St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Adopted: 2009 Heading: B	Reviewed: 2017	Area: M	Level: 310	Sub

POLICY AREA

Cybersafety

PREAMBLE

St Joseph's School has a statutory obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment, and a responsibility to consult with the community. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is currently in the process of fulfilling requirements to obtain registration as an eSmart School.

These responsibilities are increasingly being linked to the use of the Internet and Information Communication Technologies (ICT), and a number of related cybersafety issues. The Internet and ICT devices/equipment bring great benefits to the teaching and learning programmes, and to the effective operation of the school.

RATIONALE

St Joseph's Catholic School places a high priority on providing Internet access and ICT resources which will enhance student learning outcomes and benefit the effective operation of the school. The school recognises that the presence in the learning environment of these technologies can also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate, and even illegal, material and activities. The school has the dual responsibility to maximise the benefits of these technologies, while at the same time to minimise and manage the risks. It is acknowledged that there is a need to have in place rigorous and effective school cybersafety practices which are directed and guided by this cybersafety policy.

VALUES

The Christian values of dignity and respect of others impacts on our use of technology. Honesty and self discipline will be reflected in a safe, happy and appropriate environment for all staff and students.

St Joseph's will develop and maintain rigorous and effective cybersafety practices which aim to maximise the benefits of the Internet and ICT devices/equipment to student learning and to the effective operation of the school, while minimising and managing any risks. The school will monitor the responsible use of current and emerging information and communication technologies.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Age appropriate user agreements will cover all students, staff and any other individuals authorised to use ICT equipment.
2. No individual may use the school internet facilities and ICT equipment unless the appropriate user agreement has been signed and returned to the school.
3. Signed user agreements will be stored in a secure place.
4. The Teacher Capability Project (Formerly Great Teachers Great Results) has enabled the implementation a 1-1 Device – 4-6- over a 3 year timeframe.
5. A Response to Bullying Brochure will be revisited annually (eg during NAAAB) or as required or deemed appropriate.
6. The safety of the school community is of paramount concern. Any apparent breach of cybersafety will be taken seriously. Illegal material or activities will need to be reported to the relevant law enforcement agency.
7. Use of the internet and ICT equipment by staff, students and other approved users is to be limited to educational, professional development and personal usage appropriate in the school environment.
8. The school has the right to monitor, access and review all use. This includes personal emails sent and received on the school computers and/or network at all times.
9. The school has the right to audit at anytime any material on ICT equipment in the school.

REFLECTION MATERIAL

1. School Cybersafety Policy Template
2. Acceptable use guidelines and Declaration of Compliance Catholic Education – Diocese of Rockhampton Network and Internet Services
3. Cyber Bullying Quick Reference Guide for Parents Patti Agatston, Ph.D.   www.cyberbullyhelp.com
4. eSmart – www.esmartschools.org.au