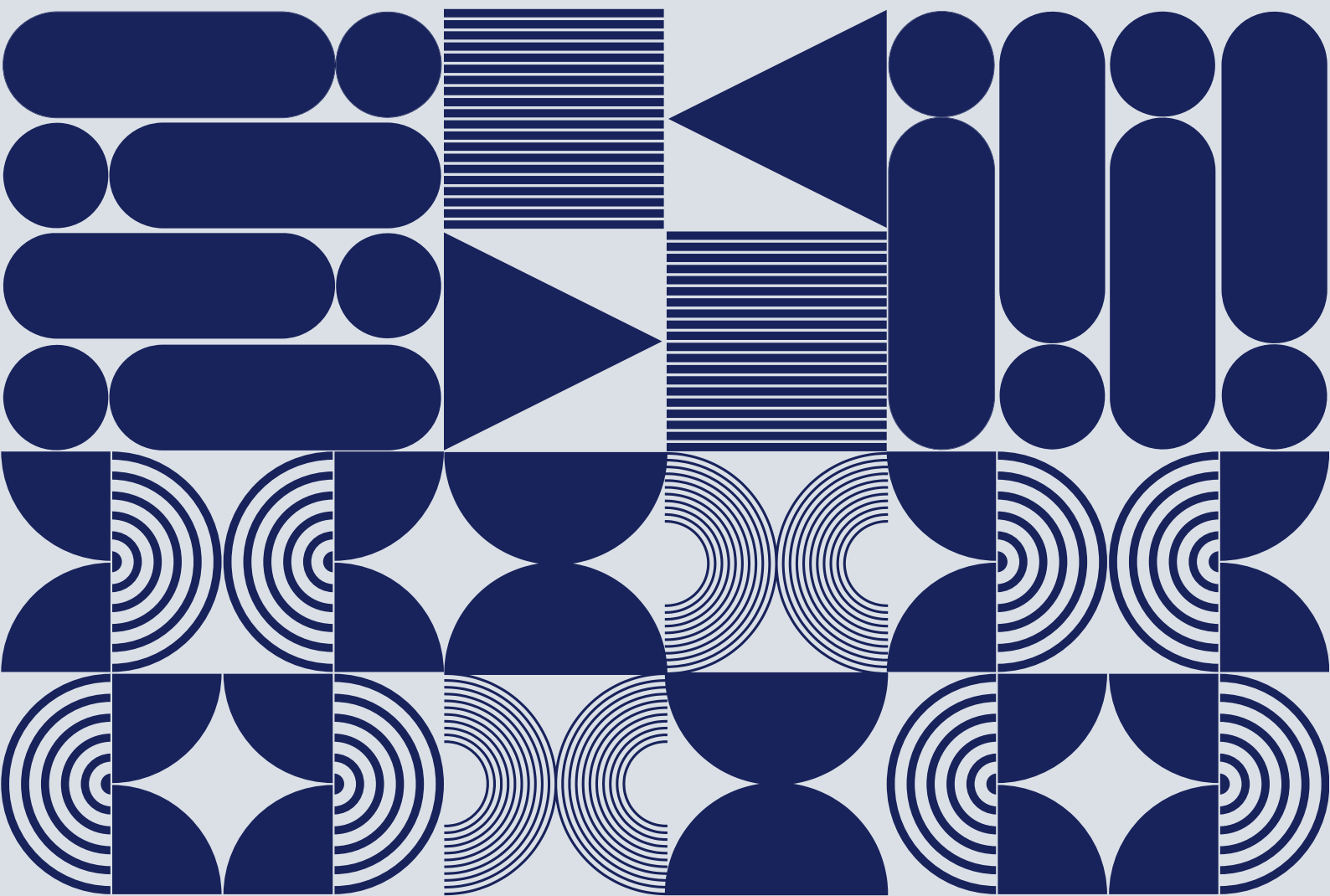


DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION 101

A Primer on Fostering Healthy Online Connections



Milovan Savic, Jane Farmer, Tracy De Cotta, Sharon Parkinson, Anthony McCosker

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Swinburne's Australian campuses are located in Melbourne's east and outer east. We pay our respects to leaders and Elders past, present, and emerging, for they hold all their Peoples' memories, traditions, culture, and hopes.

We express our gratitude for sharing this land, our sorrow for the personal, spiritual, and cultural costs of that sharing, and our hope that we may walk forward together in harmony and the spirit of healing.

We also acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia and recognise the continuing sovereignties of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nations.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Swinburne's Human Research Ethics Committee approved this project per the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, reference number 20225828-9100.

WEBSITE

Access more information on the project and other resources and practice toolkits at our website www.social-connection.au.



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INTRODUCTION



Social media, messaging apps, and other digital platforms are reshaping how we build and maintain relationships. This primer – Digital Social Connection 101 – aims to help professionals and practitioners working with communities navigate this evolving landscape of digital communication.

Whether you're experienced in community work or new to digital engagement, this primer offers practical actions to support digital social connection.

