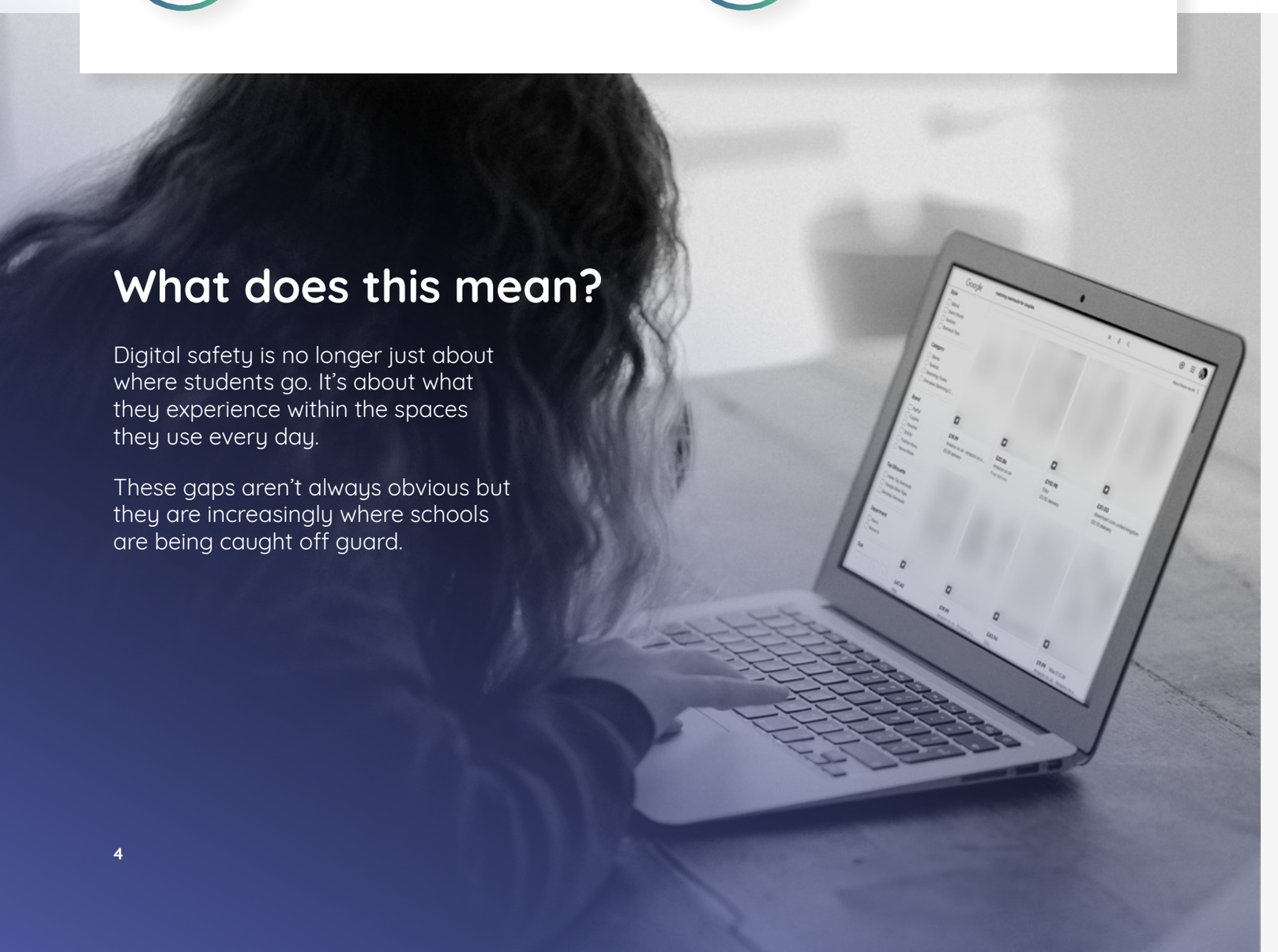
Where Student Activity is Slipping Through the Gaps

40% of alerts occur within collaboration tools and shared documents.

