INTERNET USAGE POLICY

Rationale:
• Discriminate and effective use of the internet provides students with unprecedented opportunities to obtain information, engage in discussion, and liaise with individuals, organisation and groups world-wide so as to increase skills, knowledge and abilities.

Aim:
• To improve student learning outcomes by increasing access to world-wide information.
• To develop skills in discriminate and appropriate internet and computer usage.

Implementation:
• Our school actively supports access by staff and students to the widest variety of information resources available, accompanied by the development of the skills necessary to filter, analyse, interpret and evaluate information encountered.
• All Head Office staff at our school will have censorship filtered internet and email access. They will have their own password protected internet account and log on. Such access is a privilege that infers responsibility, and not simply a right to be expected.
• Student Access will be subject to host school policies and permissions.
• Students will be held responsible for all activity that occurs under their log-in and password.
• Student behaviour when using school computers and networks, when using the internet and e-mail, and when engaging in any activity with school computers must be consistent with the school’s Student Code of Conduct.
• The AP for Technology will liaise with staff and the technical support team to manage all e-mail access, maintenance of the school’s web site, web filters, and all other issues related to internet access.
• The school undertakes to ensure that information published on the Internet by students or the school is of a high standard, and meets legal requirements and standards of general practice within the community in relation to copyright, safety and decency.
• Consequences of publishing, accessing or failing to notify the coordinator of inappropriate material shall include the removal of access rights.
• Signed parent and student consent, upon enrolment, is required to be completed in order to gain access to the internet, or to publish work, photos or videos on the internet.
• Privacy of students, parents, staff and other users must be recognised and respected at all times. Student’s will only identify themselves on the internet by their first name and last initial.
• Staff are expected to utilise and integrate technologies, including on-line learning opportunities, into their programs for all students.
• The school will provide appropriate professional development and support for all staff.

Evaluation:
• This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s regular review cycle.