THE DIGITAL EXTENSION OF THE COMMUNITY

Digital interactions are increasingly intertwined with our day-to-day lives. While supporting online connections might feel outside your usual scope, understanding how community members use digital tools to connect with each other is becoming part of the deal.

KEEPING UP WITH THE EVER-CHANGING DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

Social media and messaging apps evolve quickly, and you may feel pressured to keep up. Here's the thing: You don't have to master every new app. What's more important is understanding how these digital tools function and how they affect your community.

A Note on Digital Platforms



Digital platforms increasingly reflect tensions between commercial priorities, privacy concerns, content moderation, and platform reliability. While these challenges shape how digital spaces function, they make it all the more crucial to develop effective strategies and best practices for using digital tools to strengthen social connection outcomes.

DIGITAL ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Not everyone experiences digital connection the same way. Access to devices, reliable internet, and digital skills varies across communities. Understanding these differences helps support inclusive social connection that considers diverse needs and capabilities.

BALANCING ONLINE AND OFFLINE CONNECTIONS

People use digital platforms alongside face-to-face interactions to maintain their social networks. Understanding how these different forms of connection work together can help you support community members in building and maintaining meaningful relationships.

ABOUT THIS PRIMER

This primer offers guidance for understanding and supporting digital social connection in your community. You'll find insights how people connect online and strategies to help community members build and maintain their relationships.

READY TO GET STARTED?

The next page offers practical steps for supporting digital social connection. The following sections then explore these concepts in more detail.

PRACTICAL STEPS

SUPPORTING DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION

Supporting digital social connection in your community starts with these three key steps. While there's no one-size-fits-all solution, this guide offers practical starting points to help you begin! The following sections of this primer explore these concepts in more detail.

1 DISCOVER

Map your community's digital landscape:

- Identify existing online spaces
- Understand platform preferences
- Note access barriers
- Locate potential partners

Checklist:

- Mapped active online groups
- Identified digital literacy needs
- Listed community resources
- Noted access challenges
- Connected with key partners

2 BUILD

Strengthen digital connections:

- Support existing networks
- Enhance digital literacy
- Link online/offline activities
- Focus on engagement

Checklist:

- Selected suitable platforms
- Created safety guidelines
- Developed support resources
- Connected with partners
- Established feedback loops

3 ADAPT

Refine your approach:

- Start with small pilots
- Learn from feedback
- Adjust continuously
- Build on success

Checklist:

- Tracking engagement
- Gathering feedback
- Noting what works
- Adjusting approaches
- Celebrating progress

KEY CONSIDERATIONS & TIPS

- **Access:** Partner with libraries and community centers to address device and internet access barriers.
- **Privacy:** Start with closed groups and clear guidelines to build trust.
- **Engagement:** Connect online activities to existing community interests and face-to-face events.
- **Digital Literacy:** Support peer learning and skill-sharing within the community.
- **Flexibility:** Adapt approaches based on your community's needs and feedback.
- **Progress:** Focus on small wins and gradual building of confidence.



Continue reading for deeper insights into these concepts. Additional resources can be found at the end of this primer.

WHAT IS DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION?

Digital social connection refers to using digital technologies and platforms to create, maintain, and enhance social relationships and community participation. It's about leveraging digital tools like social media and messaging apps to foster meaningful interactions and support networks, often complementing or extending offline social connection. These connections allow individuals to share experiences and engage with others regardless of geographical barriers or time constraints.

Below, we explore what digital social connection really means and how it functions in our communities.

MORE THAN JUST CLICKS AND LIKES

Digital platforms are like the town squares and coffee shops of the internet. Social media, messaging apps, and online forums are where people hang out, share news, and connect with their communities. However, it's not just about scrolling through photos or sending GIFs and emojis. From a community development perspective, these digital tools offer new ways to engage residents, share information, and build local networks.

MIXING IT UP: THE HYBRID APPROACH

Now, let's explore blending digital with face-to-face connections. We call this the hybrid approach. This involves using a variety of digital tools—from social media to local community groups—alongside conventional activities like running clubs and events to keep our communities connected and engaged.

CONNECTING LOCALLY BUT ONLINE

Imagine using digital tools to help residents chat about a lost cat or organise a local clean-up event. Facebook Groups or community pages can keep people informed about local events and issues. These tools can help you facilitate community support and engagement, bridging online and offline interactions.

Spotlight

Good Karma Networks

Building community on Facebook

The Good Karma Network illustrates how digital tools foster community connections.

- **Locally-focused Facebook Groups** moderated by volunteers;
- **Connecting neighbours** to share resources and solve local challenges;
- **Foster supportive, sustainable neighbourhoods** through online interactions;
- Encouraging **local place-based acts of kindness** and mutual aid among residents;
- **Active in multiple countries**, with thousands of local groups.