13% occur within classroom learning platforms, unnoticed.

23% occur in gaming environments, often disguised through fun.

10% occur within AI tools, that are undetectable to most teachers.



What does this mean?

Digital safety is no longer just about where students go. It's about what they experience within the spaces they use every day.

These gaps aren't always obvious but they are increasingly where schools are being caught off guard.

Content-Aware Protection

Where gaps are emerging in "safe" platforms.

Schools have traditionally relied on categorisation: if a site wasn't blocked, it was considered appropriate. That is no longer reliable.

A large portion of concerning behaviour now occurs within platforms that are not blocked, including search, video, and collaborative tools.

Students can encounter inappropriate or distracting content within these environments, even when basic firewall filtering is in place.

Content is created rapidly, by anyone, and is increasingly unpredictable. Thousands of new websites are added every hour, making it difficult for basic filtering systems to keep up.

A few things to ask yourself:

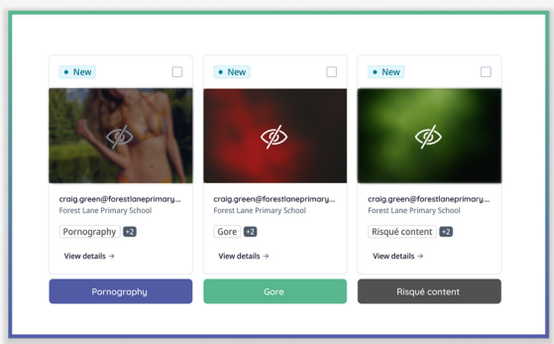
1. Is your filtering advanced enough to prevent students from being either harmed or distracted when on devices? **Y / N**
2. Can you adjust filtering rules by year group, class, or time of day? **Y / N**
3. Do non-technical staff have visibility into filtering decisions? **Y / N**
4. Can filters be changed easily in response to specific behaviours? **Y / N**
5. Can risky content such as images and videos be managed without removing access to key learning sites (e.g., Wikipedia)? **Y / N**

How Linewize helps close the gap

With Linewize, protection also considers the content itself. What appears on screen across images, video, and text is analysed in real time to determine whether it is appropriate. This content may slip past tools like SafeSearch or restricted modes, particularly within platforms used for learning such as Google Search and Wikipedia.

Linewize's system blurs risky images and video in real-time, so even if a website isn't blocked by your basic firewall filtering, students aren't exposed to inappropriate content.

Furthermore, our Content Aware filtering analyses the text on websites and blocks risky pages in real-time – recognising that basic filtering can't keep up with all the new websites created every day, or sub-pages of sites like Wikipedia which you don't want to block altogether.



This approach supports more balanced digital learning, helping reduce unwanted exposure while maintaining access to the tools students rely on.

Real-time Alerts & Early Signals

Where early warning signs are being missed

Schools often become aware of issues once they have escalated and in most cases, earlier signals exist. Patterns of behaviour, changes in activity, or early signs of distress can occur within everyday platforms and go unnoticed until they escalate.

The challenge is not the absence of signals, but how early they can be seen.

A few things to ask yourself:

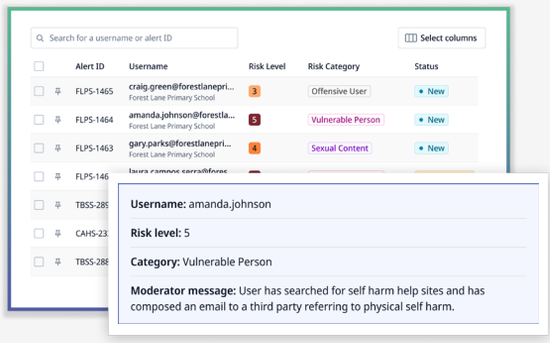
1. Are early warning signs visible, or only clear incidents? **Y / N**
2. Do you, or someone at the school, receive alerts when students do things on devices that might harm them or others? **Y / N**
3. Are reports contextual and relevant to the person receiving them? **Y / N**
4. Can wellbeing staff access insights tailored to their roles (e.g., safeguarding/pastoral leads, heads of year)? **Y / N**
5. Do designated staff receive real-time alerts when students of concern exhibit certain online behaviours? **Y / N**

How Linewize helps close the gap

Linewize takes a more considered approach. Interactions are assessed across multiple factors, including severity, context, and frequency over time, to build a clearer picture of what may be happening.

