



## **MICHAEL PARK SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN POLICY**

### **DIGITAL MEDIA AND CYBER SAFETY**

#### **Rationale**

Michael Park School supports a Digital Citizenship model for the promotion of safe and responsible use of technology.

With full regard for the school's special character curriculum and pedagogy, the Board recognises that by fostering a culture of successful digital citizenship in our students, staff, parents and whānau, we are encouraging everybody to take responsibility for themselves and for others in their use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). This enables us to harness the potential that technology brings to the teaching and learning process while minimising, and learning to effectively respond to, the challenges we may experience while using ICT in a learning context.

The Board is aware that encouraging our students to develop a purposeful and healthy relationship with ICT is an important part of their preparation for participating and contributing effectively to society today and into the future. It is clear that a key skill our students need in this developing world is an ability to participate as effective digital citizens. An important part of learning these skills is being given the chance to experience the opportunities and challenges presented by technology in an age-appropriate, safe, secure and nurturing environment which is consistent with our special character curriculum and pedagogy, where clear and effective guidance can be sought as students and teachers learn.

The Board recognises that its obligations under the National Administration Guidelines extend to the use of the internet and related technologies.

#### **Guidelines**

1. The school will provide an age-appropriate education programme for students focusing on the development of healthy and effective practices with regard to use of ICT and digital media
2. The School will develop and maintain procedures regarding the safe and responsible use of the internet and related technologies (ICT) including social media.
3. Use agreements will be put in place for Board members, staff, students and all other individuals authorised to use the school's network, internet facilities and ICT devices. Access to these facilities must be reliant upon signing the use agreement.
4. All students who use ICT at school need a current cyber-safety agreement signed by the parent (Lower School) and by both parent and student (High School). Such agreements will be updated and renewed annually and include procedures for personally owned ICT devices.
5. The school's internet / cyber-safety procedures will recognise the value of the technology and encourage its use in an age-appropriate manner consistent with the school's Special Character pedagogy and curriculum while helping to minimise and manage the challenges that may be experienced by students, teachers and the wider school community.

6. The school will consult with parents and whānau as to how it intends to use ICT and the role of ICT in the learning process in a Steiner School such as Michael Park.
7. The school will consult with parents regarding their use and experience of ICT in the home context and encourage information sharing at parent meetings and facilitate access to resources for parents regarding staying safe on-line and responsible “digi-parenting”.
8. The school reserves the right to monitor, access and review the use of its network, internet facilities and ICT equipment and may carry out an audit of network traffic and / or equipment owned or leased by the school at any time.

Ratified by Board/RSST:



Signed for BOT/RSST

Date: 02/05/2016