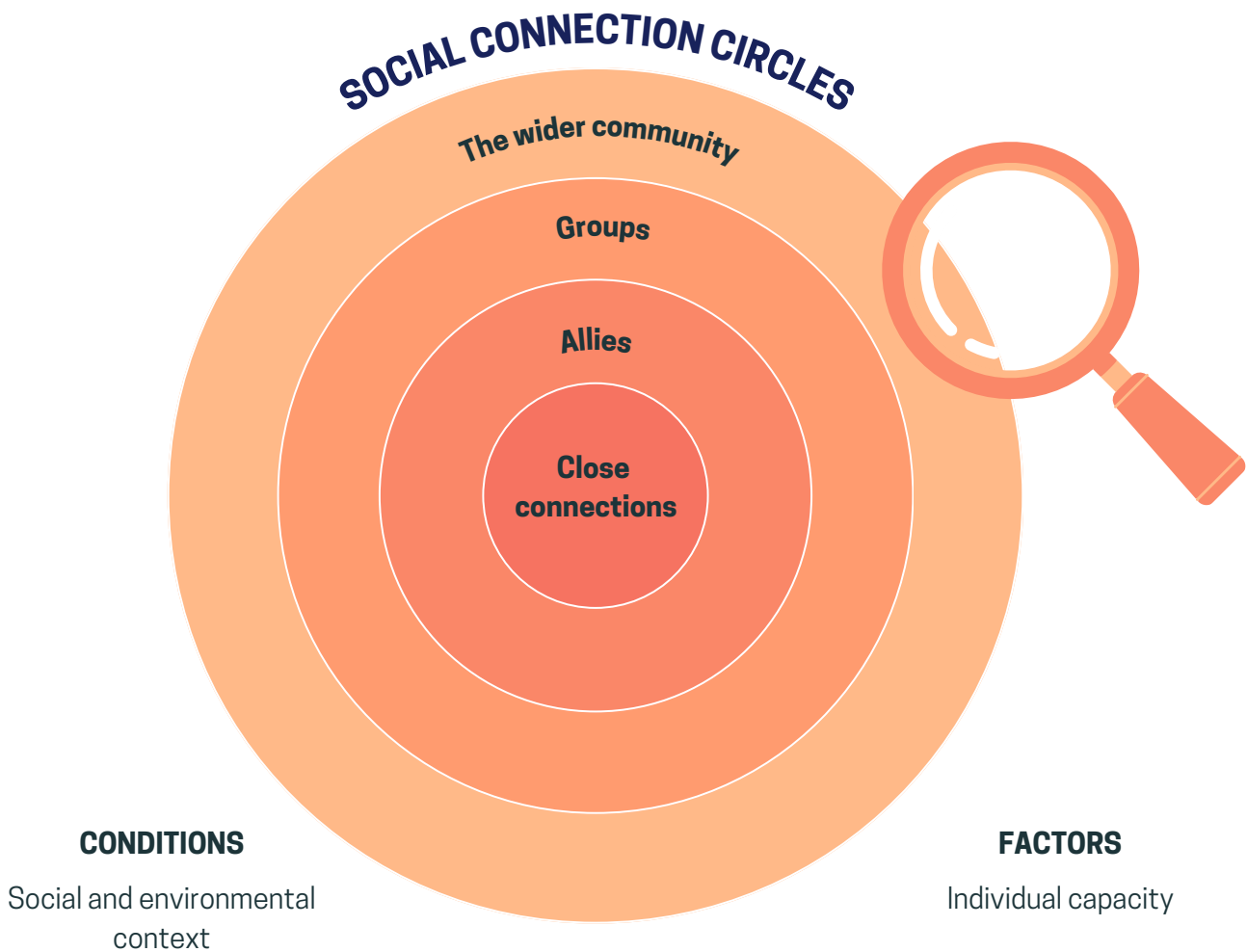
Find or start a local group at www.goodkarmaeffect.com

THE BIG PICTURE: SOCIAL CIRCLES

Let's zoom out for a second. Imagine people's needs for social connection as concentric circles. At the core are close connections like family and intimate friends. Moving outward, we find allies, groups we belong to, and the wider community. These circles keep us grounded, share our interests, and create belonging. They represent our social world, from personal relationships to broader interactions, sustained through emotional and practical support.

Digital media helps us stay connected across all levels of these social circles. When exploring digital social connection, we see how these tools help maintain and expand our circles, complementing face-to-face interactions. Quality connections enhance our sense of belonging and wellbeing, benefiting our health and community ties.