Linewize analyses what students type into the device, so monitors across the digital space, including in collaborative documents, emails, AI interactions, and everyday learning tools. If risky things are typed in, an alert is sent to the appropriate safeguarding lead(s) so they can intervene early and get students back on track.

To support informed decision-making, alerts are reviewed by a trained moderation team before reaching the school.



This helps ensure that what surfaces is more accurate, more meaningful, and easier for staff to act on with confidence.

Classroom Visibility & Control

Where gaps appear during everyday lessons

A significant portion of student interaction now occurs within collaborative tools and learning platforms used during class time. This includes both on-task activity and also off-task or inappropriate behaviour.

A lesson might be set up well, students are on their device on task, and then a tab changes, a game appears, or a student receives a mean message. Often, it's subtle and easy to miss, especially when teachers are focused on teaching, not monitoring screens.

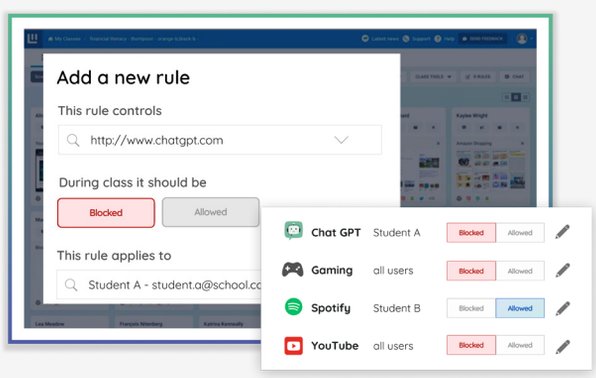
A few things to ask yourself:

1. Can teachers control student internet access in real time? **Y / N**
2. Do they use these tools regularly and confidently, with minimal IT oversight? **Y / N**
3. Can the digital learning environment be customised to individual learners or learning objectives? **Y / N**
4. Can teachers see student activity during and after lessons? **Y / N**
5. Can digital distractions be addressed quickly in class? **Y / N**

How Linewize helps close the gap

With Linewize, teachers have clear visibility of student activity after lessons, alongside the ability to guide internet use in real time to support their learning objectives. They can also rewind a student's device activity (with screenshots) after the lesson, in case something was missed when it happened.

At the same time, teachers can be confident that if something concerning does occur during class time, Linewize will pick it up and alert the appropriate staff member, ensuring it doesn't go unnoticed.



> Being able to view screens in real time has been excellent and the emails that are sent if a student searches something off limits so that we can follow up immediately and provide support moving forward."

Lexi Lauchlan, Associate Principal
Waitakere Primary School

Wellbeing Visibility & Measurement

When there isn't enough clarity to act early

Schools have always relied on a mix of observation, relationships, and experience to understand how students are doing, often combined with an annual 'slice in time' wellbeing survey. However, that's not always enough. Changes in wellbeing don't always show up in obvious ways, and by the time concerns become visible, they may already be more serious.

Schools are seeing a lack of timely, meaningful insights, the kind that provides context, highlights patterns, and supports earlier action.

Without that, it's harder to confidently understand what's happening across the school, or to demonstrate how wellbeing is being supported over time.

