



ICT POLICY

St Francis Catholic School, in the Franciscan tradition, educates the whole child for today and tomorrow.

We believe in:

PEACE & JOY

Embracing our Catholic Identity through the fostering of Christian values.

Nurturing a welcoming, compassionate and caring environment that draws together children, parents, teachers and community.

INTEGRITY

Developing a sense of responsibility and self-esteem in each individual.

JUSTICE

Building and nurturing a stimulating learning community where all are supported in reaching their full potential.

CREATION

Respecting and taking action to sustain our natural environment.

Commitment to Child Safety

All students enrolled, and any child visiting, have a right to feel safe and be safe all of the time. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance for child abuse. At St Francis we strive to maintain a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety. We are committed to continually reviewing our Child Safe policies and practices to ensure that every effort is made for ongoing improvement of our Child Safe environment.

We at St Francis recognise that some groups of children are particularly vulnerable are we are committed to promoting the cultural safety of Aboriginal/linguistically diverse children and also promoting the safety of children with a disability.

Information and communications technology (ICT) is the hardware and software that enables data to be digitally processed, stored and communicated. ICT can be used to access, process, manage and present information; model and control events; construct new understanding; and communicate with others.

ICT, an interdisciplinary domain, focuses on providing students with the tools to transform their learning and to enrich their learning environment.

BELIEFS

St Francis School is committed to student and staff use of technology as a tool to expand learning opportunities and conduct educational research. The use of technology facilitates global collaboration - a vital skill for all learners. Laptops and other school computers are strictly for educational use consistent with the educational goals of St Francis School.

All members of St Francis community must uphold the values of honesty and integrity. The proper use of technology reflects the strength of one's character, as does one's behaviour. We expect our students and staff to exercise good judgment and to utilise technology with integrity.

Aims:

Through Information & Communications Technology

- Teachers and students should regularly use and become proficient users of computer hardware and software.
- Students should see teachers regularly using computers.
- All students and staff will have regular access to computer equipment.
- Teachers and students should perceive computers as tools to complete educational tasks on, rather than toys.
- Hardware and software should be closely monitored and up-dated regularly.

Implementation:

- All students at our school will study a sequential Information & Communications Technology course based upon the learning foci contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
- Teachers are provided with and encouraged to take laptops home.
- Children must clearly understand the task that is required of them before using the computer.
- Children will, where appropriate, work individually, in pairs or in cooperative groups when using the computers and related peripherals (scanners, digital cameras, printers, Apple TV etc.).
- An ICT resource person to be available to provide information and support.
- Access to computers in every classroom.
- Students in the senior school will complete a Laptop Learners License in order to be able to take their laptop home. Before the laptop can be taken home parents need to attend an information session, pay the insurance fee and both parent and student need to sign the Laptop Usage agreement and leasing contract.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.