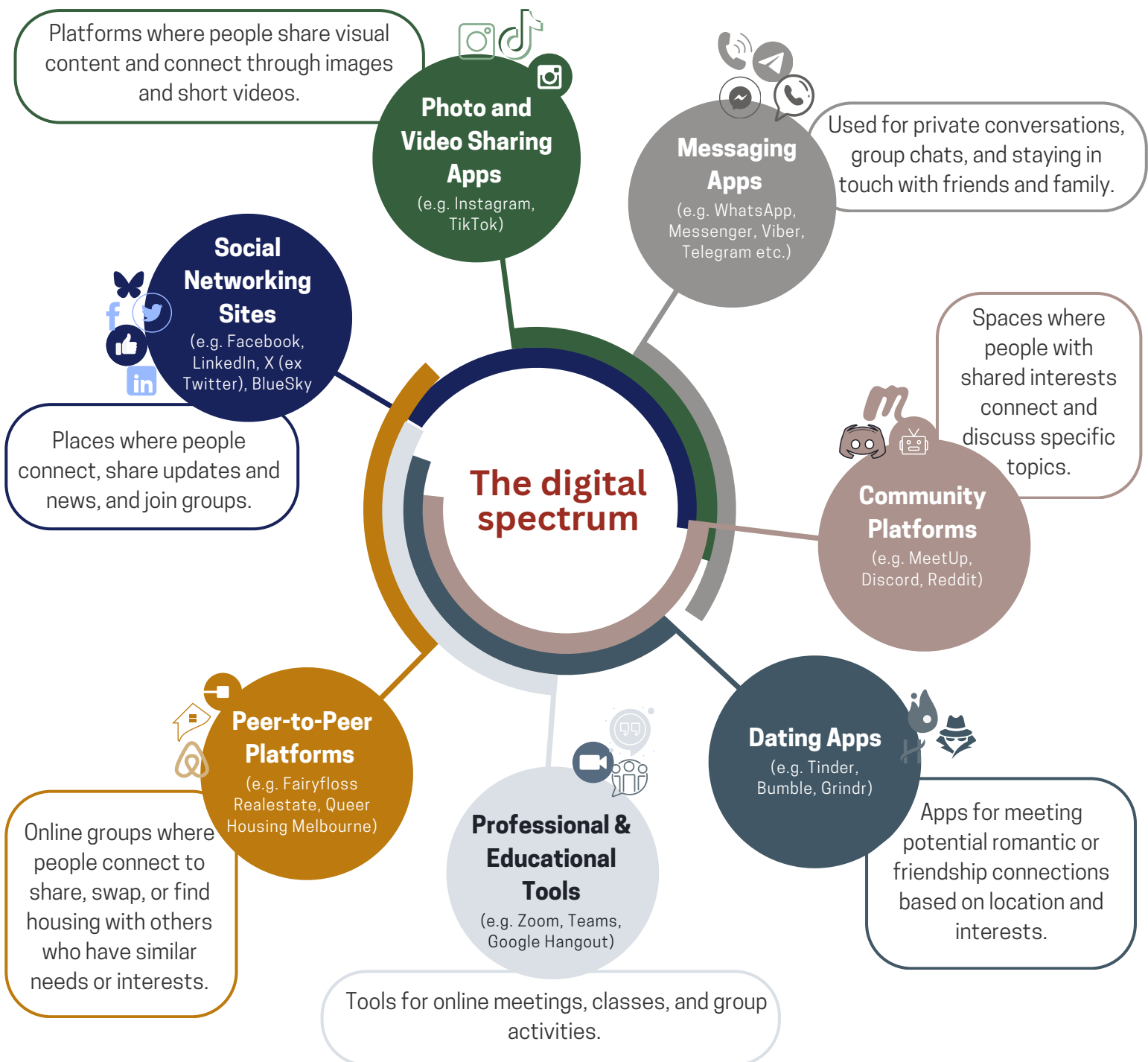
Our environment and circumstances shape how we connect. Pro-connection social and environmental conditions—spaces for regular meetings and activities that foster trust and collaboration—are essential for building and maintaining these connections.



To learn more about social connection and the social connection framework see our **Social Connection 101** at www.social-connection.au.

DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION IN ACTION

Digital platforms are constantly evolving, but understanding their core types and uses can help support social connection in communities. While new platforms emerge and others fade away, the main categories remain consistent. Let's explore these different types of platforms and how people use them to connect.



MYTHBUSTERS:

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION

Digital social connection involves much more than casual scrolling, double tapping and likes. Let's examine and debunk some common misconceptions and tensions about connecting online.

MYTH 1:

ONLINE CONNECTIONS AREN'T AS MEANINGFUL AS FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTIONS

Context: The quality and depth of social connections depend on how people engage with each other, regardless of whether these interactions happen online or offline. Digital platforms offer unique opportunities for meaningful connection, particularly when face-to-face interaction isn't possible.

Common perspectives:

- Face-to-face interactions provide emotional cues and presence, aiding trust and intimacy.
- Social media can facilitate superficial interactions and social comparison.

Alternative views:

- Online relationships can be as significant as offline ones, bridging geographic distances and time zones.
- Digital platforms enable support networks that might not be possible face-to-face.

The research says:

Research offers mixed views on digital interactions. Some studies note challenges like loneliness and FOMO (fear of missing out) (Anderl et al., 2023; Ryan et al., 2017), while others emphasise benefits like building social capital and connecting with diverse communities (Johns et al., 2023; Matassi et al., 2019). Quality of interaction often hinges on use patterns and digital literacy.

Reflection questions:

- How can you help the community recognise and value their online relationships while balancing them with offline interactions?
- What strategies could help address concerns about the quality of online interactions and promote digital literacy in your community?



EXPLORE
Social Media Connection Skills

Scan QR for tips on building better digital relationships or [click here](#)

SCAN ME



MYTH 2: DIGITAL MEDIA IS ONLY FOR EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS

Context: Digital platforms serve multiple social purposes, from maintaining existing relationships to forming new connections. These tools enable people to expand their social networks beyond geographical and social boundaries.