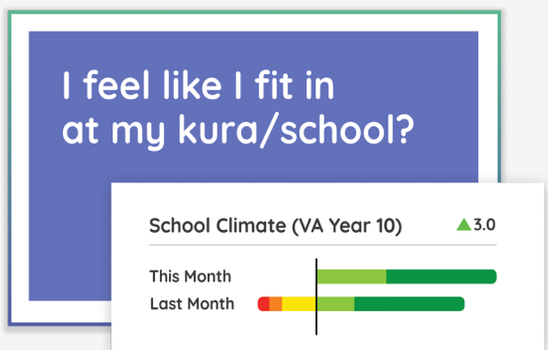
A few things to ask yourself:

1. Do you have a formal way of monitoring and recording data on how your students and staff are feeling? **Y / N**
2. Do you feel you ask students (and staff) about their wellbeing frequently enough? **Y / N**
3. How confident are you in reporting on student (and staff) wellbeing (e.g. to ERO) with clarity and evidence? **Y / N**
4. Do you have visibility across the whole school, cohorts and individual cases? **Y / N**
5. Are there students and staff in your school that you wish would reach out for help but they don't? **Y / N**

How Linewize helps close the gap

With Linewize, wellbeing becomes visible through regular, structured digital check-ins that reflect how students (and staff) are feeling over time. These are generally done weekly, taking only a few minutes.

This provides a more complete picture, with the context needed to identify patterns, prioritise support, and act earlier. This not only strengthens day-to-day care, but also provides confidence in how wellbeing is understood and reported across the school.



> Nine times out of ten, the student is fine. But that one time? That's the one. Pulse is the trigger to ask the question."

James Griggs, Principal
Heaton Normal Intermediate

Community & Home Partnership

When protection stops at the school gate

Digital experiences don't end when students leave school. They continue at home, often on the same platforms and devices, and can carry back into the classroom the next day.

Parents want to help, but they don't always have the same visibility or tools. This can create a disconnect, where schools are managing one part of the picture, and families are trying to manage another.

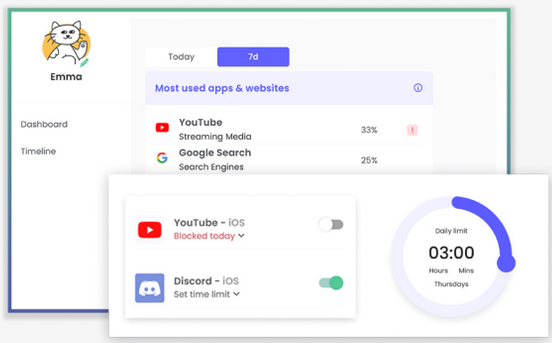
A few things to ask yourself:

1. Do parents have tools to view, pause, or limit school device use at home? **Y / N**
2. Do you have a way to minimise issues occurring after hours? **Y / N**
3. Do parents feel confident supporting safe device use at home? **Y / N**
4. Are families and schools working from the same understanding? **Y / N**

How Linewize helps close the gap

With Linewize, schools can equip parents to support safe device use beyond school hours. Kura can give them access to the same level of guidance and visibility, allowing them to set their own family rules, receive alerts and set time limits and screen-free periods.

This creates a more consistent experience for students, where expectations and support are aligned between school and home.



> It gives us visibility over what students are doing online when it simply isn't practical to oversee what every student does all of the time. In knowing what's going on, we're able to address online behaviour, educate students and when needed, put in place appropriate consequences, e.g. limit access so students can only visit specific sites."

Amy Massey, Tumuaki | Principal
St Joseph's Catholic School Pukekohe

Where to From Here

Digital safety is no longer just about restriction. It's about understanding where protection is working, where gaps exist, and how to respond with confidence.

If you'd like to talk through what's working, what challenges you're seeing, or how other schools are approaching digital safety, we're here to help.

Whether you're reviewing your digital safety strategy or exploring ways to strengthen support for students, our team would be happy to chat.

Contact: **enquiries@linewize.co.nz**
Visit: **www.linewize.co.nz**

We're here to help.

