Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Policy

Caritas College School Board

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Rationale for the Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Policy

The Catholic Church embraces all that is good in new technologies and seeks to engage with people in ever newer and more creative ways as a means of inviting them into deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, within the Christian community.

Pope Benedict XVI has talked of the “extraordinary potential of the new technologies, if they are used to promote human understanding and solidarity”.

(Pope Benedict XVI, “Message for the 43rd World Communications Day”, May 2009)

“These technologies are truly a gift to humanity and we must endeavour to ensure that the benefits they offer are put at the service of all human individuals and communities, especially those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable,”

At Caritas College we:

- value relationships as the basis of all learning for a more just society
- foster an environment which values the ethical use of technology
- work in partnership with families in developing patterns of ICT use that provide time for rest, silence and reflection necessary for wellbeing
- use ICT to nurture a love of learning
- acknowledge the diverse range of access to IT
- are committed to providing equitable access to IT resources in the learning environment.

All members of the Caritas College school community; caregiver/parents, staff members, students share in the responsibility of demonstrating a standard of Christian respect for the dignity of each person in the use of ICT.

The child protection protocols and policies of the Catholic Church in Australia and civil authorities must be observed.

(Role of the School Board is to:
- Be informed of all SA Commission for Catholic Schools Policy in relation to IT
- Monitor the implementation and review of the Caritas College ICT Policy
- Promote parent and community partnerships that support the ICT Policy.

(Role of the Principal is to:
- Promote and implement the ICT Policy
- Ensure effective management of the IT resources
- Provide adequate opportunities for professional learning and training, covering the general use ICT across learning areas, effective pedagogies, and familiarisation with emerging technologies
- Plan strategically for sustainable financial management for ongoing maintenance and technology refresh and maintaining current records of infrastructure
- Develop and review Acceptable Use Procedures for staff and students.

(Role of the Parents is to:
- Encourage learning through the appropriate use of ICT
- Be attentive to the content that they and their children are generating, sharing or drawing to the attention of others
- Encourage their children to balance the use of IT and to develop skills with a knowledge base to contribute to their own safety and wellbeing
- Support staff in the implementation of Acceptable Use Procedures.

(Role of the staff members is to:
- Access appropriate training and professional learning activities in Information Communication Technology
- Incorporate ICT as general capability in all learning areas
- Be attentive to the equity issues associated with student access to Information Communication Technology
- Develop in students the skills and knowledge that contribute to safety and wellbeing
- Implement the ICT Policy and Procedures Policy.

(Role of the students is to:
- Be aware of and follow the ICT Policy
- Implement the ICT Policy and Procedures
- Use the College resources for purposeful learning
- Respect the use of technology and maintain the learning environment for other users.