Common perspectives:

- Most uses of digital platforms revolve around engaging with existing relationships.
- Building new relationships solely online can be challenging.

Alternative views:

- Digital media create opportunities for connection through shared interests and experiences.
- Many people form new relationships online, especially those who encounter challenges with in-person connection.

The research says:

Digital media supports both maintaining existing and creating new connections. Young adults use social platforms to expand networks beyond local boundaries (Wellman et al., 2020). Though safety concerns persist, messaging and dating apps facilitate various connections, especially for marginalised groups (Johns et al., 2023; Albury et al., 2019).

Reflection questions:

- What opportunities do digital platforms offer for building new connections?
- How can safety and authenticity be supported in online relationship-building?

MYTH 3: DIGITAL SOCIAL CONNECTION IS ONLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Context: Digital literacy and platform use vary significantly across age groups. While comfort levels with technology differ, many older adults actively use digital tools to connect with family and friends.

Common perspectives:

- Young people are naturally better at using digital platforms.
- Older adults prefer traditional communication methods.

Alternative views:

- Many older adults are confident digital platform users.
- Digital connections can be particularly valuable for older adults facing mobility or distance barriers.

The research says:

Research shows that digital literacy among older adults varies significantly (Hargittai & Dobransky, 2017). Family connections often drive technology adoption, and tailored digital literacy programs can enhance online engagement for seniors based on their individual experiences and needs (McCosker et al., 2021).

Reflection questions:

- How can age-related assumptions about digital connection be challenged?
- What approaches support digital connection across different age groups?

EXPLORE

Digital skills guide

Scan QR for tips on supporting older adults online or click [here](#)



MYTH 4:
ONLINE RISKS OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS OF DIGITAL CONNECTIONS

Context: Concerns about online safety can deter people from using digital platforms. While risks exist, understanding safe practices can help people benefit from digital social connection while managing potential risks.

Common perspectives:

- Security concerns prevent meaningful online engagement.
- Digital communication increases the risk of misunderstandings.

Alternative views:

- Digital connections can reduce isolation when used safely.
- Modern platforms offer various ways to communicate clearly, from video calls to voice messages.

The research says:

Older adults are at increased risk of financial cybercrime due to limited digital skills and confidence (Cross & Holt, 2023; Burton et al., 2021). However, digital interventions can enhance social connections and wellbeing (Welch et al., 2023; Kusumota et al., 2023). Thoughtful use of digital communication, especially 'rich' interactions resembling face-to-face contact, can strengthen relationships (Masur, 2021; Tammisalo & Rotkirch, 2022).

Reflection questions:

- How can online safety be supported without limiting connection opportunities?
- What strategies help balance security concerns with social connection needs?

MYTH 5:
SOCIAL MEDIA IS ALWAYS HARMFUL TO MENTAL HEALTH

Context: The jury is still out on social media's effects on mental health. Impact often depends on how platforms are used and personal circumstances, with evidence showing both positive and negative outcomes.

Common perspectives:

- Social media can increase feelings of anxiety and inadequacy through social comparison.
- Excessive use may affect wellbeing through disrupted sleep patterns and reduced face-to-face interaction.

Alternative views:

- Social media can create valuable support networks, especially for isolated individuals.
- Digital platforms allow people to engage socially at their own pace and comfort level.

The research says:

Research shows mixed results. Some studies find no harm (Jiménez et al., 2021), while others identify risks like anxiety (Meier & Reinecke, 2020). Benefits, such as social support for isolated individuals are also noted (Zsila & Reyes, 2023), which is particularly relevant for precarious workers who often rely on virtual spaces to build community and share resources (Laliberte Rudman et al., 2023). Promoting digital literacy can help users navigate these impacts.

Reflection questions:

- How can positive social media use be encouraged?
- What approaches help people balance digital connection with overall wellbeing?

EXPLORE
Mental Health Tips
Scan QR for 6 tips on protecting wellbeing on social media or click **here.**



MYTH 6:

EVERYONE HAS THE SAME ACCESS TO DIGITAL TOOLS AND THE INTERNET.

Context: Digital access varies significantly across communities. While digital technology is widespread, barriers to full participation persist, affecting people's ability to maintain social connections online.

Common perspectives:

- High rates of internet access suggest universal digital inclusion.
- Digital connection is easily accessible to everyone.

Alternative views:

- Certain groups, including remote First Nations communities, older Australians, and low-income individuals, face significant barriers to digital inclusion.
- Digital exclusion can compound existing social and economic inequalities.

The research says:

In 2023, an estimated 9.4% of Australians were missing out on the benefits of being connected online (Thomas et al., 2023). A study found that 45.9% of remote First Nations participants are highly excluded, compared to 9.4% of the Australian population, illustrating considerable disparities (Thomas et al., 2023).

Reflection questions:

- How can digital connection initiatives be more inclusive?
- What strategies help support connection when digital access is limited?
- How can community digital readiness be assessed and supported?