About Linewize New Zealand

Linewize has been working alongside New Zealand schools since 2012. Our local team brings experience from inside schools, along with a deep understanding of the responsibility schools carry for student wellbeing, shaped by our experience as educators and parents. Today, we partner with 600 schools across Aotearoa, working with leaders, kaiako, and whānau to support safer, more connected digital environments for over 200,000 ākonga.

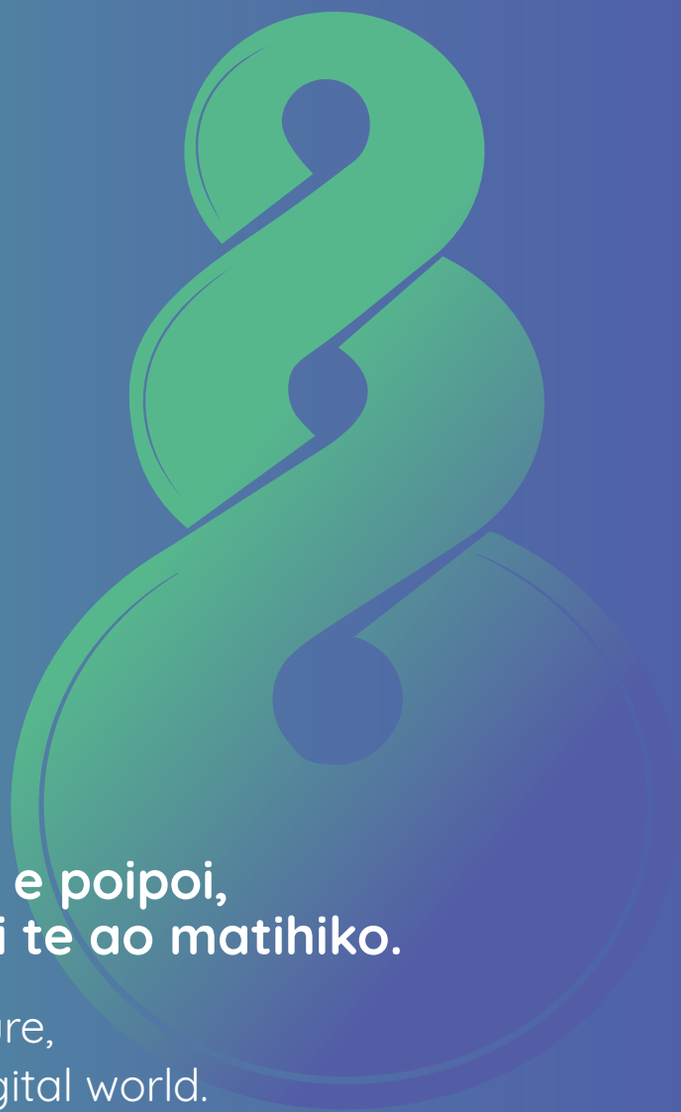
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Raising the bar in student digital wellbeing.



> Linewize has transformed school safety from a state of limited visibility into a "night and day" difference where IT resources are maximised through staff and student empowerment. The platform effectively closes critical gaps in threat detection and data usage by providing content-aware filtering and real-time, human-moderated alerts for at-risk digital behaviours."

Paul Engles, Tumuaki | Principal
Kohimarama School



**Mā te kotahitanga e tiaki, e poipoi,
e ārahi i ā tātou tamariki i te ao matihiko.**

Through unity, we protect, nurture,
and guide our children in the digital world.

Linewize
by Qoria

Linewize is a unique response to the challenge of today's connected learning environments, supporting the integration of technology, education and engagement to create cyber safe communities where students thrive.

Web: www.linewize.co.nz
Email: enquiries@linewize.co.nz

Qoria

Linewize is part of Qoria, a global technology company, dedicated to keeping children safe and well in their digital lives. We harness the power of connection to close the gaps that children fall through, and to seamlessly support them on all sides - at school, at home and everywhere in between.

Find out more
www.qoria.com