St. Finbarr's School
Quilpie

Internet Use and ICT Policy

Introduction:
Information and communication technologies are a part of our daily life. As an educational body, it would be remiss of us to ignore the impact of ICT on students' lives at school and at home.

Definition:
ICT refers especially to the hardware and software aspects of those electronic technologies including computers and peripheral devices (printers, cameras, scanners etc.), and to the software used within the school network and the internet.
Internet in this policy refers mainly to the World Wide Web and email, but must be understood to include a wider range of technologies including file transfer, chat, newsgroups etc.

Policy Aim:
It is our intention to:
- Provide fair and equitable access to and support in the use of ICT for all students
- Provide access to and support for staff of our school
- Provide a safe environment for students and staff in which to use ICT.
- Provide an environment in which students are able to develop their skills in ICT, so that those tools are of value to them in their work at school and beyond.
- Provide a framework for the maintenance and development of the ICT network at St Finbarr's school.

Values:
Our use of ICT must be with regard to the Gospel Values of respect for ourselves and each other, and justice in terms of equity, honesty and integrity.

A safe environment for Students and staff
- The school will be provided with a content-filtering program for internet connections.
- Students will be advised of the procedure should they come across inappropriate material while using the internet.
- An active anti-virus program will be installed and kept current.
- Students will be taught effective and appropriate internet search skills and discernment.
- Students are to use social media in a correct manner at home and at school. No one has the right to bully another person. At its most serious, cyberbullying is illegal and can be investigated by the police.

Reviewed: May 2018