EXPLORE
Digital Inclusion
To learn more about digital inclusion in Australia scan QR or [click here](#)

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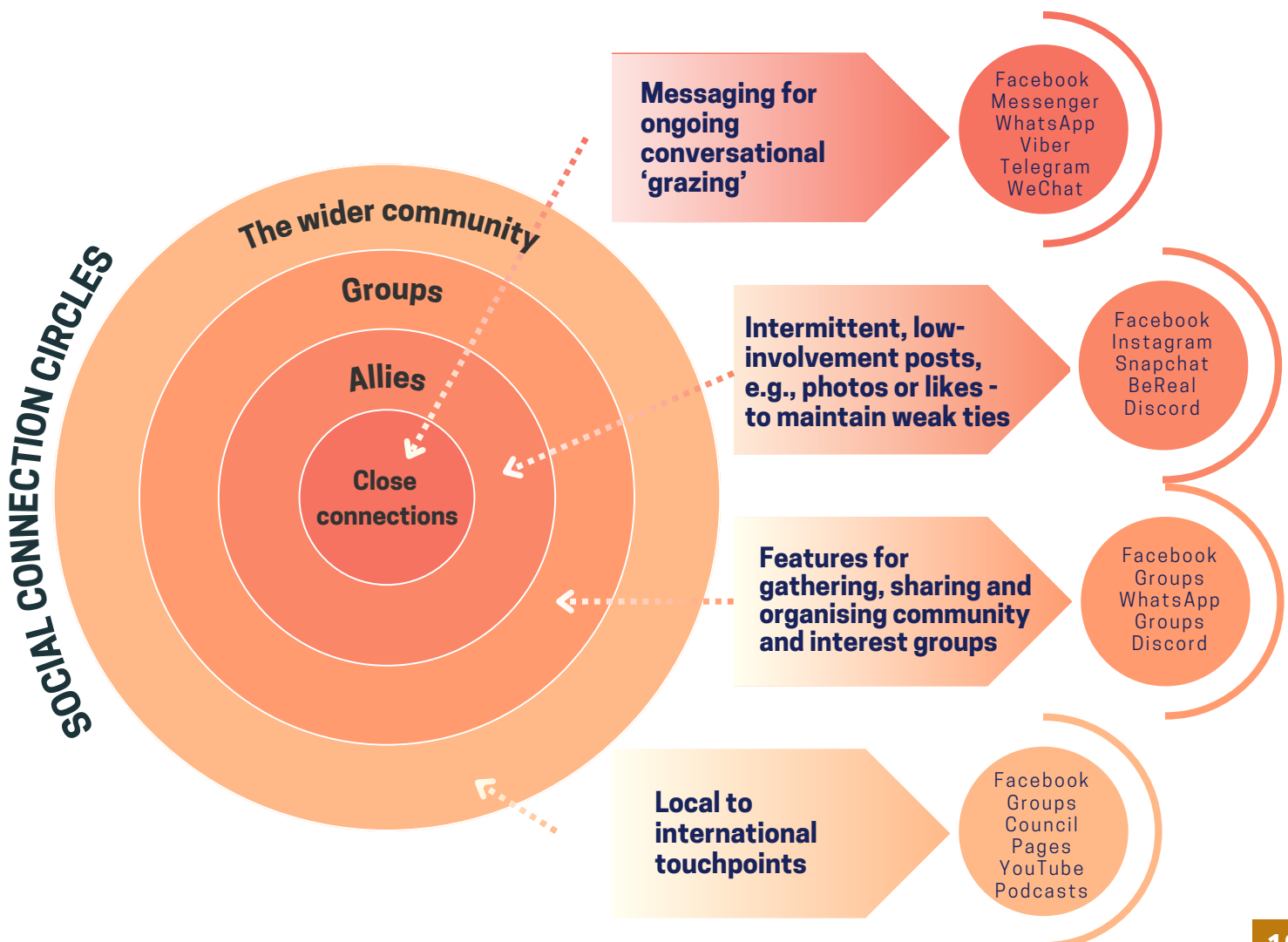
APP-IFYING SOCIAL CONNECTION

Maintaining social connections in contemporary life can be challenging. Busy schedules, work commitments, and travel time limit opportunities for face-to-face interaction, while reduced chances for spontaneous social encounters make it harder to maintain and form relationships. These challenges are particularly acute for precarious workers, whose irregular schedules and financial constraints further restrict access to traditional social spaces. In this context, social media and messaging apps offer flexible ways to stay connected, complementing face-to-face interactions.

Some benefits of these digital tools include:

- Enabling flexible connection around schedules and during commutes.
- Supporting those with social anxiety through alternative ways to connect.
- Offering text-based options for people with limited English.
- Connecting people with shared interests across distances.
- Creating spaces for self-expression.
- Maintaining long-distance relationships.

Social media and messaging apps serve different purposes across our social connections, from close relationships to wider community interactions.



APP-IFYING SOCIAL CONNECTION

CLOSE CONNECTIONS: THE DIGITAL INNER CIRCLE

Digital media bridges the gap when in-person interactions are not possible. Social media and messaging apps are key tools for maintaining close relationships online.



