eSmart Policy

Introduction

Mullum Primary School recognises the importance of using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to prepare students for effectively engaging with the twenty first century. It is essential we provide them with the necessary skills to act responsibly and respectfully when using digital technologies. We encourage students to develop their critical and creative thinking skills in regards to how we use ICT.

Purpose:

Mullum Primary School believes the teaching of cyber safe and responsible online behaviour is essential in the lives of students and is best taught in partnership between home and school.

Mullum Primary School uses the internet and digital technologies as teaching and learning tools. We see the internet and digital technologies as valuable resources, but acknowledge they must be used responsibly.

Digital technologies are used to improve student learning outcomes by increasing access to worldwide information.

Guidelines:

This policy reflects the protocols and practise outlined in our whole school Child Safe Policy.

Signed parent and student consent is required in order to gain access to the digital technologies at school. For students in Foundation to Year 2, the Mullum Primary Acceptable Use Agreement is required. Students in Years 3-6 are also required to sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Students at our school will have filtered internet and email access.

Our school actively supports access by students to appropriate information resources available, accompanied by the development of the critical thinking skills necessary to filter, analyse, interpret and evaluate information encountered.

The provision of programs that promote inclusiveness, resilience, life and social skills, assertiveness, cyber awareness (including cyber safety and cyber bullying), conflict resolution and problem solving will form an integral part of our curriculum.

It is expected all members of the school community will access and use the school's ICT resources in a safe and responsible manner.

Students and staff will have their own password-protected computer account and log on details. Such access is a privilege that confers responsibility, not simply to be expected.

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 within the community in relation to copyright, safety and decency.

Professional Development for staff relating to all forms of bullying including cyber bullying, harassment and proven counter-measures will be undertaken on a regular basis.

The school community will be provided with information about cyber safety through newsletter items, handouts, website links and via the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Principal
School Council President
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Student consequences as a result of publishing or accessing inappropriate material in breach of the Acceptable Use Agreement, or failing to report any cyber safety breaches will be immediately implemented. This is stated in the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy and the Anti-Bullying Policy.

Related Documentation:

- Acceptable Use Agreement.
- Mullum Primary School Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy
- Cyber Bulling Reporting Procedure
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Anti-Harassment Policy
- A Step-by-Step Guide for Responding to Online Incidents of Inappropriate Behaviour Affecting Students
http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/bullystoppers/stepbystepconcernstudent.pdf

Principal:

School Council President:

Date ratified by School Council: 25/07/2016

To be reviewed: 25/07/2019