

eSmart Policy

Policy No. 2.3

PREAMBLE:

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) empowers learning. ICT allows students to engage in multifaceted models of learning where collaboration and connections with audiences and experts enable them to participate in authentic educational experiences, local and global. This mode of engagement, together with teacher direction, enables the learner to not only become inspired and motivated to make a real difference in the world, but to take responsibility for their learning. Smart, safe and responsible behaviours enable learners to use ICT tools in a socially acceptable and ethical manner thus becoming conscious and active citizens in the contemporary world. ICT offers students the access and flexibility to achieve individual goals and lifelong learning needs, enabling them to succeed in an ever evolving digital world.

The Information and Communication Technology standards of AusVELS are organised into three dimensions:

- **ICT for Visual Thinking**
- **ICT for Creating**
- **ICT for Communicating**

RATIONALE:

ICT is an interdisciplinary domain, focusing on providing students with the tools to empower their learning and to enrich the learning environment. Holy Spirit Community School is an established and accredited eSmart school and continues to follow and adhere to the eSmart framework and guidelines on Cyber Safety and eLearning.

Holy Spirit Community School believes that ICT knowledge and skills together with safe and responsible behaviours will enable students to:

- Be empowered by providing access to local and global sources;
- Develop understanding and key decision making skills relating to the online world.
- Express themselves in contemporary, ethical and socially relevant ways;
- Create, manage, process, produce and publish information and understandings for a variety of purposes and audiences using a variety of multimedia formats;
- Develop higher order thinking processes demonstrating creativity, innovation, problem solving and analysis;
- Communicate effectively in shared learning experiences using online platforms.

AIMS:

At Holy Spirit Community School we recognise the need to integrate ICT throughout the curriculum. Teaching and learning at Holy Spirit Community School aims at supporting, enabling and engaging the learner in the contemporary world. (Refer to Appendix 2.39 Contemporary Learning Schema) Holy Spirit Community School has used the 'eSmart Framework' (Refer to Appendix 2.39) which enables positive and safe use of Information and Communication Technological equipment. The aims of Holy Spirit Community School's ICT program is aligned with the National Safe Schools Framework and its guiding principles including the nine elements of framework outlined at <http://deewr.gov.au/national-safe-schools-framework-0>

We aim to achieve this most effectively when we:

- Teach explicit and scaffolded developmental skills as outlined through AusVELS, The National Curriculum and the Holy Spirit ICT Scope and Sequence;
- Teach explicit skills and understandings relating to the eSmart Scope and Sequence and other CyberSafety experts.
- Provide on-going, rigorous and relevant opportunities for explicit skill development of staff and students;
- Provide opportunities and access for staff and students to use a range of ICT tools and devices to explore, experiment and create new knowledge;
- Develop critical literacy skills in our students and staff;
- Provide a variety of opportunities to process, manage, plan, reflect and communicate effectively and efficiently using digital tools in a multi-modal world;
- Differentiate learning and teaching to accommodate individual learning styles;
- Develop the ability to be discerning and critical users of ICT;
- Increase the use of higher order thinking, creativity and inquiry based learning skills through the use of ICT;
- Develop social and ethical responsibility when using ICT;
- Demonstrate the appropriate care, use and maintenance of ICT hardware and environments;
- Support students and staff to be collaborative learners and develop partnerships by sharing their learning with the local and global community.
- Integrating Google Apps for Education across the curriculum to engage student learning outcomes.

Endorsed by Staff July 2013

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