How they function:

- Enable 'conversational grazing' - short, ongoing casual chats.
- Support spontaneous sharing.
- Facilitate daily check-ins.

Benefits:

- Maintain closeness despite physical distance.
- Keep emotional connections alive.
- Allow for unfiltered, genuine interactions.

Note: While these digital tools are beneficial, they complement rather than replace face-to-face interactions.

Staying Close from Afar*

Zoe, 26, moved interstate during the pandemic. While she video calls her mom every Sunday, it's the daily messages and shared memes that help most with her anxiety about being in a new city.

'Sometimes Mum sends random photos of their dog or my sister shares TikToks at midnight,' Zoe says. 'It's not the same as being there, but these little digital moments help me feel connected, even when I'm struggling to adjust.'

ALLIES: THE SOCIAL SUPPORT NETWORK

This circle is characterised by low-effort, regular digital interactions that maintain connections with good friends and social allies. Various digital platforms facilitate these ongoing, casual engagements.



How they function:

- Enable passive engagement (liking posts, watching stories).
- Allow quick interactions (comments, GIFs).
- Facilitate keeping up with friends' lives without constant communication.

Benefits:

- Maintain a wide circle of friends and social allies with minimal effort.
- Keep connections alive during busy periods.
- Ensure a ready network of support when needed.

Note: These digital interactions complement deeper connections, allowing individuals to nurture relationships even when in-depth conversations aren't possible.

Taps of Togetherness*

Samantha, 38, balances a full-time job with a long commute. During her train rides, she catches up on friends' social media updates - a colleague's work news, a friend's gym progress, another's holiday photos...

'I don't always have time for long chats,' she admits, 'but quick likes and comments help me stay connected. When I needed help moving house recently, these same friends I mainly interact with online were the first to offer support.'

APP-IFYING SOCIAL CONNECTION

GROUPS: ONLINE COMMUNITIES

Digital platforms create spaces for people to gather around shared interests and experiences, fostering connection and belonging through online communities.



How they function:

- Support group discussions and shared content.
- Enable ongoing community interaction.
- Connect local and global interest groups.

Benefits:

- Link people with shared interests.
- Maintain community engagement between face-to-face meetings.
- Create accessible spaces for support and belonging.

Note: These online communities complement offline interactions, allowing people to express themselves and maintain connections with others who share their passions and experiences across geographical or temporal boundaries.

Gardening Groupness on WhatsApp*

Harold, 68, helps run a local gardening group. Their WhatsApp chat has become an everyday extension of their monthly meetups.

'Someone will post a photo of wilting tomatoes, asking for advice, and suddenly everyone's sharing tips,' Harold explains. 'Not everyone can make it to our in-person sessions, but the group chat keeps us connected. Though sometimes we get too many plant photos,' he chuckles, 'it's worth it to see newer members gaining confidence both online and in their gardens.'

THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Digital platforms connect people with their broader community, from local neighbourhoods to global networks. These connections include casual acquaintances, local figures, and shared interests communities that extend beyond immediate social circles.



How they function:

- Bridge different community levels.
- Enable participation in broader discussions.
- Connect people across geographical boundaries.

Benefits:

- Expand social networks beyond immediate circles.
- Foster sense of community belonging.
- Create pathways for community engagement.

Note: These community connections complement face-to-face interactions, providing a casual way to engage with the world and fostering belonging.

Voices of Belonging*

Mei, 54, discovered local community podcasts during her commutes.

'At first, I just listened to gardening shows, but now I follow local news and events too,' she shares. 'It helped me understand my new neighborhood better, though sometimes I miss parts of conversations because of my English. But I've started attending some local events I heard about, and even met a few neighbors who recognised me from our community Facebook group.'

WRAPPING UP: QUICK TIPS

Building on what we've explored in this primer, here are practical tips organised around our key steps of **Discover**, **Build**, and **Adapt**. Remember: digital connection is about people, not platforms and apps - start small and grow with your community.

1

DISCOVER



Understanding Your Community

- Join existing local Facebook groups
- Observe how people connect online
- Map digital access needs
- Identify potential partners
- Learn platform preferences
- Note barriers to participation
- Help people find groups that match their interests
- Link people to local digital access points (libraries, community centres)

2

BUILD

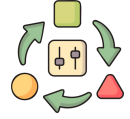


Strengthening Connections

- Create group chats for existing activities (e.g., walking group, book club)
- Support community to share stories and experiences
- Partner with libraries for basic digital skills sessions
- Connect online groups with face-to-face activities
- Foster peer support for digital skills
- Share digital safety tips
- Provide guidance on privacy settings
- Identify online community champions

3

ADAPT



Maintaining Momentum

- Start small and adjust based on feedback
- Keep it simple - start with familiar platforms
- Be patient - digital connections grow gradually
- Celebrate small wins
- Keep checking what works
- Support different skill levels
- Focus on interests people already have
- Share community success stories
- Modify approaches based on changing community needs

REMEMBER:

- Prioritise interaction over passive scrolling.
- Build on existing community strengths.
- Support both online and offline interaction.
- Keep checking what works for your community.

P.S. These are just examples - adapt and modify them to suit your program, community centre or a local hub.

THE ACTIVATING SOCIAL CONNECTION PROJECT

The Activating Social Connection project aims to fill gaps in evidence, resources and guidance for local social connection activation. Based on research evidence, our project is committed to developing practical resources and guidance that are useable by community workers, planners and community members. The focus is to understand the complex mechanics of fostering positive social connections for people, and to translate this into resources that help to activate change.

As a collaborative endeavour, the project is part-funded by an Australian Research Council Linkage Project Grant LP200301335. It is powered by a partnership between Swinburne University of Technology, RMIT University, the Australian Red Cross, Neami National, City of Casey, City of Whittlesea, City of Wyndham, and Today Design. The project partners with local people and organisations to support their work to enhance social connection within their communities.

RESOURCES

SOCIAL CONNECTION

Social Connection 101

This is an evidence-based guide for health and community professionals. It covers the fundamentals, mechanisms, and activation strategies for social connection.

<https://social-connection.au/practice-toolkits/social-connection-101>



Social Connection Website

Comprehensive resource hub from ARC Linkage project. Features readings, toolkits, guidelines, and videos on activating social connection in Australia. Essential for professionals and researchers.

<https://social-connection.au/>



Practitioner guide: Connection and belonging resources (by Emerging Minds, Australia)

A comprehensive collection of resources developed in collaboration with families who have faced various adversities. This guide offers practical tools and insights to help practitioners foster connection and belonging within families and communities, inspiring hope and resilience.

<https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/practitioner-guide-connection-and-belonging-resources/>



Australian Digital Inclusion Index

The official site for Australia's digital inclusion index, based on the national Internet Usage Survey, assesses Access, Affordability, and Digital Ability across regions and demographics. It is an essential resource for understanding digital equity in Australia.

<https://www.digitalinclusionindex.org.au/>



Digital Inclusion advice for councils, by councils

A collaborative toolkit developed in the UK offers guides, case studies, and insights to support local councils and organisations in their digital inclusion efforts. This resource, initiated by Croydon and Leeds councils and Age UK Croydon and TechResort, provides strategies to improve digital access and combat exclusion in communities. While originating from the UK, the toolkit offers valuable information for addressing digital inclusion challenges that may be applicable in various contexts.

<https://digitalinclusionkit.org/>



DIGITAL INCLUSION

Connected Communities: A community-driven approach to digital inclusion

(by InfoXchange)

This is a comprehensive guide for digital inclusion advocates, practitioners, and funders. It details the Connected Communities approach and its outcomes and provides strategies for effectively planning and implementing digital inclusion initiatives targeting the most in need.

<https://www.infoxchange.org/au/community-programs/connected-communities>



RESOURCES

DIGITAL INCLUSION

Government digital inclusion programs (as of October 2022)

A concise overview of state-level initiatives across Australia to bridge the digital divide. This resource highlights key programs designed to enhance digital access, skills, and participation for all citizens.

<https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-11/Digital-Inclusion-Paper.pdf>



Supporting the digital inclusion of new migrants and refugees

(by Settlement Council of Australia and Good Things Foundation)

A comprehensive report examining digital inclusion challenges and opportunities for newly arrived migrants and refugees in Australia. It outlines the importance of digital access for successful settlement and proposes key initiatives to enhance access and digital literacy.

<https://scoa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Supporting-the-digital-inclusion-of-new-migrants-and-refugees.pdf>



Be Connected

Australian Government's free digital literacy program for seniors.

Offers online learning resources and computer classes to build digital skills, confidence, and online safety. It is tailored for older Australians to bridge the digital divide and enhance independence in the digital world.

<https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/>



Good Things Foundation

National charity dedicated to bridging the digital divide in Australia.

Provides diverse resources, educational programs, and financial support to initiatives promoting digital inclusion. Focuses on improving digital literacy, access, and skills across communities.

<https://goodthingsaustralia.org/digital-mentor-library/>



DIGITAL LITERACY

Alannah & Madeline Foundation

eSmart Program is a free, curriculum-aligned initiative for Australian schools, promoting online safety and digital literacy. eSmart empowers students with essential skills for responsible internet use through diverse learning tools and resources.

<https://www.alannahandmadeline.org.au/>



Information for parents and carers: Young people thrive online when they contribute positively

(by NSW Government)

This webpage offers advice and resources for parents and caregivers on managing young people's online activities. The resource focuses on three key areas: managing time spent online, navigating social media, and handling gaming environments.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/digital-citizenship/parents-and-carers>



RESOURCES

ONLINE SAFETY

eSafety Commissioner

Australia's official online safety resource hub. Provides education, support, and intervention for various groups facing digital risks. It covers cyberbullying, adult abuse, and non-consensual intimate image sharing. Offers reporting tools and removal services for harmful content.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics>



DATA PRIVACY

Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner (OVIC)

Official body safeguarding privacy rights for Victorians. OVIC team provides comprehensive resources and education on privacy protection. They empower citizens to understand and exercise their privacy rights while assisting public sector organisations in enhancing privacy practices.

<https://ovic.vic.gov.au/>



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